The Senate met from 12.30 pm until 9.24 pm

Legislation

Bills and related documents

Bill introduced

Australian Securities and Investments Commission Amendment (Corporations and Markets Advisory Committee Abolition) Bill 2014 [passed by the House of Representatives on 2 March 2015] [Minister’s second reading speech]

Bills considered

The following bills were debated and passed

- Broadcasting and Other Legislation Amendment (Deregulation) Bill 2015–2 Senator Xenophon committee amendments negatived–bill agreed to without amendments [The bill will now be assented to]
- Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2014 Measures No. 7) Bill 2014 and the Excess Exploration Credit Tax Bill 2014 [second reading–first speaker]–2 Australian Greens amendments negatived–bills agreed to without amendments [The bills will now be assented to]

The following bills were debated

Enhancing Online Safety for Children Bill 2014 and the Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2014–second reading debate commenced [first speaker]

Notices of motion

To exempt a bill from the cut-off order [to enable consideration during this period of sittings] – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Recognition (Sunset Extension) Bill 2015–notice given by the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield)

To introduce private senators’ bills

- Defence Legislation Amendment (Parliamentary Approval of Overseas Service) Bill 2015–notice given by Senator Ludlam
- Landholders’ Right to Refuse (Gas and Coal) Bill 2015–notice given by Senator Waters
Message reported
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2014 Measures No. 5) Bill 2014—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bills will now be assented to]

Committees

Scheduled public committee hearings
Committee reports

Reports and government responses tabled, and considered

- Economics Legislation Committee—Report—Competition and Consumer Amendment (Misuse of Market Power) Bill 2014 [a motion to take note of the report was debated]
- Environment and Communications Legislation Committee—Enhancing Online Safety for Children Bill 2014 and a related bill [report]
- Human Rights Joint Committee—19th report of 44th Parliament [a motion to take note of the report was agreed to]
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Joint Committee—Response to report—Implementation and administration of the National Disability Insurance Scheme [a motion to take note of the response was debated]
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—Report no. 447—Review of Auditor-General reports nos 32-54 (2013-14)
- Public Works Joint Committee—Report no. 1 of 2015—Referrals made October 2014
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Response to report—Future of the beekeeping and pollination service industries in Australia [a motion to take note of the report was agreed to]—first speaker

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate
The Senate authorised meetings of various committees to be held while the Senate is sitting

Reporting dates extended
The Senate extended reporting dates for inquires of various committees

Notice of motion to refer a matter to a committee
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experience of law enforcement and justice services—Finance and Public Administration References Committee—to report by no later than 10 August 2015—notice given by Senator Lines

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 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]

Disallowance motions

Notice to consider a disallowance motion

A notice of motion was given to suspend standing orders to enable debate on a notice of motion proposing the disallowance of the Competition and Consumer (Industry Code—Port Terminal Access (Bulk Wheat)) Regulation 2014, made under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 [F2014L01250]

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

The Senate ordered the Minister representing the Minister for Health to table reports in relation to the Mental Health review—no later than 9.30 am on 4 March 2015

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

Letters of advice for various 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]

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

A statement of compliance was tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are required to be tabled twice a year]

Documents tabled

Government document, and a response to a Senate resolution

Other business

Questions without notice and issues arising during question time–first question

Adjournment debate–first speaker

Matter of public importance discussed

Law and justice–Racial Discrimination Act 1975–proposed by Senator Moore [first speaker]
Motions agreed to

- Health—Access to mental health services—moved by Senator Wright
- Law and justice—Australian Human Rights Commission—moved by Senators Collins and Hanson-Young, the Leader of the Palmer United Party (Senator Lazarus) and Senators Wang and Lambie
- Primary industries—Kangaroo meat and hide industry—moved by Senator O’Sullivan
- Women—International Women’s Day—moved by the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women (Senator Cash) and Senators Moore and Waters

Motions negatived

- Environment—New South Wales—Coal mining near the Liverpool Plains—moved by Senator Waters [a statement was made]
- Science and technology—Genetically modified organisms—moved by Senator Siewert

Proposed suspension of standing orders

The Senate did not agree to a motion moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne) to suspend standing orders to enable debate on a motion relating to the deployment of Australian troops [first speaker]

Notices of motion

Further notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals