



# Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 18 June 2008

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.35pm

## Legislation

Bills and related documents available on BillsNet <[www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm)>

### Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Commonwealth Securities and Investment Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 18 June 2008]
- Dental Benefits Bill 2008 and a related bill [passed by the House of Representatives on 17 June 2008]
- Tax Laws Amendment (Election Commitments No. 1) Bill 2008 and 2 related bills [passed by the House of Representatives on 18 June 2008]

The following bill was debated

- Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- Dental Benefits Bill 2008 and a related bill—[1 Opposition amendment](#) agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendment made by the Senate]
- First Home Saver Accounts Bill 2008 and 2 related bills [These bills will now be assented to]
- Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy and Medicare Levy Surcharge) Bill 2008 [This bill will now be assented to]

### Notices of motion

To introduce private senators' bills

- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Control of Power Station Emissions) Bill 2008—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
- Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Laws Bill 2008—notice given by Senators Troeth and Humphries

To restore a private senator's bill to the Notice Paper

- ❑ Pregnancy Counselling (Truth in Advertising) Bill 2006—notice given by Senators Stott Despoja and Nettle

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

## Committees

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For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

### Reports tabled

Report on legislation

- ❑ [Alcohol Toll](#) Reduction Bill 2007 [2008]—Community Affairs Committee

Other reports

- ❑ Australian Crime Commission Joint Committee—[Examination](#) of the Australian Crime Commission annual report 2006-07
- ❑ Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Joint Committee—[Examination](#) of the annual report of the Integrity Commissioner 2006-07
- ❑ Privileges Committee—[134th report](#)—Effective Repetition [A [motion](#) to endorse the principles outlined in paragraph 1.18 was agreed to.]
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee—
  - [Alert Digest No. 5](#) of 2008 and [5th report](#) of 2008 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
  - Work of the committee during the 40th Parliament, February 2002 to August 2004

### New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 5](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- ❑ Evidence Amendment Bill 2008—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—to report not before 25 September 2008
- ❑ Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008—Finance and Public Administration Committee—to report by 24 June 2008
- ❑ Passenger Movement Charge Amendment Bill 2008—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—to report by 24 June 2008
- ❑ Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008—Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—to report by 14 October 2008
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Budget Measures) Bill 2008—Economics Committee—to report by 24 June 2008
- ❑ Unit Pricing (Easy comparison of grocery prices) Bill 2008—Economics Committee—to report by 2 September 2008

### Legislation references

- ❑ Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2008—Electoral Matters Joint Committee—to report by 30 June 2009 in conjunction with the committee’s inquiry into the 2007 Federal Election
- ❑ Excise Legislation Amendment (Condensate) Bill 2008 and a related bill—Economics Committee—to report not before 26 August 2008
- ❑ National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008 and a related bill—Economics Committee—to report not before 29 September 2008
- ❑ National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical and Other Benefits—Cost Recovery) Bill 2008—Community Affairs Committee—to report not before 18 August 2008
- ❑ Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—Superannuation) Bill 2008—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—to report by 30 September 2008 or after the consideration of any related bills
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 3) Bill 2008—Schedules 1 and 2—Economics Committee—to report not before 18 August 2008
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Luxury Car Tax) Bill 2008 and 3 related bills—Economics Committee—to report not before 26 August 2008
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill 2008—Economics Committee—to report not before 26 August 2008

### Other references

- ❑ [Disclosure regimes for charities](#)—Economics Committee—to report by the last sitting day of November 2008
- ❑ [Environment Protection](#) and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999—Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—to report by 27 November 2008

### Public meetings

The Senate authorised the following public meetings to be held while the Senate is sitting:

- ❑ Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee—18 June 2008—continuing oversight of the operations of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission
- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee—20 June 2008 from 9.15am—review of reforms to Australia’s military justice system by the Australian Defence Force

### Notices of motion given

To extend a reporting deadline:

- ❑ Sexualisation of children in the media—Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—to report by 25 June 2008

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting:

- ❑ Economics Committee–20 June 2008–in camera hearing
- ❑ Economics Committee–20 June 2008–Tax Laws Amendment (Budget Measures) Bill 2008
- ❑ Finance and Public Administration Committee–20 June 2008 from 10.00am to 12.30pm–Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008

## Documents

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### 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]

Notices of motion to disallow given

- ❑ [Determination](#) to amend and repeal the Health Insurance (Dental Services) Determination 2007–notice given by Senator Colbeck
- ❑ [Regulations](#) repealing the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2006 and making the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) 2007–notice given by Senator Barnett
- ❑ [Various legislative instruments](#)–notice given by the Chair of the Regulations and Ordinances Committee (Senator Wortley)

### Documents tabled

- ❑ Auditor-General–[Audit report](#) no. 41 of 2007-08
- ❑ [Government documents](#)

### Ministerial statements tabled

The Minister for Immigration and Citizenship (Senator Evans) tabled ministerial statements about:

- ❑ Indigenous legal funding
- ❑ National Product Safety Reform

## Other business

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[Questions without notice and issues arising during question time–first question](#)  
[Matters of public interest debate–first speaker](#)

### Motion agreed to

- ❑ [Australia's skills challenge](#)–moved by the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)

### **Valedictory speeches**

A series of speeches were given recognising the contribution of those senators whose terms expire on 30 June 2008. [[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](http://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](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate)

#### **Contact details**

Inquiries, comments and suggestions:      phone 6277 3021  
e-mail: [sds@aph.gov.au](mailto:sds@aph.gov.au)