



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 13 June 2007

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.54pm

New Senator

[Senator Birmingham](#) gave his [first speech](#).

Legislation

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

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Evidence Amendment (Journalists' Privilege) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 June 2007]
- Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care Management System and Other Measures) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 June 2007]
- Fisheries Legislation Amendment Bill 2007 and a related bill [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 June 2007]
- Migration Amendment (Statutory Agency) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 June 2007]
- Workplace Relations Amendment (A Stronger Safety Net) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 30 May 2007]

The following bills were passed

- Health Insurance Amendment (Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation) Bill 2007 [This bill will now be assented to]
- Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment (2007 Budget Measures) Bill 2007 [This bill will now be assented to]
- Native Title Amendment (Technical Amendments) Bill 2007–
[40 Government amendments](#) agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
- Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 2) Bill 2007 [This bill will now be assented to]
- Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 3) Bill 2007 and a related bill [These bills will now be assented to]

Notices of motion

To vary the days and hours of meeting

A [notice](#) was given by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz) to vary the days and hours of meeting for the remainder of the Winter sittings to allow the Government's legislative program to be considered.

To introduce a private senators' bill

- Public Interest Disclosure Bill 2007—notice given by Senator Murray

To exempt bills from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- Tax Laws Amendment (Simplified GST Accounting) Bill 2007
- Wheat Marketing Legislation Amendment Bill 2007

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

- Australian Crime Commission Joint Committee—[Examination](#) of the annual report for 2005-06 of the Australian Crime Commission
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 6](#) of 2007 and [6th report](#) of 2007 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds] This report was debated [[first speaker](#)]

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 9](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Testing) Bill 2007—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—to report by 31 July 2007
- Fisheries Legislation Amendment Bill 2007 and a related bill—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee—to report by 18 June 2007
- National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) Bill 2007—Community Affairs Committee—to report by 18 June 2007

Public meeting

The Senate authorised the Joint Standing Committee on Publications to hold a public meeting while the Senate is sitting on 18 June 2007 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm for the committee's inquiry into printing standards for documents presented to Parliament.

Notices of motion given

To hold a meeting when the Senate is sitting:

- Community Affairs Committee–14 June 2007 from 4.00pm–to take evidence on a matter relating to the Positron Emission Tomography review

To refer matters to committees:

- [Cost of living](#) pressures on older Australians–Community Affairs Committee–to report by 13 September 2007
- [Renewable energy](#) feed-in tariffs in Australia–Economics Committee–to report by 6 October 2007

Documents

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General–[Audit report](#) no. 43 of 2006-07
- Australian parliamentary delegation–Republic of Malta and Spain, 14 to 24 April 2007, and official visit to Kuwait by the President of the Senate, 24 to 26 April 2007–Report
- [Clerk's documents](#) [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled, including Governor-General's Proclamations]
- [Government documents](#) [and considered]
- Senators' satisfaction with departmental services, 2007–Report prepared for the Department of the Senate by Eureka Strategic Research

Other business

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

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

[Adjournment debate–first speaker](#)

Motions agreed to

- [Council of the National Library](#) of Australia–Election of Senator Trood–moved by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Colbeck)
- [Floods](#) in the New South Wales central coast and Hunter region–moved by Senator Sandy Macdonald
- [Kerang train disaster](#)–moved by Senators Ronaldson, Conroy, the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison), the Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding), Senators Fifield, Kemp, McGauran, Patterson, Troeth, Carr, Marshall and Ray

Motions negatived

- [Food advertising](#)–moved by the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
- [Telstra](#)–moved by Senators Carol Brown, O'Brien, Polley and Sherry
- [Water conservation](#)–moved by Senators Siewert and Nettle

