Senate Daily Summary
Thursday, 12 February 2015

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 8.28 pm

Legislation

Bills and related documents

Bill introduced

Competition and Consumer Amendment (Australian Country of Origin Food Labelling) Bill 2015 [private senator’s bill]

Bills considered

The following bills were debated

- Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment Bill 2014–second reading continued [first speaker]
- Trade and Foreign Investment (Protecting the Public Interest) Bill 2014–second reading continued [first speaker]

The following bills were debated and passed

- Acts and Instruments (Framework Reform) Bill 2014 [first speaker – second reading]–1 Government amendment agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
- Building Energy Efficiency Disclosure Amendment Bill 2014–agreed to without amendments [first speaker – second reading] [The bill will now be assented to]
- Civil Law and Justice Legislation Amendment Bill 2014–agreed to without amendments [first speaker – second reading] [The bill will now be assented to]
- Environment Legislation Amendment Bill 2013 [second reading – first speaker]–1 Australian Greens amendment agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendment made by the Senate]
- Federal Courts Legislation Amendment Bill 2014–agreed to without amendments [first speaker – second reading] [The bill will now be assented to]
Message reported
Tax Laws Amendment (Research and Development) Bill 2013–agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

Committees

Scheduled public committee hearings
Committee reports

Estimates
- Additional information received relating to estimates hearings was tabled
- Particulars of proposed additional expenditure for 2014-15 and portfolio additional estimates statements [The Senate referred the particulars to committees for consideration at estimates hearings]

Report tabled
Publications Committee–12th report

New inquiries
Selection of Bills Committee
The Senate adopted, with an amendment moved by Senator Moore, report no. 1 of 2015 of the Selection of Bills Committee and made the following references [an amendment to the report was debated and agreed to – first speaker]:
- Regulator of Medicinal Cannabis Bill 2014–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–to report by 21 April 2015
- Tribunals Amalgamation Bill 2014–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–to report by 16 March 2015

Other reference
Tendering processes by the Department of Social Services–Community Affairs References Committee–to report by 26 March 2015

Membership
- Messages from the House of Representatives were reported advising changes in the membership of joint committees
- The Senate agreed to vary the membership of various committees
Privileges Committee

The Senate agreed to a motion to adopt recommendations contained in the 160th report of the Privileges Committee, and made by the committee relating to CCTV in Parliament House

Reporting dates extended

Various committees were granted extensions of time to report

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

Documents tabled

- A document relating to answers to questions taken on notice during estimates [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 10 February 2015]
- A document relating to the Mental Health review [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 12 February 2015]

Motion agreed to

The Senate ordered that the Minister representing the Minister for Health table documents relating to the Mental Health Review—no later than 3.30 pm on 12 February 2015 [a document was subsequently tabled, see above]

Notice of motion

Senator Hanson-Young gave a notice of motion to require the Productivity Commission to table a report concerning child care and early childhood learning—no later than 3 pm on 3 March 2015

Statements–Free trade agreements

A statement was made by the Minister for Human Services (Senator Payne) relating to the order for the production of documents concerning free trade agreements, and the failure of the Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Investment to comply with the order [The order of the Senate re failure to comply agreed to on 11 February 2015] [a motion to take note of the statement was agreed to – first speaker]

Documents discussed

Government documents, committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General’s reports were discussed [first speaker]
Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- Education—Higher education funding—moved by Senator Rhiannon [a statement was made]
- Family and community services—Domestic violence services—moved by Senator Waters [a statement was made]
- Foreign affairs—Mr Anwar Ibrahim—moved by Senator Xenophon, the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne) and Senators Leyonhjelm, Marshall and Mason
- Primary industries—Victorian dairy industry—moved by Senator O'Sullivan

Motion debated

Abbott Government—moved by Senator Polley, at the request of Senator Moore [first speaker]

Motions negatived

- Environment—Illegal fishing—moved by Senator Whish-Wilson [statements were made—first speaker]
- Environment—Queensland—Abbot Point—moved by Senator Waters [statements were made—first speaker]
- Science and technology—South Australia—Nuclear power plants—moved by Senator Wright [a statement was made]

Advisory Council on Australian Archives

Senator Moore was elected as a member of the Advisory Council on Australian Archives for a period of 3 years

Notices of motion

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals

Statistics

Statistics on the work of the Senate this week will be available in the Statistical Summary, which forms part of StatsNet—the Department of the Senate’s online statistical collection

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

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