



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 10 February 2015

The Senate met from 12.30 pm until 9.10 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills introduced

- Biosecurity Bill 2014
Biosecurity (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2014
Quarantine Charges (Imposition—General) Amendment Bill 2014
Quarantine Charges (Imposition—Customs) Amendment Bill 2014
Quarantine Charges (Imposition—Excise) Amendment Bill 2014
[passed by the House of Representatives on 9 February 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Fair Work Amendment (Bargaining Processes) Bill 2014 [passed by the House of Representatives on 9 February 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]

Bills considered

The following bills were debated and passed

- Tax Laws Amendment (Research and Development) Bill 2013—[committee stage continued](#)—2 PUP amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
- Treasury Legislation Amendment (Repeal Day) Bill 2014 [second reading – [first speaker](#)]
—2 Australian Greens committee amendments negated—bill agreed to without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]

[Notice of motion](#) to introduce a bill

Competition and Consumer Amendment (Australian Country of Origin Food Labelling) Bill 2015—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne) and Senator Xenophon

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Estimates

The Senate agreed to the following motions:

- [ordering](#) the Minister for Employment to table answers to supplementary budget estimates 2014-15 questions on notice—by the end of question time on 12 February 2015 [a [statement](#) was made]
- [setting](#) dates for estimates hearings for 2015

Reports and government responses tabled, and considered

- Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee – Report – Proposals to lift the professional, ethical and education standards in the financial services industry [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- Environment and Communications References Committee – [Response](#) to report – Environmental offsets
- Human Rights Joint Committee–[18th report](#) of 44th Parliament
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee – Migration Amendment (Protecting Babies Born in Australia) Bill 2014 [[report](#)]
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee – [Response](#) to report – Current investigative processes and powers of the Australian Federal Police in relation to non-criminal matters
- National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee – [Response](#) to report – Visit to the Indian Ocean Territories 21 October to 25 October 2012
- Northern Australia Joint Select Committee – [Response](#) to report – Pivot North – Inquiry into the development of northern Australia
- Publications Committee–[11th report](#)

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

The Senate authorised meetings of various committees to be held while the Senate is sitting [Journals entries [3](#) and [16](#) refer]

[New inquiry](#)

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee–Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Deregulation) Bill 2014 and the Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Amendment Bill 2014—to report by 1 May 2015

Reporting date extended

The Senate [extended](#) the reporting date for an inquiry by the Environment and Communications References Committee

Notices of motion

To adopt recommendations in a committee report

Recommendations made by the Committee of Privileges concerning the use of CCTV material in Parliament House—notice given by the Chair of the Standing Committee of Privileges (Senator Collins)

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—2, 3, 4, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 and 25 March 2015—public meetings—notice given by Senator Fawcett

To refer matters to committees

Higher education system—Education and Employment References Committee—to report by no later than 17 March 2015—notice given by Senators Carr, Xenophon, Lambie, Muir, Rhiannon and the Leader of the Palmer United Party (Senator Lazarus)

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]

Orders for the production of documents

Document tabled

The Attorney-General tabled a [document](#) relating to the Intergenerational Report [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to earlier today, see below]

Motions agreed to

The Senate ordered:

- the Minister for Employment to table answers to [supplementary budget estimates 2014-15 questions on notice](#)—by the end of question time on 12 February 2015 [a [statement](#) was made]
- the Minister assisting the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection to table the completed review into the [Regional Processing Centre in Nauru](#)—no later than 3 pm on 11 February 2015 [a [statement](#) was made]
- the Minister representing the Minister for Social Services to table documents relating to [affordable housing and homelessness](#)—no later than 3 pm on 11 February 2015
- the Minister representing the Treasurer to table the [Intergenerational Report](#)—no later than 2 pm on 11 February 2015 [a document was subsequently tabled, see above]

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies

[Letters of advice](#) for various portfolios were 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

A letter of advice for the Industry and Science portfolio was 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 various portfolios 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]

Departmental and agency unanswered questions on notice—Estimates hearings

A statement of compliance for the Department of Defence was tabled [Letters of advice in relation to questions taken on notice are required to be tabled by not later than 10 days before the commencement of the budget estimates, supplementary budget estimates and additional estimates hearings]

[Documents](#) tabled

Auditor-General's report, government documents and Senate business documents

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- ❑ Foreign affairs—Indonesia—[Mr Sukumaran and Mr Chan](#)—moved by Senator Singh, the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne) and Senator Mason
- ❑ Industry—[Liquefied Natural Gas projects](#)—moved by Senator Waters [a [statement](#) was made]
- ❑ Regional Australia—[South Australian Country Fire Service](#)—moved by Senator Wright

Motions negated

- ❑ Environment—New South Wales—[Gardens of Stone](#)—moved by Senator Rhiannon [a [statement](#) was made]
- ❑ Environment—New South Wales—[Maules Creek coal mine](#)—proposed by Senator Siewert [debated as a matter of urgency – [first speaker](#)]

[Notices of motion](#)

- ❑ The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) gave a notice of motion to vary the routine of business on 11 February 2015 concerning debate on the Prime Minister's annual report on Closing the Gap
- ❑ Further notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals



Online

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Contact details

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