



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 13 March 2008

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.22pm

Legislation

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

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Defence Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 March 2008]
- ❑ Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Screen Australia Bill 2008 and 2 related bills [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 March 2008]
- ❑ Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Trustee Board and Other Measures) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [new Senate bill]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Personal Income Tax Reduction) Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 March 2008]
- ❑ Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 March 2008]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Defence Legislation Amendment Bill 2008
- ❑ Higher Education Support Amendment (VET FEE-HELP Assistance) Bill 2008
- ❑ Screen Australia Bill 2008 and 2 related bills
- ❑ Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Poisons Standard) Bill 2008
- ❑ Trade Practices Amendment (Access Declarations) Bill 2008
[These bills will now be assented to]

Change to hours of meeting

The Senate agreed to vary the [hours of meeting](#) for 17 and 18 March 2008 to allow the Government's legislative program to be considered.

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

Reporting date extended

The Senate agreed to extend the reporting date for the inquiry of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee into the exposure drafts of the Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008 and a related bill to 24 April 2008.

Membership

A message from the House of Representatives was reported advising that Mr Bevis, Mr Downer, Mr Dreyfus, Mr Melham and Mr Ruddock have been appointed members of the Intelligence and Security Joint Committee.

Documents

Delegated legislation

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

- [Clerk's documents](#) were tabled [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]

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 Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy was tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

A statement of compliance for the Health and Ageing portfolio agencies was tabled [Letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Health Insurance—Anti-competitive practices

A report by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on anti-competitive and other practices by health funds and providers in relation to private health insurance for the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 was tabled [The report was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [25 March 1999](#) on the motion of Senator Harradine and amended on [18 September 2002](#)]

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Climate Change and Water (Senator Wong) tabled a [ministerial statement](#) about the Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008.

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](#)

Motion debated

The Senate debated a [motion](#) moved by Senator Eggleston relating to the budget and the economy.

Address-in-reply

[Debate continued](#) on the Address-in-reply to the Governor-General's speech.

Notices of motion

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

Statistics

Statistics on the work of the Senate this week will be available in the [Statistical Summary](#), which forms part of [StatsNet](#)—the Department of the Senate's online statistical collection.

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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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