

About the House

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Have a say on homelessness legislation

The House of Representatives Family and Community Committee is seeking submissions for its new inquiry into homelessness legislation. More information, including the terms of reference, can be found at www.aph.gov.au/fchy or email fchy.reps@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4566. Submissions are due by 14 August 2009.

Disability standards report released

A report into the Draft Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards has been released by the House of Representatives Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee. The report, *Access all areas*, is available at www.aph.gov.au/laca or email laca.reps@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 2358 for more information.

Having a say on pay equity

Aged and Community Services Tasmania will discuss pay equity with the House of Representatives Employment Committee at a public hearing to be held at Parliament House in Canberra on Thursday 25 June. The public hearing will be webcast at <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting> and for more information visit www.aph.gov.au/ewr or email ewr.reps@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4162.

Weather forecasting review

Land and Water Australia will discuss long-term meteorological forecasting with the House of Representatives Innovation, Science and Industry Committee at a public hearing today (Wednesday 24 June) from 10-11am at Parliament House in Canberra. Further hearings will be held in Melbourne on Monday 29 June and Sydney on Tuesday 30 June. For details visit www.aph.gov.au/isi or email isi.reps@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4594.



Improving safety at railway crossings

Accidents at level crossings across Australia lead to loss of life and millions of dollars of damage. The causes of these accidents are complex, and the proposed safety solutions varied, but the need to reduce their occurrence is clear. A new report released this week by the House of Representatives Transport Committee recommends ways to improve safety at level crossings. The report is available at www.aph.gov.au/itrdlg or for more information email itrdlg.reps@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 2352.

Children's Commission at education hearing

The Commission for Children and Young People NSW will appear before the House of Representatives Education Committee at a public hearing on Thursday 25 June at Parliament House in Canberra. The hearing is part of the committee's inquiry into supporting successful youth transitions and will examine issues concerning students who study and work. The hearing will be webcast at <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting> or for more information visit www.aph.gov.au/edt or email edt.reps@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4573.

Electoral reform reports released

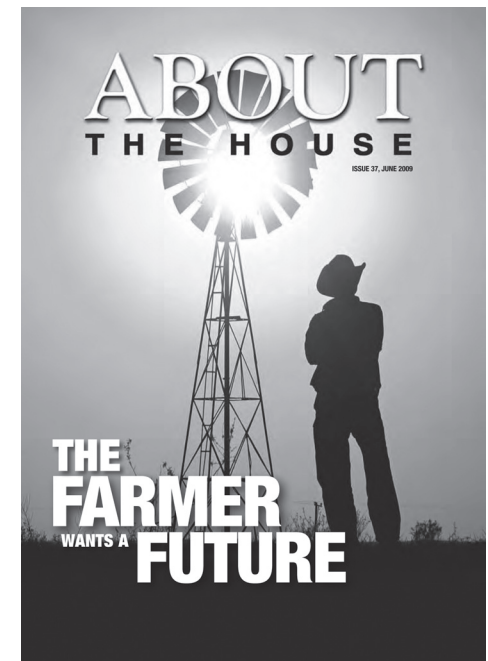
Federal parliament's Electoral Matters Committee has released two reports on electoral reform. The first report examines the conduct of the 2007 federal election and related issues. It includes a range of recommendations aimed at improving the conduct of federal elections. The second report examines proposals in the Commonwealth Electoral (Above-the-Line Voting) Amendment Bill 2008 to change voting arrangements for Senate elections. The reports are available at www.aph.gov.au/em or for more information email jscem@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 2374.

Green office hearing

An Auditor-General's report on green office procurement will be reviewed at a Public Accounts and Audit Committee public hearing today (Wednesday 24 June) from 11.45am at Parliament House in Canberra. The report assesses how effectively Commonwealth government agencies are pursuing environmentally friendly practices. The hearing will be webcast at <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting> and for more information visit www.aph.gov.au/jpaa or email jcpa@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4615.

The farmer wants a future

The future of farming in Australia, and our access to the freshest food at the best price, will depend on how well farmers adapt to the changing conditions they face on the land. The cover story of About the House magazine looks at farmers and the impacts of climate change. There are also features on wave energy, Latin American trade, financial literacy, and the fight to save a native mammal close to extinction. The magazine is also available online at: www.aph.gov.au/ath



Free magazine email liaison.reps@aph.gov.au or phone freecall 1800 139 299

New website opens the doors to your House: www.aph.gov.au/ath