



Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 25 February 2013

The Senate met from 10.00 am until 10.28 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Recognition Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 13 February 2013] [Minister's [second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2012-2013 [passed by the House of Representatives on 14 February 2013]
Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2012-2013 [passed by the House of Representatives on 14 February 2013]
[Minister's [second reading speeches](#)]
- ❑ Courts and Tribunals Legislation Amendment (Administration) Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 February 2013] [Minister's [second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Completion of Kakadu National Park (Koongarra Project Area Repeal) Bill 2013 [passed by the House of Representatives on 13 February 2013] [Minister's [second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Customs Amendment (Anti-Dumping Commission) Bill 2013 [passed by the House of Representatives on 14 February 2013] [Minister's [second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Federal Circuit Court of Australia (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2013 [passed by the House of Representatives on 6 February 2013] [Minister's [second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Amendment Bill 2013 [passed by the House of Representatives on 13 February 2013] [Minister's [second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2013 [private senator's bill] [introducing senator's [second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Small Business Commissioner Bill 2013 [private senator's bill] [introducing senator's [second reading speech](#)]

The following bill was debated

- ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment (Slavery, Slavery-like Conditions and People Trafficking) Bill 2012—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bill was discharged from the *Notice Paper*

- ❑ Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Improving Electoral Procedure) Bill 2012 [[first speaker](#) in second reading debate] [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Income Support Bonus) Bill 2012 [[first speaker](#) in second reading debate] [The bill will now be assented to]

Message from the House of Representatives reported

- ❑ Parliamentary Service Amendment Bill 2013—agreeing to the bill without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]

Bills assented to

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

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

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- ❑ Biosecurity Bill 2012 [2013] and a related bill—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—[Interim report](#) [see below for a notice of motion relating to an extension of time for the committee to present its final report]
- ❑ Courts and Tribunals Legislation Amendment (Administration) Bill 2012—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
- ❑ Exposure draft of the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill 2012—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
- ❑ Migration Amendment (Unauthorised Maritime Arrivals and Other Measures) Bill 2012—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]

Other reports

- ❑ Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee—Report on the 2011-12 annual reports of bodies established under the ASIC Act [[report](#)]
- ❑ Economics References Committee—Report on the receipt of information from the Commissioner of Taxation regarding revenue from the Minerals Resource Rent Tax [The information was provided to the committee in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [6 February 2013](#)]
- ❑ Human Rights Joint Committee—2nd report of 2013—Examination of legislation in accordance with the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*: Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2013 [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
- ❑ Intelligence and Security Joint Committee—Annual report of committee activities for 2011-12 [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]

Government responses tabled

- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—Review of the Defence annual report 2010-11 [[response](#)]
- ❑ Law Enforcement Joint Committee—Inquiry into Commonwealth unexplained wealth legislation and arrangements [[response](#)]

Document tabled

- ❑ Consolidated register of Senate committee reports—2012 supplement

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

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

- ❑ National Broadband Network Joint Committee—26 February 2013 from 4.00 pm—private meeting
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—25 February 2013 from 4.00 pm—in camera hearing—Aviation accident investigation

Reporting date extended

The Senate extended the reporting date for the inquiry of the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee into Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Retaining Federal Approval Powers) Bill 2012 to 28 February 2013.

Notices of motion

To refer a matter to a committee

- ❑ Development and operation of the Minerals Resource Rent Tax—Economics References Committee—to report by 6 May 2013—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne)

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- ❑ Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Joint Select Committee—27 February 2013 from 12.30 pm—private meeting
- ❑ Cyber Safety Joint Select Committee—13 March 2013 from 4.15 pm to 6.00 pm—public meeting—Cyber-safety for senior Australians
- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—12 March and 19 March 2013—
 - from 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm—public meetings—Slavery, slavery-like conditions and people trafficking
 - from 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm—public meetings—The care of Australian Defence Force personnel wounded and injured on operations
- ❑ Gambling Reform Joint Select Committee—19 March 2013 from 4.00 pm—public meeting—Advertising and promotion of gambling services in sport
- ❑ Law Enforcement Joint Committee—
 - 13 March 2013 from 12.15 pm—private briefing
 - 14 March 2013 from 4.30 pm—public meeting—The gathering and use of criminal intelligence

- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–26 February 2013 from 4.00 pm–public meeting–Regulatory Powers (Standard Provisions) Bill 2012
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–28 February 2013 from 4.00 pm–public meeting–Aviation accident investigation
- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee–18 March 2013 from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm–public meeting

To extend reporting deadlines

- ❑ Community Affairs References Committee–Sterilisation of people with disabilities–to report by 19 June 2013
- ❑ Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee–Teaching and learning – maximising our investment in Australian schools–to report by 14 May 2013
- ❑ Environment and Communications References Committee–Extreme weather events–to report by 26 June 2013
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–Migration and Security Legislation Amendment (Review of Security Assessments) Bill 2012–to report by 30 April 2013
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–Justice reinvestment–to report by 20 June 2013
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–Biosecurity Bill 2012 [2013] and a related bill–to report by 24 June 2013

Membership

The Senate agreed that Senator Brown be discharged from and Senator Thorp appointed to the Community Affairs References Committee

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported advising of various changes to the membership of joint committees.

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, including Governor-General's Proclamations]

Notice of motion to disallow given

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Abetz) gave a notice of motion to disallow the Building Code 2013, made under subsection 27(1) of the *Fair Work (Building Industry) Act 2012* [\[homepage\]](#).

Orders for the production of documents

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies

A letter of advice for the Office for Sport was tabled [Lists of appointments made and existing vacancies are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

Letters of advice for the Treasury and Health and Ageing portfolios 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]

Departmental and agency grants

Letters of advice for the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and the Office for Sport were tabled [Lists of all grants approved are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

Documents tabled

- ❑ [1 petition](#)
- ❑ Auditor-General–Audit reports nos 21 and 22 of 2012-13 [see Journals entries 35 and 26]
- ❑ [Government documents](#)
- ❑ Responses to Senate resolutions about–
 - Access to sanitation–from the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Senator Bob Carr) [resolution agreed to on [20 November 2012](#)]
[Malaria in the Asia Pacific region](#); and a [global hydro fluorocarbons phase-out](#)–from the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Senator Bob Carr) [resolutions agreed to on 1 November 2012]
[a [motion](#) to take note of the responses was agreed to]
 - Conviction records for offences relating to homosexuality–from the Premier of Western Australia (Mr Barnett) [resolution agreed to on [22 November 2012](#)]
 - Female genital mutilation–from the Minister for Health (Ms Plibersek) [resolution agreed to on [19 November 2012](#)]

Ministerial statements tabled

The Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Carers (Senator McLucas) tabled ministerial statements about–

- ❑ Afghanistan transition [a [motion](#) to take note of the statement was agreed to]
- ❑ Transport safety and security cooperation with Indonesia

Other business

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

Matter of public importance discussed

- [Gillard Government](#)—proposed by Senator Fifield [[first speaker](#)]

Censure motion

The Senate debated but did not agree to a motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Abetz) relating to the Gillard Government and the mining tax [[first speaker](#)]

Death of former member

The President informed the Senate of the death, on 15 February 2013, of the Honourable William (Bill) Lawrence Morrison, AO, a former minister and member of the House of Representatives for the division of St George from 1969 to 1975, and from 1980 to 1984. A [motion](#) moved by Senator Faulkner was carried [[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 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](#).

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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 at www.aph.gov.au/senate

Contact details

Inquiries, comments and suggestions: phone 6277 3021
e-mail: sds@aph.gov.au