Senate
Daily Summary
Wednesday, 4 March 2015

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.53 pm

Legislation

Bills and related documents

Bills introduced

- Australian River Co. Limited Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives on 4 March 2015] [Minister’s second reading speech]
- Defence Legislation Amendment (Parliamentary Approval of Overseas Service) Bill 2015 [private senator’s bill]
- Defence Trade Controls Amendment Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives on 4 March 2015] [Minister’s second reading speech]
- Landholders’ Right to Refuse (Gas and Coal) Bill 2015 [private senator’s bill]
- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Amendment (Designated Coastal Waters) Bill 2014 [passed by the House of Representatives on 3 March 2015] [Minister’s second reading speech]
- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Amendment (Miscellaneous Matters) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives on 3 March 2015] [Minister’s second reading speech]
- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2014 [passed by the House of Representatives on 3 March 2015] [Minister’s second reading speech]
- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment (Miscellaneous Matters) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives on 3 March 2015] [Minister’s second reading speech]

Bills considered

The following bills were debated and passed

- Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2014 [second reading – first speaker]–1 Senator Xenophon amendment negatived–bill agreed to without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]
- Enhancing Online Safety for Children Bill 2014 [second reading – first speaker]–2 Government amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment (Direct Lending and Other Measures) Bill 2014 [second reading – first speaker]–bill agreed to without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]

The following bills were debated

Notice of motion to introduce a private senator's bill
International Aid (Promoting Gender Equality) Bill 2015–notice given by Senator Rhiannon

Committees

Scheduled public committee hearings
Committee reports

Reports, and documents, tabled

Regulations and Ordinances Committee–Delegated legislation monitor no. 2 of 2015
Scrutiny of Bills Committee–2nd report of 2015 and Alert digest no. 2 of 2015

Membership

The Senate agreed to vary the membership of committees

New inquiry

Finance and Public Administration References Committee–Indigenous access to legal assistance services–to report by 10 August 2015–moved by Senator McEwen

Documents

Delegated legislation
See Disallowance Alert for a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

Disallowance motions

Motion to disallow defeated

The Senate did not agree to a motion which would have disallowed the provisions of the Competition and Consumer (Industry Code—Port Terminal Access (Bulk Wheat)) Regulation 2014 [F2014L01250] [first speaker]

Orders for the production of documents

Document tabled

The Assistant Minister for Health (Senator Nash) tabled a document relating to the Mental Health review [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 3 March 2015] [A motion to take note of the document was agreed to]
Orders with continuing effect

*Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet*

A letter of advice 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]

*Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet*

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

**Documents tabled**

Government documents, and a response to a Senate resolution [and considered]

**Other business**

*Senators’ statements–first speaker*

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

*Adjournment debate–first speaker*

**Matter of public importance discussed**

Education–*Higher education reforms*–proposed by Senator Moore [first speaker]

**Motions agreed to**

- Economics–*Budget surpluses*–moved by Senators Leyonhjelm, Day and Madigan
- Employment–*Unemployment in regional New South Wales*–moved by Senator Rhiannon [a statement was made]
- Immigration–*Detention centres–Allegations of abuse*–moved by the Leader of the Palmer United Party in the Senate (Senator Lazarus) and Senators Wang and Hanson-Young [a statement was made]
- Industrial relations–*Minimum wage and penalty rates*–Productivity Commission inquiry–moved by Senators Rice and Cameron
- Primary industries–*Forestry Tasmania*–moved by Senator O’Sullivan

**Motion negatived**

Politics–*Political donations*–Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna Fisheries Association–moved Senator Whish-Wilson [statements were made]

**Notices of motion**

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals
Online

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