



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 24 March 2015

The Senate met from 12.30 pm until 10.34 pm

Senators

Senator Lundy gave a [valedictory speech](#), and a series of speeches were given recognising her contribution to Parliament [[first speech](#)]

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bill was exempted, introduced and debated

Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment (Data Retention) Bill 2015 [[homepage](#)] [passed by the House of Representatives on 19 March 2015]

Notices of motion

To introduce a bill

Construction Industry Amendment (Protecting Witnesses) Bill 2015–[notice](#) given by the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Abetz)

To discharge government business order of the day

The Automotive Transformation Scheme Amendment Bill 2014 [[homepage](#)] be discharged from the Notice Paper—notice given by the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield)

Bills assented to

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

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports and government responses tabled

- Education and Employment Legislation Committee–[Seafarers Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015](#) [report]
- Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee–[Public Governance and Resources Legislation Amendment Bill \(No. 1\) 2015](#) [report]
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–[Work undertaken by the Australian Federal Police's Oil for Food Taskforce](#) [report]
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–[Comprehensive revision of the Telecommunications \(Interception and Access\) Act 1979](#) [final report]
- Procedure Committee–[first report](#) of 2015 [report]
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–[Role of public transport in delivering productivity outcomes](#)–government response

New inquiries

- [China-Australia Free Trade Agreement](#)–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–to report within one month of the tabling of the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties on the proposed agreement
- [Fin-fish aquaculture industry in Tasmania](#)–Environment and Communications References Committee–to report by 10 August 2015
- [Temporary work visa programs](#)–Education and Employment References Committee–to report by 22 June 2015

Meeting during the sitting of the Senate

The Senate authorised a number of meetings of various committees while the Senate is sitting [See *Senate Journal* of 24 March 2015 entries [3](#), [16](#) and [17](#)]

Reporting date extended

The Senate [extended](#) the reporting date for two inquiries of the Economics References Committee:

- Australia's innovation system, extended to 10 August 2015
- Cooperative, mutual and member-owned firms, extended to 30 November 2015

Notices of motion

To refer matters to committees

- Australian grape and wine industry–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 11 November 2015–notice given by Senators Ruston, Xenophon, McKenzie, Whish-Wilson and Madigan
- The mental health of Australian Defence Force personnel who have returned from deployment–to report by 19 February 2016–notice given by Senator Whish-Wilson

To amend terms of reference

Select Committee on the National Broadband Network–Inserting a new paragraph

Membership

The Senate [agreed](#) to vary the membership of 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]

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

[Statements of compliance](#) were tabled on communications and health portfolios [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Documents tabled and considered

- Letter from Communications Alliance Ltd to the Attorney-General (Senator Brandis) and the Minister for Communications (Mr Turnbull), dated 16 March 2015, relating to the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment (Data Retention) Bill 2015–tabled by Senator Ludlam
- List of quotations by former Australian Labor Party politicians related to electricity privatisation–tabled by the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann)
- [Government documents](#)

Other business

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

Death of former Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Kuan Yew

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Abetz) moved that the Senate records its deep regret at the death on 23 March 2015 of Mr Lee Kuan Yew, GCMG, CH, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore. The [motion](#) was supported and Senators stood in silence as a mark of respect to the deceased.

Motions agreed to

- ❑ Education–[Higher education reforms](#)–Advertisements–moved by Senator Rhiannon [a [statement](#) was made]
- ❑ Education–[Resourcing for disability education](#)–moved by Senator Wright, also on behalf of Senator O'Neill
- ❑ Health–[World Tuberculosis Day](#)–moved by Senators Smith, Singh and Di Natale
- ❑ [Hours of meeting and routine of business](#) for 24 March 2015–moved by the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield)
- ❑ Regional Australia–[Family-owned production enterprises](#)–moved by Senators O'Sullivan and Day

Motion negatived

Family and community services–[Healthy welfare card](#)–moved by Senator Siewert

Motion determined as not formal

Foreign Affairs–[Israel](#)–moved by Senators Day and Leyonhjelm [a [statement](#) was made]

[Notices of motion](#)

The President gave a notice of motion to approve perimeter security enhancements at Parliament House—a proposal was tabled

To vary the hours of meeting and routine of business

The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) gave notices of motion to vary the hours of meeting and routine of business for 25 March 2015, 26 March 2015, 12 May 2015 and 14 May 2015 and to require the Senate to meet on 11 May 2015.

[Further notices of motion](#) given today are available in the Senate Journals



Online

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available at www.aph.gov.au/senate

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Related resources

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Contact details

Inquiries, comments and suggestions: phone 02 6277 3021
e-mail: sds@aph.gov.au