



# Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 17 September 2009

The Senate met from 9.30am until 6.42pm

*[The Senate](#) will meet again on 26 October 2009. Senate committees will meet from 19 to 22 October 2009 to consider [supplementary budget estimates](#).*

## 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

- ❑ Britt Laphorne Bill 2009 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Higher Education Support Amendment Bill 2009 [passed by the House of Representatives on 16 September 2009]
- ❑ Personal Property Securities Bill 2009 [passed by the House of Representatives on 16 September 2009]
- ❑ Renewable Energy (Certificates and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2009 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Renewable Energy (Food Processing Activities) Amendment Bill 2009 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Safe Climate (Energy Efficient Non-Residential Buildings Scheme) Bill 2009 [private senator's bill]

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

- ❑ Customs Amendment (ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement Implementation) Bill 2009 and a related bill
- ❑ Foreign States Immunities Amendment Bill 2009

The following bill was debated

- ❑ Corporations Amendment (Improving Accountability on Termination Payments) Bill 2009—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bill was introduced, debated and passed

- ❑ International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Customs Amendment (ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement Implementation) Bill 2009 and a related bill [The bills will now be assented to]
- ❑ Federal Court of Australia Amendment (Criminal Jurisdiction) Bill 2008 [see [Journals entry no. 35](#), 16 September 2009 for previous consideration of the bill] [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
- ❑ Foreign States Immunities Amendment Bill 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Fuel Quality Standards Amendment Bill 2009–[1 Government amendment](#) agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendment made by the Senate]
- ❑ National Health Security Amendment Bill 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Legislation Amendment Bill 2009 and a related bill [The bills will now be assented to]
- ❑ Road Transport Reform (Dangerous Goods) Repeal Bill 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]

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

- ❑ Keeping Jobs from Going Offshore (Protection of Personal Information) Bill 2009–notice given by the Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)

**Messages from the House of Representatives**

- ❑ Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Test Review and Other Measures) Bill 2009–agreeing to the bill without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Health Insurance Amendment (Extended Medicare Safety Net) Bill 2009–agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

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

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**Committees**

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

**Estimates**

[Additional information](#) arising from the 2009-10 budget estimates hearings was tabled.

**Reports tabled**

Reports on legislation

- ❑ [Access to Justice](#) (Civil Litigation Reforms) Amendment Bill 2009–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee
- ❑ [Crimes Legislation](#) Amendment (Serious and Organised Crime) Bill 2009–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee
- ❑ [Environment Protection](#) (Beverage Container Deposit and Recovery Scheme) Bill 2009–Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee [[a statement](#) was made in relation to the report]

- [Parliamentary Superannuation](#) Amendment (Removal of Excessive Super) Bill 2009–Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee [statements were made in relation to the report – [first speaker](#)]

#### Other reports

- Economics References Committee–[Bank mergers](#) [a motion was moved to take note of the report]
- Economics References Committee–[Foreign investment](#) by state-owned entities [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the report]
- Economics References Committee–[Government measures](#) to address confidence concerns in the financial sector: The Financial Claims Scheme and the Guarantee Scheme for Large Deposits and Wholesale Funding [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the report]
- Publications Committee–[13th Report](#) [report adopted]
- Treaties Joint Committee–[106th Report](#)–Nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]

#### Government response tabled

- [Electoral Matters Joint Committee](#)–2007 federal election electronic voting trials–Inquiry into the conduct of the 2007 election [a motion to take note of the response was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]

#### New inquiries

##### Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted reports nos [14 and 15](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- Crimes Legislation Amendment (Serious and Organised Crime) Bill (No. 2) 2009–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–to report by 26 October 2009
- Safe Climate (Energy Efficient Non-Residential Buildings Scheme) Bill 2009–Economics Legislation Committee–to report by 10 March 2010
- Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Income Support for Students) Bill 2009–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 26 October 2009
- Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2009–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–to report by 26 October 2009
- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2009–Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee–to report by 26 October 2009

#### Proposed reference

The Senate did not agree to refer [matters](#) relating to Tibet and China to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee.

### Reporting date extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Agricultural and Related Industries Select Committee—Incidence and severity of bushfires across Australia—to report by 26 November 2009
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—Crimes Legislation Amendment (Serious and Organised Crime) Bill (No. 2) 2009—to report by 16 November 2009
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2009—to report by 16 November 2009

### Variation of appointment

The Senate agreed to a [motion](#) varying the appointment of the Fuel and Energy Select Committee.

### Membership

The Senate agreed to [various changes](#) to committee membership [see Journals entries [7](#) and [65](#)]

## Documents

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### Delegated legislation

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

#### Motion to disallow defeated

The Senate did not agree to a motion to disallow the Inclusion of ecological communities in the list of threatened ecological communities [Lowland Native Grasslands of Tasmania], made on 18 June 2009 under section 181 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* [[homepage](#)] [[first speaker](#)].

### Orders for the production of documents

#### Notice of motion given

The Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding) gave a [notice of motion](#) to require that reports by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and the Future Fund Board of Guardians relating to Telstra be tabled—no later than 16 November 2009

#### Order with continuing effect

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

Statements of compliance for [two agencies](#) were 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 report](#) no. 5 of 2009-10
- ❑ Statement in response to a Senate resolution about North Korea [resolution agreed to [13 August 2009](#)]
- ❑ [A petition](#)

### Documents discussed

Government documents were discussed.

### Ministerial statement tabled

The Assistant Treasurer (Senator Sherry) tabled a ministerial statement on the approval of exemption of AEC public information campaigns from Australian Government advertising guidelines [a [motion](#) to take note of the statement was agreed to].

## Other business

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

### Motions agreed to

- ❑ [Affordable health care](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- ❑ [Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam
- ❑ [Death penalty](#)—moved by Senators Moore and Humphries
- ❑ [Inquiry into the Montara oil spill](#)—moved by Senator Siewert
- ❑ [National Babies Day](#)—moved by Senator Hanson-Young
- ❑ [Nuclear non-proliferation treaty](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam
- ❑ [Traveston Crossing Dam](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- ❑ [World Alzheimer's Day](#)—moved by Senator Cormann

### Motions negated

- ❑ [Death penalty in Vietnam](#)—moved by Senator Hanson-Young
- ❑ [Swift parrot habitats](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

### Statement by President

The President made a [statement](#) relating to Mr Gerard Martin, Senior Adviser, Office of the President. Senator Ferguson also made a [statement](#) on the matter.

### Notices of motion

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals [see entries nos [3](#) and [48](#)].

