

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 6 OF 2015

16 June 2015

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Senator David Bushby (Government Whip, Chair)

Senator Anne McEwen (Opposition Whip)

Senator Barry O'Sullivan (The Nationals Whip)

Senator Rachel Siewert (Australian Greens Whip)

Senator Dio Wang (Palmer United Party Whip)

Senator Catryna Bilyk

Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield

Senator Claire Moore

Senator Anne Ruston

Secretary: Chris Reid
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SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 6 OF 2015

1. The committee met in private session on Monday, 15 June 2015 at 7.19 pm.
2. The committee resolved to recommend—That—
 - (a) the *provisions* of the National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Bill 2015 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 23 June 2015 (see appendix 1 for a statement of reasons for referral); and
 - (b) the *provisions* of the Water Amendment Bill 2015 be *referred immediately* to the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 8 September 2015 (see appendix 2 for a statement of reasons for referral).
3. The committee resolved to recommend—That the following bills *not* be referred to committees:
 - Airports Amendment Bill 2015
 - Crimes Legislation Amendment (Penalty Unit) Bill 2015
 - Customs Amendment (Australian Trusted Trader Programme) Bill 2015
 - Export Charges (Imposition—General) Bill 2015
 - Export Charges (Imposition—Customs) Bill 2015
 - Export Charges (Imposition—Excise) Bill 2015
 - Export Charges (Collection) Bill 2015
 - Excise Tariff Amendment (Ethanol and Biodiesel) Bill 2015
 - Energy Grants and Other Legislation Amendment (Ethanol and Biodiesel) Bill 2015
 - Private Health Insurance (National Joint Replacement Register Levy) Amendment Bill 2015
 - Private Health Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Bill 2015
 - Private Health Insurance (Prudential Supervision) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2015
 - Private Health Insurance Supervisory Levy Imposition Bill 2015
 - Private Health Insurance (Risk Equalisation Levy) Amendment Bill 2015
 - Private Health Insurance (Collapsed Insurer Levy) Amendment Bill 2015
 - Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2015
 - Social Services Legislation Amendment (Fair and Sustainable Pensions) Bill 2015
 - Social Services Legislation Amendment (No. 2) Bill 2015
 - Social Services Legislation Amendment (Youth Employment and Other Measures) Bill 2015
 - Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Amendment Bill 2015
 - Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 1) Bill 2015
 - Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 3) Bill 2015
 - Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy and Medicare Levy Surcharge) Bill 2015
 - Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measures No. 1) Bill 2015
 - Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measures No. 2) Bill 2015.

The committee recommends accordingly.

4. The committee considered the following bills but was unable to reach agreement:
 - Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015
Medical Research Future Fund (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2015.
5. The committee deferred consideration of the following bills to its next meeting:
 - Australian Centre for Social Cohesion Bill 2015
 - Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman Bill 2015
Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman
(Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2015
 - Competition and Consumer Amendment (Australian Country of Origin Food Labelling) Bill 2015
 - Corporations Amendment (Publish What You Pay) Bill 2014
 - Imported Food Charges (Imposition—General) Bill 2015
Imported Food Charges (Imposition—Customs) Bill 2015
Imported Food Charges (Imposition—Excise) Bill 2015
Imported Food Charges (Collection) Bill 2015
 - Motor Vehicle Standards (Cheaper Transport) Bill 2014
 - Passports Legislation Amendment (Integrity) Bill 2015
 - Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Caring for Single Parents) Bill 2014.

(David Bushby)

Chair

16 June 2015

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE
Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: **National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Bill 2015**

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration: To allow stakeholders to respond to the proposed changes.

Possible submissions or evidence from: Consumers Health Forum, Public Health Association of Australia, Generic Medicines Industry Association, Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Medicines Australia.

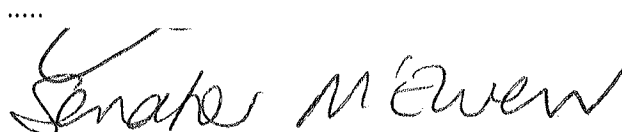
Committee to which bill is to be referred: Economics

Possible hearing date(s): 19 June 2015

Possible reporting date: 23 June 2015

(signed)

Print name:

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SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE
Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: Water Amendment Bill 2015

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration: The bill imposes a limit of 1500 gegalitres for Commonwealth buybacks of water across the Murray-Darling Basin. This is despite water purchase from willing sellers widely recognised as the most cost effective means of water recovery for the environment.

The Murray Darling Basin Plan mandates the recovery of 2750 GL of water for the environment by 2019. Water recovery to date is 1951 GL – about 70% of the required total.

The government has expressed a preference for recovering the remaining water through infrastructure projects but has not clarified how this will occur. However it is recognised that buybacks of water are 2 to 7 times cheaper than 'other' forms of water recovery.

The bill will significantly impact key stakeholders and have environmental impacts. An inquiry will allow these impacts to be brought to lights.

Possible submissions or evidence from: Environment Victoria; Inland Rivers Network; Water Services Association of Aust;; Aboriginal Land Council; WWF; Wentworth Group of Scientists; Wilderness Society; Queensland Conservation; UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures; CSU Institute for Land, Water & Society; eWater.

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Environment and Communications

Possible hearing date(s): September

Possible reporting date: September *g + u*

(signed)

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Senator Rachel Siewert ✓

**SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE—
PRESENTATION OF 6TH REPORT OF 2015—
AMENDMENT AGREED TO BY THE SENATE ON
16 JUNE 2015**

At the end of the motion, add “but,

- (a) in respect of the Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015 and the Medical Research Future Fund (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2015 the provisions of the bills be referred immediately to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 10 August 2015; and
- (b) noting that the provisions of the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Fair and Sustainable Pensions) Bill 2015 are under inquiry by the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, that the committee report on the bill by 10 August 2015”.