

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE SENATE
ON GOVERNMENT RESPONSES OUTSTANDING
TO PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE REPORTS
AS AT 16 JULY 2014**

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PREFACE

This document continues the practice of presenting to the Senate twice each year a list of government responses to Senate and joint committee reports as well as responses which remain outstanding.

The practice of presenting this list to the Senate is in accordance with the resolution of the Senate of 14 March 1973 and the undertaking by successive governments to respond to parliamentary committee reports in timely fashion. On 26 May 1978 the Minister for Administrative Services (Senator Withers) informed the Senate that within six months of the tabling of a committee report, the responsible minister would make a statement in the Parliament outlining the action the government proposed to take in relation to the report. The period for responses was reduced from six months to three months in 1983 by the incoming government. The Leader of the Government in the Senate announced this change on 24 August 1983. The method of response continued to be by way of statement. Subsequently, on 16 October 1991 the government advised that responses to committee reports would be made by letter to a committee chair, with the letter being tabled in the Senate at the earliest opportunity. The government affirmed this commitment in June 1996 to respond to relevant parliamentary committee reports within three months of presentation.

On 29 September 2010, the House agreed to a resolution which places a six month response time on House and joint committee reports tabled in the House¹. The Senate has not agreed to a similar resolution. Therefore, this list is prepared on the basis of retaining the three month reporting undertaking for Senate and joint committee reports tabled in the Senate.

This list does not usually include reports of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights or the following Senate Standing Committees: Appropriations and Staffing, Privileges, Procedure, Publications, Regulations and Ordinances, Scrutiny of Bills, Selection of Bills and Senators' Interests. However, such reports will be included if they require a response. Government responses to reports of the Public Works Committee are normally reflected in motions in the House of Representatives for the approval of works after the relevant report has been presented and considered.

Reports of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) primarily make administrative recommendations but may make policy recommendations. A government response is required in respect of such policy recommendations made by the committee. However, responses to administrative recommendations are made in the form of an executive minute provided to, and subsequently tabled by, the committee. Agencies responding to administrative recommendations are required to provide an executive minute within six months of the tabling of a report. The committee monitors the provision of such responses.

An entry on this list for a report of the JCPAA containing only administrative recommendations is annotated to indicate that the response is to be provided in the form of an executive minute. Consequently, any other government response is not required. However, any reports containing policy recommendations are included in this report as requiring a government response.

Senate committees report on bills and the provisions of bills. Only those reports in this category that make recommendations which cannot readily be addressed during the consideration of the bill, and therefore require a response, are listed. The list also does not include reports by committees on estimates or scrutiny of annual reports, unless recommendations are made that require a response.

A guide to the legend used in the 'Date response presented/made to the Senate' column

* See document tabled in the Senate on 16 July 2014, entitled *Government Response to Parliamentary Committee Reports—Response to the schedule tabled by the President of the Senate on 12 December 2013* for Government interim/final response.

** Report contains administrative recommendations – any response to those recommendations is to be provided to the JCPAA committee in the form of an executive minute.

¹ See House of Representatives *Votes and Proceedings*, 29 September 2010, p44

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
A Certain Maritime Incident (Senate Select)			
Report on a Certain Maritime Incident	23.10.02	*(interim)	No
Abbott Government's Commission of Audit (Senate Select)			
Interim report	3.3.14 (presented 19.2.14)	-	No
Second interim report	13.5.14 (presented 24.4.14)	-	Time not expired
Final report	16.6.14	-	Time not expired
Australia's Food Processing Sector (Senate Select)			
Inquiry into Australia's food processing sector	16.8.12	*(interim)	No
Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (Joint Statutory)			
Integrity of overseas Commonwealth law enforcement operations	27.6.13 (tabled HoR 24.6.13)	*(interim)	No
Broadcasting Legislation (Joint Select)			
Three broadcasting reform proposals	24.6.13 (tabled HoR 24.6.13)	*(interim)	No
Community Affairs Legislation			
Annual reports (No. 2 of 2012)	12.9.12	15.5.14	No
Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013	12.12.13	-	No
Health Insurance Amendment (Extended Medicare Safety Net) Bill 2014 [Provisions]	16.6.14	-	Time not expired

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Community Affairs References			
The effectiveness of special arrangements for the supply of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines to remote area Aboriginal Health Services	11.10.11	*(interim)	No
The factors affecting the supply of health services and medical professionals in rural areas	22.8.12	*(interim)	No
Palliative care in Australia	10.10.12	*(interim)	No
Australia's domestic response to the World Health Organization's (WHO) Commission on Social Determinants of Health report "Closing the gap within a generation"	20.3.13	*(interim)	No
Supply of chemotherapy drugs such as Docetaxel	14.5.13 (presented 10.5.13)	*(interim)	No
Involuntary or coerced sterilisation of people with disabilities in Australia	12.11.13 (presented 17.7.13)	*(interim)	No
Impacts on health of air quality in Australia	12.11.13 (presented 16.8.13)	*(interim)	No
Involuntary or coerced sterilisation of intersex people in Australia	12.11.13 (presented 25.10.13)	*(interim)	No
Care and management of younger and older Australians living with dementia and behavioural and psychiatric symptoms of dementia (BPSD)	26.3.14	-	No
Constitutional Recognition of Local Government (Joint Select)			
Preliminary report on the majority finding of the Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Local Government: the proposal, timing and likely success of a referendum to amend Section 96 of the Australian Constitution to effect financial recognition of local government	5.2.13 (presented 24.1.13, tabled HoR 11.2.13)	*(final)	No
Final report on the majority finding of the Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Local Government: the case for financial recognition, the likelihood of success and lessons from the history of constitutional referenda	12.3.13 (presented 7.3.13, tabled HoR 13.3.13)	*(final)	No

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Corporations and Financial Services (Joint Statutory)			
Access for small and medium business to finance	16.6.11 (tabled HoR 23.5.11)	*(final)	No
Inquiry into the Personal Liability for Corporate Fault Reform Bill 2012	29.10.12 (tabled HoR 29.10.12)	*(interim)	No
Family business in Australia— different and significant: why they shouldn't be overlooked	20.3.13 (tabled HoR 21.3.13)	*(interim)	No
Financial sector reform in China: the role of, and opportunities for, the Australian financial services sector—Report of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services: Delegation to China	28.6.13 (tabled HoR 13.11.13)	*(interim)	No
Report on the 2012-13 annual reports of bodies established under the ASIC Act	19.3.14 (tabled HoR 24.3.14)	-	No
Cyber-Safety (Joint Select)			
Cyber safety for seniors—A worthwhile journey—Second interim report	14.5.13 (presented 16.4.13)	13.2.14	No
Economics Legislation			
Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling Laws) Bill 2009	26.11.09	*(interim)	No
Annual reports (No. 2 of 2010)	17.11.10	*(interim)	No
Clean Energy Amendment (International Emissions Trading and Other Measures) Bill 2012 [Provisions] and related bills	29.10.12	*(final)	No
Minerals Resource Rent Tax Repeal and Other Measures Bill 2013 [Provisions]	2.12.13	*(interim)	No
Tax Laws Amendment (Research and Development) Bill 2013 [Provisions]	17.3.14	-	No
Qantas Sale Amendment Bill 2014 [Provisions]	24.3.14	-	No
Corporations Amendment (Streamlining of Future of Financial Advice) Bill 2014 [Provisions]	16.6.14	-	Time not expired

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Economics References			
Ticket scalping in Australia	26.3.14	19.6.14	Yes
Performance of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission	26.6.14	-	Time not expired
Education and Employment Legislation Committee			
Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment Bill 2013 [Provisions]	2.12.13	*(final)	No
Social Security Legislation Amendment (Green Army Programme) Bill 2014 [Provisions]	14.5.14	-	Time not expired
Education and Employment References Committee			
Effectiveness of the National Assessment Program— Literacy and Numeracy	27.3.14	-	No
Technical and further education in Australia	14.5.14	-	Time not expired
Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation			
Protecting Local Jobs (Regulating Enterprise Migration Agreements) Bill 2012 [Provisions]	12.3.13	*(interim)	No
Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References			
Provision of childcare	23.11.09	19.6.14	No
Higher education and skill training to support agriculture and agribusiness in Australia	21.6.12	*(interim)	No
The shortage of engineering and related employment skills	14.8.12 (presented 12.7.12)	*(interim)	No
The adequacy of the allowance payment system as a support into work and the impact of the changing nature of the labour market	29.11.12	*(final)	No
Teaching and learning— maximising our investment in Australian schools	14.5.13	*(interim)	No

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Electoral Matters (Joint Standing)			
Implications of the <i>Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Amendment (Automatic Enrolment) Act 2009</i> (NSW) for the conduct of Commonwealth elections	25.2.10 (tabled HoR 25.2.10)	*(interim)	No
Report on the funding of political parties and election campaigns	7.2.12 (presented 9.12.11, tabled HoR 13.2.12)	*(interim)	No
Review of the AEC analysis of the FWA report on the HSU	20.9.12 (tabled HoR 9.10.12)	*(interim)	No
Interim report on the inquiry into the conduct of the 2013 Federal Election: Senate voting practices	13.5.14 (presented 9.5.14, tabled HoR 14.5.14)	-	Time not expired
Environment and Communications References			
The koala—saving our national icon	22.9.11	*(interim)	No
The Australian Broadcasting Corporation's commitment to reflecting and representing regional diversity	20.3.13	*(interim)	No
The feasibility of a prohibition on charging fees for an unlisted number service	15.5.13	11.2.14 (presented 6.2.14)	No
Effectiveness of current regulatory arrangements in dealing with radio simulcasts	12.11.13 (presented 12.7.13)	*(interim)	No
Effectiveness of threatened species and ecological communities' protection in Australia	12.11.13 (presented 7.8.13)	*(interim)	No
Recent trends in and preparedness for extreme weather events	12.11.13 (presented 7.8.13)	*(interim)	No
Direct Action: Paying polluters to halt global warming?	26.3.14	-	No
Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area	15.5.14	-	Time not expired
Environmental offsets	26.6.14	-	Time not expired

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Environment, Communications and the Arts References			
The impacts of mining in the Murray-Darling Basin	2.2.10 (presented 4.12.09)	*(interim)	No
Finance and Public Administration Legislation			
Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008	15.6.09	*(interim)	No
Finance and Public Administration References			
Staff employed under <i>Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984</i>	16.10.03	*(interim)	No
Implementation of the National Health Reform Agreement	12.3.13 (presented 7.3.13)	*(interim)	No
Progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the 1999 Joint Expert Technical Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance	17.6.13 (presented 7.6.13)	*(interim)	No
Senate order for departmental and agency contracts	14.5.14	-	Time not expired
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (Joint Standing)			
Australia's trade and investment relationship with Japan and the Republic of Korea	17.6.13 (tabled HoR 3.6.13)	*(interim)	No
Care of ADF personnel wounded and injured on operations	24.6.13 (tabled HoR 24.6.13)	6.3.14	No
Trading lives: Modern day human trafficking	24.6.13 (tabled HoR 24.6.13)	*(interim)	No
Review of the Defence annual report 2011-2012	27.6.13 (tabled HoR 13.11.13)	*(interim)	No
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation			
Implementation of the <i>Defence Trade Controls Act 2012</i> —Progress report no. 1	27.6.13	11.2.14 (presented 8.1.14)	No

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation (continued)			
Implementation of the <i>Defence Trade Controls Act 2012</i> —Progress report no. 2	14.5.14	-	Time not expired
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References			
Australia's overseas development programs in Afghanistan	16.5.13	26.6.14	No
The importance of the Indian Ocean rim for Australia's foreign, trade and defence policy	17.6.13 (presented 14.6.13)	6.3.14	No
Report of the DLA Piper review and the government's response	27.6.13	13.5.14 (presented 5.5.14)	No
Breaches of Indonesian territorial waters	27.3.14	7.7.14 (presented 27.6.14)	Yes
Australia's overseas aid and development assistance program	27.3.14	-	No
Gambling Reform (Joint Select)			
Fifth report—The advertising and promotion of gambling services in sport—Broadcasting Services Amendment (Advertising for Sports Betting) Bill 2013	17.6.13 (presented 7.6.13)	*(final)	No
Intelligence and Security (Joint Statutory)			
Report of the inquiry into potential reforms of Australia's national security legislation	24.6.13 (tabled HoR 24.6.13)	*(interim)	No
Review of the listing of Jabhat al-Nusra and re-listing of six terrorist organisations; review of the re-listing of Al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula	12.2.14 (tabled HoR 11.2.14)	-	No
Law Enforcement (Joint Statutory)			
Inquiry into the gathering and use of criminal intelligence	16.5.13 (tabled HoR 15.5.13)	*(interim)	No
Examination of the Australian Crime Commission annual report 2011-12	16.5.13 (tabled HoR 15.5.13)	20.3.14	No

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Law Enforcement (Joint Statutory) (continued)			
Spectrum for public safety mobile broadband	12.11.13 (presented 23.7.13, tabled HoR 13.11.13)	*(interim)	No
Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation			
Migration Amendment (Health Care for Asylum Seekers) Bill 2012	5.2.13 (presented 7.12.12)	*(interim)	No
Public Interest Disclosure Bill 2013 [Provisions]	17.6.13 (presented 13.6.13)	*(interim)	No
Migration Amendment (Regaining Control Over Australia's Protection Obligations) Bill 2013 [Provisions]	18.3.14	-	No
Legal and Constitutional Affairs References			
The road to a republic	16.11.04 (presented 31.8.04)	*(interim)	No
Impact of federal court fee increases since 2010 on access to justice in Australia	17.6.13	*(interim)	No
Value of a justice reinvestment approach to criminal justice in Australia	20.6.13	*(interim)	No
Framework and operation of subclass 457 visas, Enterprise Migration Agreements and Regional Migration Agreements	27.6.13	*(interim)	No
A claim of public interest immunity raised over documents	6.3.14	-	No
Current investigative processes and powers of the Australian Federal Police in relation to non-criminal matters	15.5.14	-	Time not expired
Migration (Joint Standing)			
Immigration detention in Australia—A new beginning— Criteria for release from detention—First report of the inquiry into immigration detention	2.12.08 (tabled HoR 1.12.08)	*(interim)	No

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Migration (Joint Standing) (continued)			
Immigration detention in Australia –Community-based alternatives to detention –Second report of the inquiry into immigration detention	15.6.09 (tabled HoR 25.5.09)	*(interim)	No
Immigration detention in Australia – Facilities, services and transparency – Third report of the inquiry into immigration detention	18.8.09 (tabled HoR 18.8.09)	*(interim)	No
Inquiry into migration and multiculturalism in Australia	19.3.13 (tabled HoR 18.3.13)	*(interim)	No
National Broadband Network (Senate Select)			
Interim report	26.3.14	-	No
National Capital and External Territories (Joint Standing)			
Etched in stone? Inquiry into the administration of the <i>National Memorials Ordinance 1928</i>	25.11.11 (tabled HoR 23.11.11)	*(interim)	No
An estate for the future— The allocation of land to diplomatic missions in the ACT	14.5.13 (presented 28.3.13, tabled HoR 27.5.13)	10.7.14	No
Report on the visit to Norfolk Island— 29-30 April 2013	17.6.13 (tabled HoR 5.6.13)	*(interim)	No
Report on the visit to the Indian Ocean Territories— 21-25 October 2012	28.6.13 (tabled HoR 13.11.13)	*(interim)	No
Inquiry into the provision of amenity within the Parliamentary Triangle	28.6.13 (tabled HoR 13.11.13)	10.7.14	No
Northern Australia (Joint Select)			
Inquiry into the development of Northern Australia— Interim Report	16.6.14 (tabled HoR 16.6.14)	Not required	-

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Public Accounts and Audit (Joint Statutory)			
Report 417— Review of Auditor-General's reports tabled between February and September 2009	24.6.10 (tabled HoR 22.6.10)	**(recommendations 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15,16, and 17, tabled HoR 23.8.12) *(interim)	No
Report 423—Review of Auditor-General's reports Nos 39 2009-10 to 15 2010-11	5.7.11 (tabled HoR 4.7.11)	**(recommendations 2, 3 and 4, tabled HoR 15.2.12) *(final)	No
Report 436—Review of the 2011-12 Defence Materiel Organisation major projects report	17.6.13 (tabled HoR 29.5.13)	**(interim)	No
Report 437—Review of Auditor-General's reports Nos 2 to 10 (2012-13)	17.6.13 (tabled HoR 29.5.13)	26.6.14	No
Report 438—Advisory report on the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Bill 2013	17.6.13 (tabled HoR 4.6.13)	**(interim)	No
Report 439—Review of Auditor-General's reports Nos 11 to 31 (2012-13)	27.6.13 (tabled HoR 27.6.13)	**(interim)	No
Report 441— <i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i> (PGPA Act) rules development	14.5.14 (tabled HoR 13.5.14)	-	Time not expired
Report 442— Review of the 2012-13 Defence Material Organisation major projects report	19.6.14 (tabled HoR 26.5.14)	-	Time not expired
Report 443— Review of Auditor-General's reports nos. 23 and 25 (2012-13) and 32 (2012-13) to 9 (2013-14)	19.6.14 (tabled HoR 16.6.14)	-	Time not expired
Public Works (Joint Statutory)			
Public works on Christmas Island	31.10.11 (tabled HoR 13.10.11)	*(interim)	No
Report 1/2014— Referrals made December 2013	12.2.14 (tabled HoR 11.2.14)	13.2.14	Yes
Report 2/2014— Referrals made December 2013	25.3.14 (tabled HoR 24.3.14)	27.3.14	Yes
Report 3/2014— Referral made December 2013	14.5.14 (tabled HoR 13.5.14)	15.5.14	Yes
Report 4/2014— Referrals made March 2013	24.6.14 (tabled HoR 23.6.14)	14.7.14	Yes

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities (Senate Select)			
Final report 2010	28.9.10 (presented 24.9.10)	*(interim)	No
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation			
Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2013	12.3.13	*(final)	No
Competition and Consumer Amendment (Australian Food Labelling) Bill 2012 (No. 2)	14.5.13 (presented 25.3.13)	*(final)	No
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References			
The possible impacts and consequences for public health, trade and agriculture of the Government's decision to relax import restrictions on beef— First report	18.3.10	*(interim)	No
The possible impacts and consequences for public health, trade and agriculture of the Government's decision to relax import restrictions on beef— Final report	23.6.10	*(interim)	No
Management of the Murray Darling Basin— Interim report— The impact of mining coal seam gas on the management of the Murray-Darling Basin	7.2.12 (presented 30.11.11)	*(interim)	No
Operational issues in export grain networks	10.5.12 (presented 16.4.12)	*(interim)	No
The management of the Murray-Darling Basin— Final report	13.3.13	*(interim)	No
Aviation accident investigations	17.6.13 (presented 23.5.13)	20.3.14	No
Auditor-General's reports on Tasmanian Forestry Grants Programs	19.6.13	*(interim)	No
Foreign investment and the national interest	26.6.13	*(interim)	No
First report— Beef imports	12.11.13 (presented 12.7.13)	*(interim)	No

Committee and title of report	Date report tabled	Date response presented/made to the Senate	Response made within specified period (3 months)
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References (continued)			
Practice of sports science in Australia	12.11.13 (presented 23.7.13)	*(interim)	No
Interim report— Ownership arrangements of grain handling	12.11.13 (presented 30.8.13)	*(final)	No
Review of the citrus industry in Australia	11.2.14 (presented 16.12.13)	-	No
Qantas' future as a strong national carrier supporting jobs in Australia	27.3.14	-	No
Effect on Australian pineapple growers of importing fresh pineapple from Malaysia; Effect on Australian ginger growers of importing fresh ginger from Fiji; Proposed importation of potatoes from New Zealand	13.5.14 (presented 28.3.14)	-	Time not expired
School Funding (Select Committee)			
Equity and excellence in Australian schools	9.7.14	-	Time not expired
Treaties (Joint Standing)			
Report 128— Inquiry into the Treaties Ratification Bill 2012	16.8.12 (tabled HoR 15.8.12)	27.3.14	No
Report 130— Treaty tabled on 14 August 2012	31.10.12	*(interim)	No
Report 134— Treaties tabled on 12 March and 14 May 2013	27.6.13	Not required	-
Report 136—Treaty tabled on 14 May 2013	12.11.13 (tabled HoR 5.8.13)	13.2.14	No
Report 137— Treaty referred on 15 January 2014	18.3.14 (tabled HoR 18.3.14)	-	No
Report 138— Treaties tabled on 11 and 12 December 2013, 20 January 2014 and referred on 15 January 2014	26.3.14 (tabled HoR 26.3.14)	Not required	-
Report 139— Treaties tabled on 11 December 2013; referred on 15 January and tabled on 11 February 2014	14.5.14 (tabled HoR 13.5.14)	Not required	-
Report 140—Treaty tabled on 13 May 2014— Interim report	26.6.14 (tabled HoR 23.6.14)	Not required	-