

Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 15 June 2015

The Senate met from 10 am until 10.29 pm

Senators

Senator Joanna Lindgren was sworn in as a senator to fill a vacancy in the representation of Queensland

Legislation

Bills and related documents

Bills introduced

- Communications Legislation Amendment (SBS Advertising Flexibility and Other Measures) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 26 May 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Defence Legislation (Enhancement of Military Justice) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 28 May 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 1 June 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Law Enforcement Legislation Amendment (Powers) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 28 May 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 2 June 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Improving the Comcare Scheme) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 1 June 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Social Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 28 May 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (Employee Share Schemes) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 27 May 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy and Medicare Levy Surcharge) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 4 June 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measures No. 1) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 4 June 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]

- Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measures No. 2) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 4 June 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]

Bills considered

The following bill was debated

Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2015—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were debated and passed

- Business Services Wage Assessment Tool Payment Scheme Bill 2014 – [Government amendments and requests for amendments agreed to, and PUP amendments agreed to](#) [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments and requests made by the Senate]
- Business Services Wage Assessment Tool Payment Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2014—agreed to without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]
- Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 [[second reading – first speaker](#)]¹ [Opposition amendment agreed to](#) [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendment made by the Senate]
- Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measures No. 1) Bill 2015 and Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measures No. 2) Bill 2015 [[second reading – first speaker](#)]¹—agreed to without amendments [The bills will now be assented to]

Messages reported

- [agreeing](#) to the amendments made by the Senate to the Seafarers Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015
- [agreeing](#) to the Judiciary Amendment Bill 2015 and the National Water Commission (Abolition) Bill 2015 without amendment

Private senator's bill to be debated

On 14 November 2013 the Senate agreed to a temporary order allowing private senators' bills to be considered on Thursdays. On 18 June 2015 the [Freedom of Information Amendment \(Requests and Reasons\) Bill 2015](#) is scheduled for debate

Bills assented to

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

Committees

Scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports, documents and government response presented, and tabled

- Appropriations, Staffing and Security Committee—[57th report](#)—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2015-16

- Community Affairs Legislation Committee–
 - Social Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 [[report](#)]
 - Social Services Legislation Amendment (No. 2) Bill 2015 [[report](#)]
- Community Affairs References Committee–[Response to report](#)–Impacts on health of air quality in Australia
- Economics Legislation Committee–
 - Excise Tariff Amendment (Ethanol and Biodiesel) Bill 2015 and a related bill [[Journals entry refers](#)]
 - Reserve Bank Amendment (Australian Reconstruction and Development Board) Bill 2013–[Report](#)–Additional information
 - Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Amendment Bill 2015 [[report](#)]
 - Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 1) Bill 2015 [[report](#)]
- Education and Employment References Committee–Operation, regulation and funding of private vocational education and training (VET) providers in Australia–Second interim report
- Environment and Communications Legislation Committee–
 - Additional estimates 2014-15 [[report](#)]
 - Communications Legislation Amendment (SBS Advertising Flexibility and Other Measures) Bill 2015 [[report](#)]
- Environment and Communications References Committee–Performance and management of electricity network companies [[final report](#)]
- Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee–Omnibus Repeal Day (Autumn 2015) Bill 2015 [[report](#)]
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–
 - Copyright Amendment (Online Infringement) Bill 2015 [[interim report](#)] [[second interim report](#)] [[final report](#)]
 - Customs Amendment (Australian Trusted Trader Programme) Bill 2015 [[Journals entry refers](#)]
 - Migration Amendment (Maintaining the Good Order of Immigration Detention Facilities) Bill 2015 [[report](#)]
 - Migration Amendment (Strengthening Biometrics Integrity) Bill 2015 [[report](#)]
- Recent Allegations relating to Conditions and Circumstances at the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru Select Committee [[interim report](#)]
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–Criminal Code Amendment (Animal Protection) Bill 2015 [[interim report](#)] [[final report](#)]
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–Grain export networks, including the on- and off-farm storage, transport, handling and export of Australian grain [[report](#)]
- Senators’ Interests Committee–[Report 1 of 2015](#): Annual report 2014

Membership

- A [message](#) from the House of Representatives was reported advising changes in the membership of the Human Rights Joint Committee
- The Senate [agreed](#) to vary the membership of committees

New inquiry

Impairment of customer loans—Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee—for inquiry and report by 31 March 2016

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for inquiries of various committees

Notices of motion

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

Treaties Joint Committee—10 and 17 August, 7 and 14 September, 12 October, 9, 23 and 30 November 2015—private meetings, followed by public meetings

To refer matters to committees

- Correspondence from Mr Man Haron Monis to the Attorney-General—Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—to report by 25 June 2015—notice given by Senator Collins
- Impact of the 2014 and 2015 Commonwealth budget decisions on the Arts—Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—to report by 15 September 2015—notice given by Senators Collins and Ludlam
- Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2015—Environment and Communications Legislation Committee—to report by 22 June 2015—notice given by Senator Waters

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]

Disallowance motions

Notice of motion to disallow given

Senators Rice, Lambie and Cameron gave a notice of motion to disallow the Instrument as contained in the Specification of Income Threshold and Annual Earnings 2015, made under the *Migration Act 1958* and the Migration Regulations 1994 [[F2015L00569](#)]

Orders for the production of documents

Notice of motion

Senator Hanson-Young gave a notice of motion requiring the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection to table documents relating to the interception of a vessel en route to Australia or New Zealand in May 2015 and payments to persons—to table by 3 pm on 17 June 2015

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies

Letters of advice 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 grants

Letters of advice 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

Statements were 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 reports, government documents, remonstrance presented by the Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly, and responses to Senate resolutions [and considered]

Other business

Questions without notice and issues arising during question time—first question
Adjournment debate—first speaker

Death of former member

The President informed the Senate of the death, on 26 May 2015, of the Honourable Leslie Royston Johnson, AM, a former minister and member of the House of Representatives for the division of Hughes from 1955 to 1966 and from 1969 to 1984. A motion of condolence moved by the Acting Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Brandis) was carried [first speaker]

First speech

The Senate agreed to a motion moved by the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) for Senator McAllister to make her first speech on 24 June 2015

Matter of public importance discussed

Law and justice—Racial Discrimination Act 1975—40th anniversary—proposed by Senator Moore [first speaker]

Motions agreed to

- Historical events—Magna Carta—800th anniversary—moved by Senators Smith, Bullock, Wright, Day and Bernardi [a statement was made]
- Primary industries—Sustainable forest industry—moved by Senators O'Sullivan and Muir [a statement was made]

Notices of motion

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

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

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