

Glossary and abbreviations list

amendments and requests for amendments	Proposals to alter a bill, which may be moved by any senator or member. Any amendments made by one House must be agreed to by the other House before a bill can become law. The Senate may not amend bills imposing taxation or appropriating money for the Commonwealth's ordinary annual services; nor may it amend an appropriation bill so as to increase a charge or burden on the people. The Senate may 'request' the House of Representatives to make such amendments.
ANZACATT	Australia and New Zealand Association of Clerks-at-the-Table
AusTender	Australian Government tender information system
bill	A proposal for a law that is introduced into parliament. Bills are considered consecutively by the two Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament, the House of Representatives and the Senate. The two Houses must agree to a bill in identical terms before it can be transmitted to the Governor-General for assent, which marks its passage into law.
clerks at the table	Clerks, including the Clerk (the head of the department), the Deputy Clerk and other senior officers of the department, who sit in the Senate and provide procedural advice while taking the minutes of Senate proceedings.
Comcare	Agency responsible for workplace safety, rehabilitation and compensation for Australian Government employees
committee of the whole amendments	Amendments proposed to the text of bills dealt with by a committee consisting of all the members of the Senate formed to consider a bill in detail
DPS	Department of Parliamentary Services
estimates committees	The term commonly used to describe the consideration of the annual and additional estimates of expenditure of government departments and agencies.
IPRO	International and Parliamentary Relations Office
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
motions	Proposals for the Senate to agree to something, which must be expressed in a way that conforms with the standing orders.
parliamentary privilege	Two significant aspects of the law relating to parliament: the privileges or immunities of the Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament; and the powers of the Houses to protect the integrity of their processes, particularly the power to punish contempts.
PEO	Parliamentary Education Office
PGPA Act	<i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i>

PICTAB	Parliamentary ICT Advisory Board
PPS	Parliamentary Papers Series
PSC	Parliamentary Skills Centre
Presiding Officers	The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives are the Presiding Officers. Each presides over the proceedings of his or her respective House. Administratively, each is responsible for his or her respective House department and together they are responsible for the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Parliamentary Budget Office.
procedural scripts	Scripts containing both routine and complex wording to be used by senators to ensure compliance with standing orders when taking part in proceedings in the Senate.
questions on notice	When referred to in the context of the Senate, these are written questions to ministers from other senators. Questions on notice in the context of estimates proceedings are written or oral questions from committee members to a minister and/or the minister's departmental officers, which require written answers from the minister or the minister's department.
SCID	The Shared Committees Information Database which is used to manage information and documents to support committee inquiries.
second reading amendments	Proposed resolutions which comment on or affect the passage of bills, but do not propose specific changes to the text of bills.
SES	Senior Executive Service
SPIO	Senate Public Information Office
Standing Orders	Procedural rules that govern the conduct of proceedings in the Senate and its committees.
TOPS	Table Office Production System