



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 13 September 2007

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.47pm

Legislation

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

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Communications Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2007 [new Senate bill]
- ❑ Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment (Child Disability Assistance) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 September 2007]
- ❑ Financial Sector Legislation Amendment (Discretionary Mutual Funds and Direct Offshore Foreign Insurers) Bill 2007 and a related bill [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 September 2007]
- ❑ Financial Sector Legislation Amendment (Simplifying Regulation and Review) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 September 2007]
- ❑ Lands Acquisition Legislation Amendment Bill 2007 [new Senate bill]
- ❑ Stolen Generation Compensation Bill 2007 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Amendment Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 September 2007]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 5) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 September 2007]
- ❑ Workplace Relations (Guaranteeing Paid Maternity Leave) Amendment Bill 2007 [private senator's bill]

The following bill was debated

- ❑ Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Democratic Plebiscites) Bill 2007—Second reading agreed to [details of the bill will be considered on a future sitting day]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Building and Construction Industry Improvement Amendment (OHS) Bill 2007 [this bill will now be assented to]

- ❑ Financial Sector Legislation Amendment (Discretionary Mutual Funds and Direct Offshore Foreign Insurers) Bill 2007 and a related bill [these bills will now be assented to]
- ❑ Financial Sector Legislation Amendment (Simplifying Regulation and Review) Bill 2007 [this bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2007 [this bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ International Trade Integrity Bill 2007 [this bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Maritime Legislation Amendment Bill 2007 [this bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Bill 2007 [the House of Representatives will now consider this bill]
- ❑ Offshore Petroleum Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2007 [the House of Representatives will now consider this bill]
- ❑ Product Stewardship (Oil) Amendment Bill 2007 [this bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Amendment Bill 2007 [this bill will now be assented to]

Bills to be considered together

The Senate agreed that the following bills may be considered together for their remaining stages:

- ❑ 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

- ❑ Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Testing) Bill 2007—Agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [this bill will now be assented to]

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](#)

Estimates

The following additional information arising from estimates hearings was tabled:

- ❑ Community Affairs Committee—budget estimates 2007-08
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—budget estimates 2007-08

Reports tabled

- ❑ Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee—[Quality of school education](#)

- Privileges Committee—[Oral report](#)—Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings. A procedural [notice of motion](#) was given in relation to the report.

Government responses tabled

[Government responses](#) to the following reports were tabled

- Australian Crime Commission Joint Committee—Trafficking of women for sexual servitude—Supplementary report
- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee—Turning back the tide—The invasive species challenge: Report on the regulation, control and management of invasive species and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—Australia’s relationship with Malaysia
- Intelligence and Security Joint Committee—Review of the re-listing of Ansar al-Sunna, JeM, LeJ, EIJ, IAA, AAA and IMU as terrorist organisations
- National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee—
 - Norfolk Island electoral matters
 - Norfolk Island financial sustainability: The challenge—Sink or swim
 - Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?: Inquiry into governance on Norfolk Island [revised response]
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee—Australian forest plantations: A review of *Plantations for Australia: The 2020 vision*
- Treaties Joint Committee—
 - 81st report—Treaties tabled on 8 August 2006
 - 84th report—Treaty tabled on 6 December 2006

Proposed reference

The Senate did not agree to refer [matters](#) relating to the risks associated with the rise in sea levels in Australia to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee.

Notices of motion given

To refer matters to committees:

- [Australia-Russia](#) Nuclear Cooperation Agreement—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee—to report by 3 December 2007
- [Effectiveness](#) of the national emergency intervention in the Northern Territory—Community Affairs Committee—to report by 30 June 2008

Documents

Orders for the production of documents—Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

A statement of compliance for the Attorney-General’s portfolio was 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]
- Response to a Senate resolution about the Kerang train disaster from the Premier of Victoria (Mr Brumby) [resolution agreed to on [13 June 2007](#)]
- [2 petitions](#)

Documents discussed

Government documents, committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports were discussed.

Other business

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

Estimates questions on notice—failure to provide answers

[Senator Carr](#) asked the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training (Senator Brandis) why answers had not been provided to 69 questions placed on notice during the consideration of the 2007-08 budget estimates by the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee. [The Minister](#) indicated an explanation would be provided. A [motion](#) to take note of the Minister's response was agreed to.

Motions agreed to

- [Parliamentary zone](#)—to approve a proposal to redevelop the National Library of Australia forecourt to create the Humanities and Science Campus Square—moved by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Colbeck)
- [Tarkine wilderness area](#) in Tasmania—moved by Senator Bartlett

Motions negatived

- [New South Wales electricity industry](#)—moved by Senator Siewert
- [Greenhouse gas emissions](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)

Motion debated

- [Australia's manufacturing sector](#)—moved by Senator Carr

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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