



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 12 September 2007

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.49pm

Legislation

Bills and related documents available on BillsNet <www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm>

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Building and Construction Industry Improvement Amendment (OHS) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 11 September 2007]
- ❑ Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Democratic Plebiscites) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 11 September 2007]
- ❑ Higher Education Endowment Fund Bill 2007 and a related bill [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 September 2007]
- ❑ International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 11 September 2007]

The following bill was exempted from the cut-off order [to enable consideration in this period of sittings]

- ❑ Quarantine Amendment (Commission of Inquiry) Bill 2007

The following bill was debated

- ❑ Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Democratic Plebiscites) Bill 2007—Second reading debate commenced [The Opposition moved a [second reading amendment](#) expressing a view on the policy of the bill]

Notices of motion

To introduce bills

- ❑ Communications Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2007—notice given by the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Coonan)
- ❑ Lands Acquisition Legislation Amendment Bill 2007—notice given by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Colbeck)
- ❑ Stolen Generation Compensation Bill 2007—notice given by Senator Bartlett [private senator's bill]

To consider bills together

The Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz) gave a notice of motion to allow the following bills to be considered together:

- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 4) Bill 2007 and 2 related bills and the Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 5) Bill 2007
- ❑ Judges' Pensions Amendment Bill 2007 and the Federal Magistrates Amendment (Disability and Death Benefits) Bill 2007

Message from the House of Representatives

- ❑ Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill 2007—agreeing to the bill without amendment
[This bill will now be assented to]

See **Committees** for details of reports relating to legislation

Delegated legislation

See [Disallowance Alert](#) for a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

See **Documents** for details of instruments [Clerk's documents] tabled

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee
 - [Australia's trade with Mexico](#) and the region
 - [Australian Defence Force](#) regional air superiority
- ❑ Migration Joint Committee—[Temporary visas](#) ... permanent benefits: Ensuring the effectiveness, fairness and integrity of the temporary business visa program
- ❑ Public Works Joint Committee—[9th Report](#) of 2007: Proposed fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Customs Service at the Circuit, Brisbane Airport, Queensland
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 11](#) of 2007 and [9th report](#) of 2007
[contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- ❑ [Six standing committees](#)—Examination of annual reports tabled by 30 April 2007

Additional information tabled

Legislation

- ❑ Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Dental Services) Bill 2007—Community Affairs Committee
- ❑ Migration Amendment (Sponsorship Obligations) Bill 2007—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

Other

- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—Indigenous stolen wages

New inquiry

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 15](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and referred the Social Security Amendment (2007 Measures No. 2) Bill 2007 to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee to report by 18 September 2007.

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- ❑ Community Affairs Committee—Cost of living pressures on older Australians—to report by the last sitting day in March 2008
- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee—Examination of annual reports tabled by 30 April 2007—to report by 20 September 2007

Documents

Orders for the production of documents—Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

Statement of compliance for [various agencies](#) were tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Documents tabled

- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled, including Governor-General's Proclamations]
- ❑ [Government documents](#) [[and considered](#)]
- ❑ [2 petitions](#)

Other business

[Questions without notice and issues arising during question time—first question](#)

[Matters of public interest debate—first speaker](#)

[Adjournment debate—first speaker](#)

Motion agreed to

- ❑ [Death of Dame Anita Roddick](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Motions negatived

- ❑ [Greenhouse gases](#) and renewable energy targets—moved by the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
- ❑ [Indigenous affairs](#)—moved by Senator Siewert

Motion debated

The Senate discussed issues relating to [aged care](#) and the Belvedere Park Nursing Home raised by Senator McLucas as a matter of public importance. [[first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion

[Notices of motion](#) given today are available in the Senate Journals.

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Online

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate

It is issued by the Senate Table Office as a convenient summary of each day's proceedings in the Senate. For a complete account see the official record, the *Journals of the Senate*, on the Internet at <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm>

Related resources

The *Order of Business* (or 'Senate Red') and the *Dynamic Red* (which updates the *Order of Business* throughout the sitting day) are also available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate

Contact details

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