



# Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 12 May 2009

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 8.02pm

## **Budget 2009-10**

[Budget Papers, Portfolio Budget Statements and related sites <www.budget.gov.au>](#)

The Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation (Senator Sherry) tabled the [Budget statement](#) for the year 2009-10 and associated budget papers and ministerial statements.

Portfolio budget statements for [parliamentary](#) and [executive](#) departments were also tabled.

The Senate [referred](#) budget documents to committees to enable them to consider estimates. Estimates hearings will take place from 25 May to 5 June 2009.

The Opposition and other parties will make their responses to the Budget statement on Thursday, 14 May 2009.

## **Legislation**

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

### **Bills considered**

The following bills were introduced and exempted from the cut-off [to enable consideration in this period of sittings]

- ❑ Excise Tariff Validation Bill 2009  
Customs Tariff Validation Bill 2009  
[passed by the House of Representatives on 12 May 2009]

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Australian Business Investment Partnership Bill 2009 and a related bill—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

### **Notice of motion to introduce a private senator's bill**

- ❑ Fair Work Amendment (Paid Parental Leave) Bill 2009—notice given by Senator Hanson-Young

## Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to a number of laws was reported in the Senate

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

## Committees

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For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

## Estimates

The Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee tabled a report on the 2008-09 [additional estimates](#).

## Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- ❑ [Australian Business Investment Partnership Bill 2009](#) and a related bill—Economics Committee
- ❑ Evidence Amendment (Journalists' Privilege) Bill 2009—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—[Interim report](#) and [final report](#)
- ❑ Exposure draft of the legislation to implement the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme—Economics Committee—[Interim report](#) and [final report](#)
- ❑ [Fair Work](#) (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2009—Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee
- ❑ [Family Assistance](#) and Other Legislation Amendment (2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2009—Community Affairs Committee
- ❑ [Financial Sector](#) Legislation Amendment (Enhancing Supervision and Enforcement) Bill 2009—Economics Committee
- ❑ Law and Justice (Cross Border and Other Amendments) Bill 2009—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—[Interim report](#) and [final report](#)
- ❑ [National Greenhouse](#) and Energy Reporting Amendment Bill 2009—Finance and Public Administration Committee
- ❑ Native Title Amendment Bill 2009—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—[Interim report](#)
- ❑ [Social Security](#) Legislation Amendment (Improved Support for Carers) Bill 2009—Community Affairs Committee
- ❑ [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (2009 Measures No. 2) Bill 2009—Economics Committee
- ❑ [Uranium Royalty](#) (Northern Territory) Bill 2008—Economics Committee
- ❑ [Water Amendment](#) (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008—Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the report]

## Other reports

- ❑ Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—Operation of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*—[Interim report](#) and [second \(final\) report](#) [a motion was moved to take note of the final report]

- ❑ Finance and Public Administration Committee–[Residential and community](#) aged care in Australia [a motion was moved to take note of the report]
- ❑ Fuel and Energy Select Committee–The CPRS: Economic cost without environmental benefit–[Interim report](#)
- ❑ National Broadband Network Select Committee–Another fork in the road to national broadband–[Second interim report](#) [a motion to take note of the report was debated–[first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Procedure Committee–[Second report of 2009](#)–The Senate committee system–a [notice of motion](#) was given to amend [standing order 25](#)

### **Documents tabled**

- ❑ Finance and Public Administration Committee–Residential and community aged care in Australia–Additional information and correction
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector–Additional information
- ❑ Standing Order 37(3)–Access to committee documents–Report to the Senate

### **Government response tabled**

- ❑ Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee–Bridging the skills divide

### **New inquiry**

- ❑ Incidence and severity of [bushfires across Australia](#)–Agricultural and Related Industries Select Committee

### **Reporting dates extended**

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee–Native Title Amendment Bill 2009–to report by 13 May 2009
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–Matters specified in part (2) of the inquiry into the management of the Murray-Darling Basin system–to report by 22 May 2009
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–Natural resource management and conservation challenges–to report by 18 June 2009

### **Notices of motion given**

To extend reporting deadlines

- ❑ Climate Policy Select Committee–to report by 15 June 2009
- ❑ Community Affairs Committee–Compliance audits on Medicare benefits–to report by 10 June 2009
- ❑ Economics Committee–Foreign investment in Australia–to report by 17 July 2009

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee–14 May 2009 from 9.30am

To refer matters to a committee

- [Tendering process](#) by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to award employment services contracts—Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee—to report by 25 June 2009

## 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]

Notice of motion withdrawn

A [notice of motion](#) to disallow the [Other Grants Guidelines \(Research\) 2008](#), made under section 238-10 of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* was withdrawn.

### Orders for the production of documents

Documents tabled

The following documents were tabled in response to orders of the Senate:

- [documents](#) relating to taxation on certain alcoholic drinks [tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [4 February 2009](#) on the motion of Senator Cormann]
- [documents](#) relating to private health insurance reforms [tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [11 March 2009](#) on the motion of Senator Cormann]

Notice of motion given

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin) gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) to table documents relating to the National Broadband Network—no later than 6.50pm on 13 May 2009.

Orders with continuing effect

*Departmental and agency appointments*

A [motion](#) moved by Senator Cormann to amend the order was agreed to.

*Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet*

Statements of compliance for [various agencies](#) were 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]

*Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet*

A statement of compliance for the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) was tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

### Documents tabled

- ❑ Auditor-General—[Audit reports](#) nos 27 to 31 of 2008-09
- ❑ Government documents [see Journals entries nos [2](#) and [36](#)]
- ❑ National Schools Constitutional Convention 2009, Old Parliament House, 17 to 19 March 2009—Communiqué
- ❑ Responses to Senate resolutions about:
  - ❑ bushfires in Victoria—from the Premier of Victoria (Mr Brumby) [resolution agreed to [9 February 2009](#)]
  - ❑ International Women’s Day—from the Acting Prime Minister (Ms Gillard) [resolution agreed to [11 March 2009](#)]
- ❑ [5 petitions](#)

### Ministerial statement tabled

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator McLucas) tabled a ministerial statement about the humanitarian crisis in Sri Lanka.

### Other business

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

### Motion debated

The Senate discussed [issues](#) relating to people smuggling, raised by Senator Fierravanti-Wells as a matter of public importance. [[first speaker](#)]

### Death of Sergeant Brett Till

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Evans) [moved](#) that the Senate records its deep regret at the death, on 19 March 2009, of Sergeant Brett Till, while on combat operations in Afghanistan. The motion was supported.

### Death of former senator and former members

The President informed the Senate of the deaths of a former senator and former members:

- ❑ on 13 April 2009, John Lindsay Armitage, OAM, a member of the House of Representatives for the divisions of Mitchell from 1961 to 1963, and Chifley from 1969 to 1983;
- ❑ on 16 March 2009, William George Burns, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Isaacs from 1977 to 1980; and
- ❑ on 1 May 2009, George Conrad Hannan, a senator for the state of Victoria from 1956 to 1965 and 1970 to 1974—[motion](#) moved by the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Evans) and supported.

### 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)

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