Senate Daily Summary
Thursday, 5 March 2015

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 8.38 pm

Senators

Senator Muir gave his first speech

Legislation

Bills and related documents

Bills introduced

- International Aid (Promoting Gender Equality) Bill 2015 [private senator’s bill]
- National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Amendment Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives on 5 March 2015] [Minister’s second reading speech]

Bills considered

The following bills were debated

- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment Bill 2014–second reading debate continued [first speaker]

The following bills were debated and passed

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Recognition (Sunset Extension) Bill 2015–agreed to without amendments [first speaker – second reading] [The bill will now be assented to]
- Defence Legislation Amendment (Military Justice Enhancements—Inspector-General ADF) Bill 2014–agreed to without amendments [first speaker – second reading] [The bill will now be assented to]
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- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2014 and the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Amendment (Designated Coastal Waters) Bill 2014–agreed to without amendments [first speaker – second reading] [The bills will now be assented to]

**Notice of motion** to exempt a bill from the cut-off order [to enable consideration during this period of sittings] – National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Amendment Bill 2015–notice given by the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield)

**Message reported**

Enhancing Online Safety for Children Bill 2014–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**

**Report tabled**

Publications Committee–13th **report**

**New inquiries**

Selection of Bills Committee

The Senate adopted **report no. 2** of 2015 of the Selection of Bills Committee and made the following references:

- Corporations Amendment (Financial Advice) Bill 2014–Economics Legislation Committee–to report by 11 August 2015
- Landholders’ Right to Refuse (Gas and Coal) Bill 2015–Environment and Communications Legislation Committee–to report by 7 August 2015
- Private Health Insurance Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2014–Community Affairs Legislation Committee–to report by 12 May 2015
- Public Governance and Resources Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2015–Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee–to report by 23 March 2015
Seafarers Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015—Education and Employment Legislation Committee—to report by 23 March 2015

Membership
The Senate agreed to vary the membership of various committees [Journals entries nos 17 and 28 refer]

Notice of motion to refer a matter to a committee
Storm water management—Environment and Communications References Committee—to report by no later than 25 June 2015—notice given by Senator Xenophon

Reporting date extended
The Senate extended a reporting date for an inquiry of Education and Employment Legislation Committee

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

Orders with continuing effect

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

Ministerial statement
The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture (Senator Colbeck) tabled a statement and document relating to the 2015 Intergenerational Report [a motion to take note of the documents was debated]

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

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

Motions agreed to

- Animal welfare—Greyhound racing industry—moved by Senator Rhiannon
- Family and community services—Earn or learn measure—moved by Senator Siewert [a statement was made]
- Senate—Minor party and independent senators—moved by Senators Day, Leyonhjelm, Muir, the Leader of the Palmer United Party (Senator Lazarus) and Senator Wang
- Transport—Cyclist safety—moved by Senator Rice [a statement was made]

Motion debated

Mining—Coal seam gas—moved by the Leader of the Palmer United Party (Senator Lazarus) [first speaker]

Motion negatived

Mining—Coal seam gas—moved by Senator Waters [a statement was made]

Notices of motion

- To vary the routine of business on 23 March 2015 to enable valedictory statements to be made relating to Senator Lundy
- Further 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