

The Senate

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

1 January to 31 December 2015

Copies may be obtained from the Senate Table Office,
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Business of the Senate is available online

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Section 1: Business conducted in the Senate

1.1 General statistics

	Autumn (9/2 – 26/3)	Budget/Winter (11/5 – 25/6)	Spring (10/8 – 3/12)	Total
Number of sittings days	16	12	32	60
Hours of sitting	160 hrs 33 mins	116 hrs 47 mins	330 hrs 35 mins	607 hrs 55 mins
Average length of a sitting day	10 hrs 02 mins	09 hrs 44 mins	10 hrs 20 mins	10 hrs 08 mins
Longest sitting day	13 hrs 00 mins (25 March)	11 hrs 41 mins (23 June)	14 hrs 02 mins (3 December)	14 hrs 02 mins (3 December)
Shortest sitting day	05 hrs 05 mins (23 March)	05 hrs 39 mins (11 May)	08 hrs 55 mins (17 September)	05 hrs 05 mins (23 March)
Questions placed on notice	396 (1/1 – 26/3)	451 (27/3 – 30/6)	436 (1/7 – 31/12)	1283
Questions without notice* Question time held on:	483 15 sitting days	420 12 sitting days	1080 32 sitting days	1983 59 sitting days
Average daily number of questions without notice*	32.2	35.0	33.8	33.6
Petitions presented	5	3	17	25
Signatories to petitions	17 559	25 678	13 676	56 913
Delegated legislation— Notices of motion for disallowance:				
Given	2	3	16	21
Agreed to	1	2	1	4
Negatived	1	0	3	4
Withdrawn	0	1	8	9
Still before the Senate	1	1	5	N/A
Statements by the President, and Deputy President/Chair of Committees	2	1	8	11
Ministerial statements	5	3	13	21
Matters of public importance	8	6	17	31
Urgency motions	2	0	1	3
Principal motions agreed to	58	31	129	218
Condolence motions	4	3	1	8
Censure motions	1	0	0	1
Orders made for the production of documents	10	5	15	30
Government responses to committee reports tabled	11	15	16	42
Divisions	76	71	133	280

* Includes supplementary questions.

1.2 Senate sittings 2015

A sitting period is defined as a period during which the Senate adjourns for not more than 20 days (standing order 111).

Number of sitting days:

Autumn sitting period—9 February to 26 March	16
Budget sitting period—11 May to 14 May	4
Winter sitting period—15 June to 25 June	8
Spring sitting period—10 August to 17 September; 12 October to 15 October; 9 November to 3 December	32
Total	60

January							February							March						
m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s
			1	2	3	4							1							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30			23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30	31					

April							May							June						
m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3							
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
														29	30					

July							August							September							
m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s	
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					
							31														

October							November							December							
m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s	
			1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5	6
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				
							30														

1.3 Business conducted in the Senate

This section contains graphs showing a breakdown of how the Senate spent its time in 2015, as well as comparisons with previous years. For this purpose, business has been broken down into the following categories:

Business of the Senate includes disallowance motions, motions to refer matters to standing committees and motions concerning the qualification of a senator. It has precedence over government business and general business for the day on which it is listed, except on Monday between 10 am and 2 pm, Tuesday between 12.30 pm and 2 pm, Wednesday between 9.30 am and 12.45 pm, and for a period of 2 hours 20 minutes on Thursday mornings.

Government business is business initiated by a minister and includes all debate on government bills. Government business takes precedence over general business except for a period of 2 hours 20 minutes on Thursday mornings and 2 hours 30 minutes on Thursday afternoons.

General business is initiated by senators who are not ministers. It includes motions to take note of answers, most notices of motion, consideration of committee reports and government responses and senators' statements. General business takes precedence over government business on Thursdays as described above.

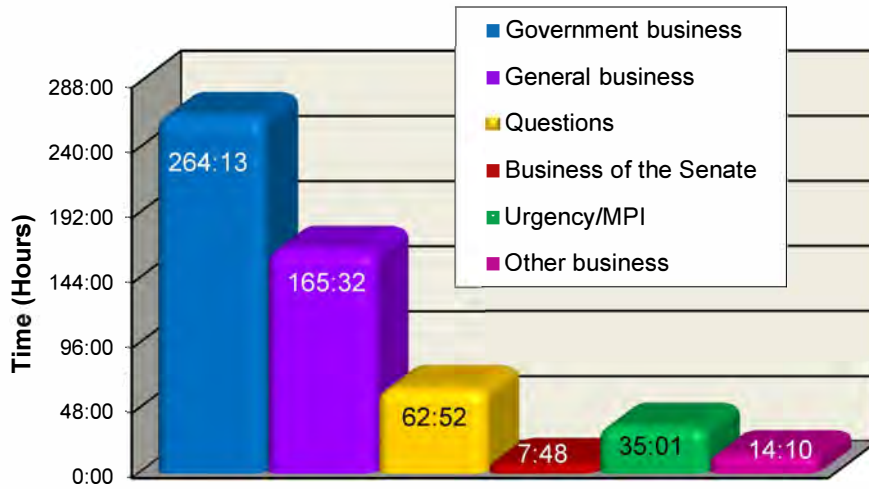
Questions include question time and additional answers given by ministers at the end of question time.

Urgency motions and matters of public importance (MPIs) may be proposed by senators on any sitting day, except Thursday, pursuant to standing order 75. At the conclusion of the debate there is no vote taken on the substantive issue of the matter or motion. However, in the case of urgency motions, a procedural vote is taken as to whether the matter is considered urgent or not.

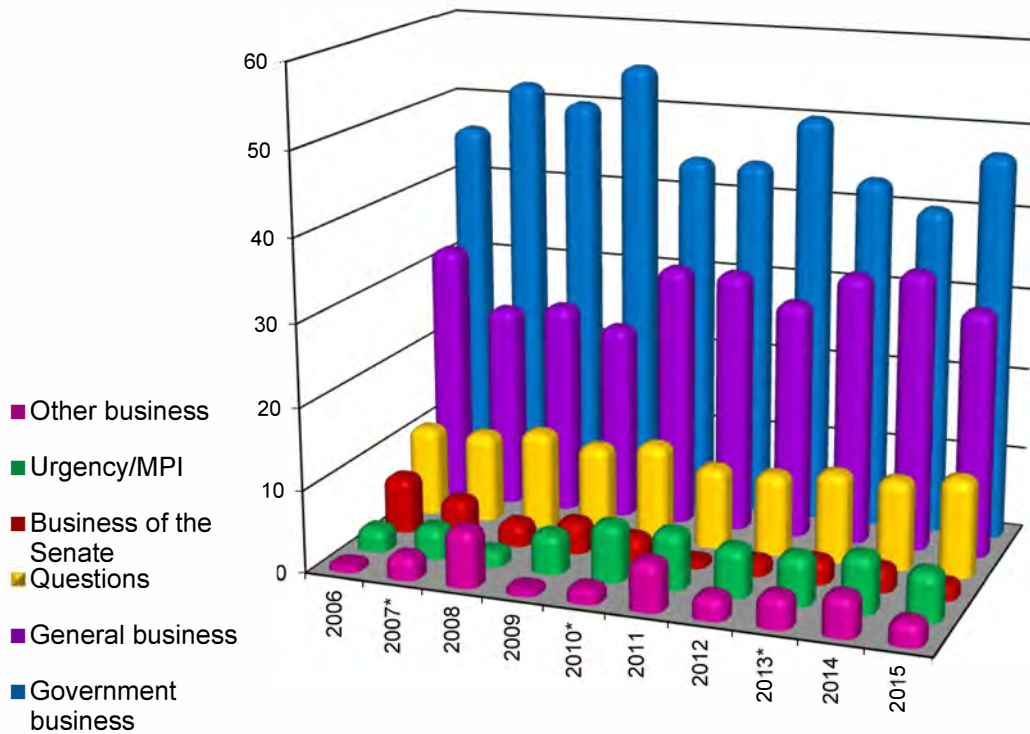
Other business includes prayers, petitions, postponements and ceremonial business.

Adjournment: Note that the time for the adjournment debate is not included in the figures shown.

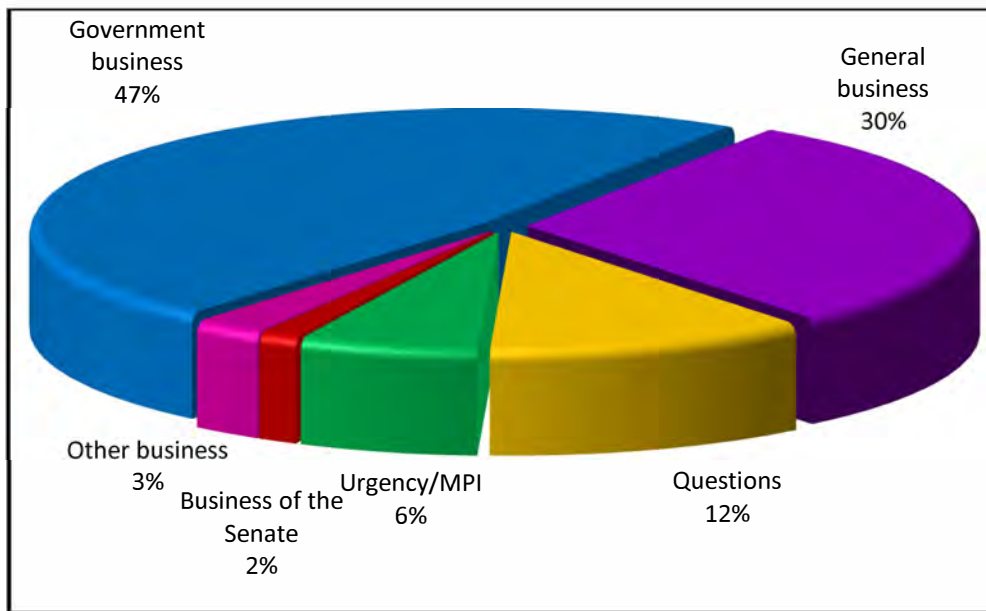
Total time, by type of business - 1 January to 31 December 2015



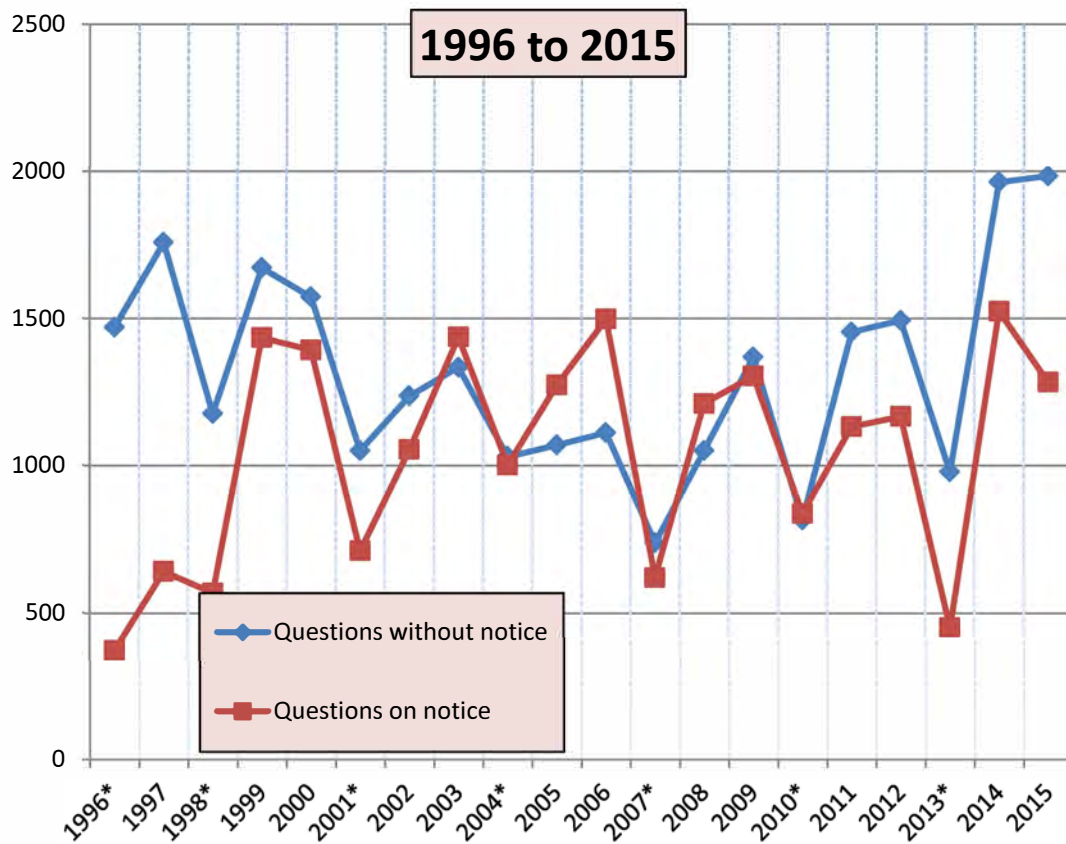
Proportion of time spent according to the type of business: 2006 to 2015



Percentage of time, by type of business: 1 January to 31 December 2015
(including a breakdown of government business)

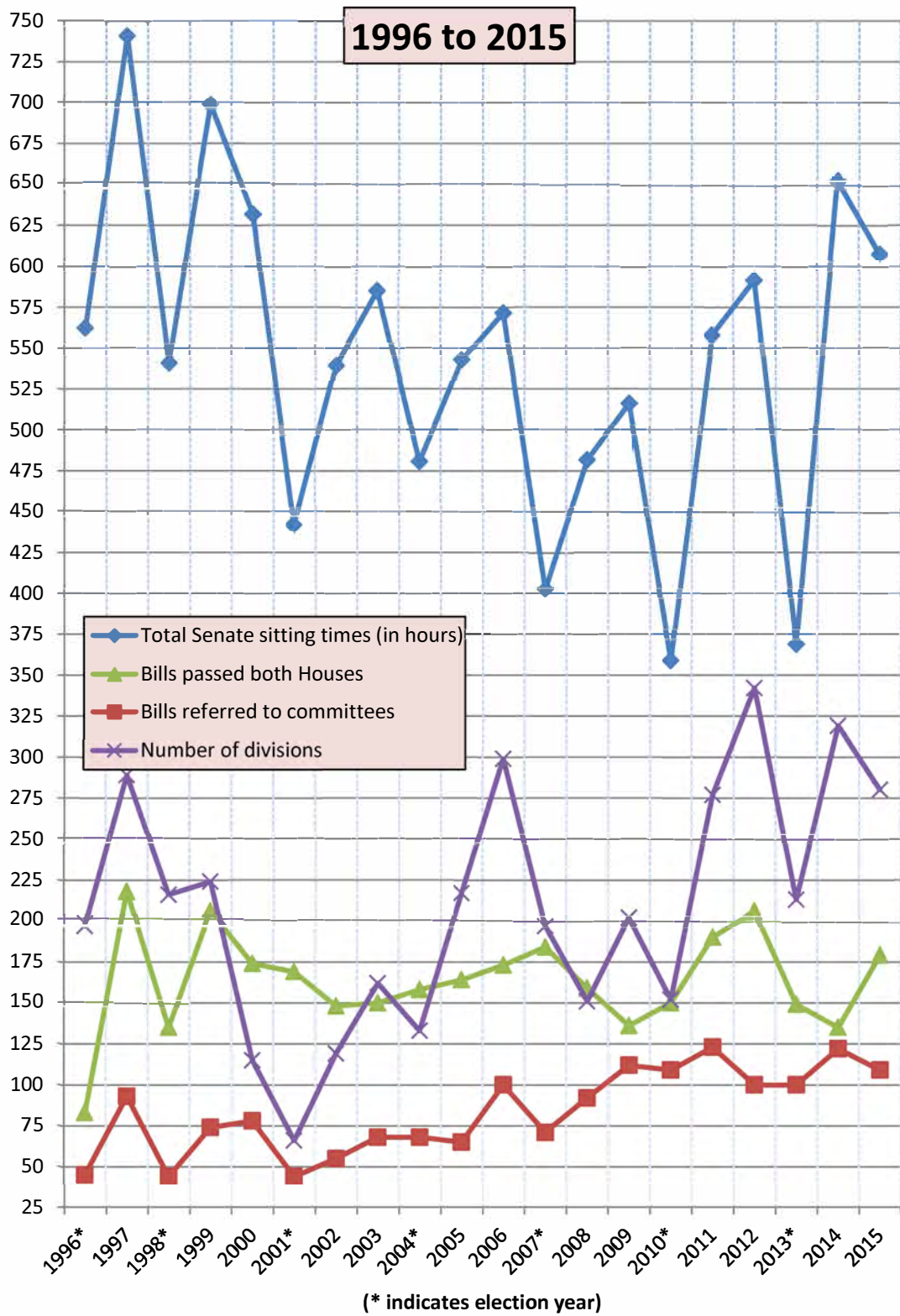


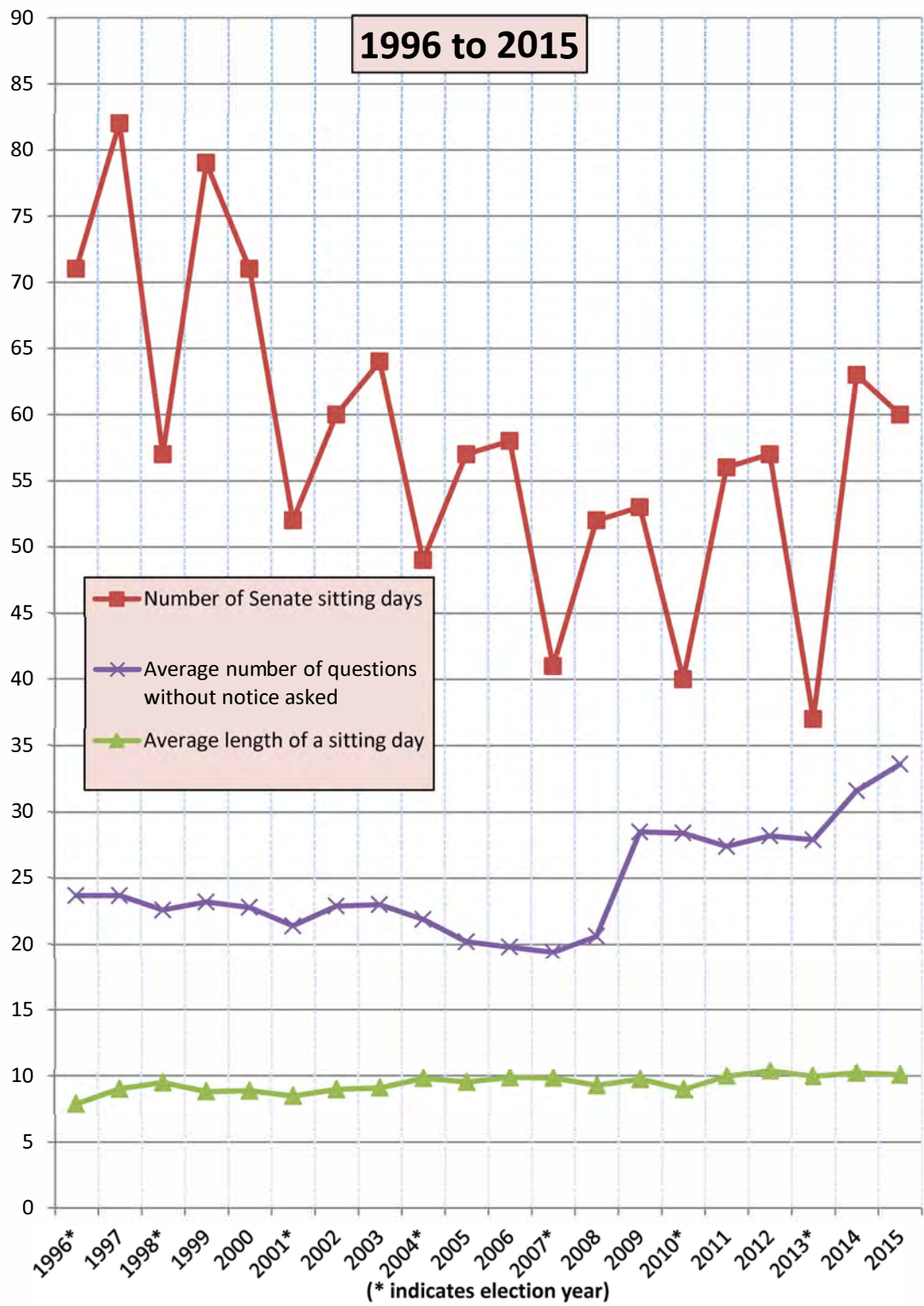
[government legislation 46%, other government business 1%]

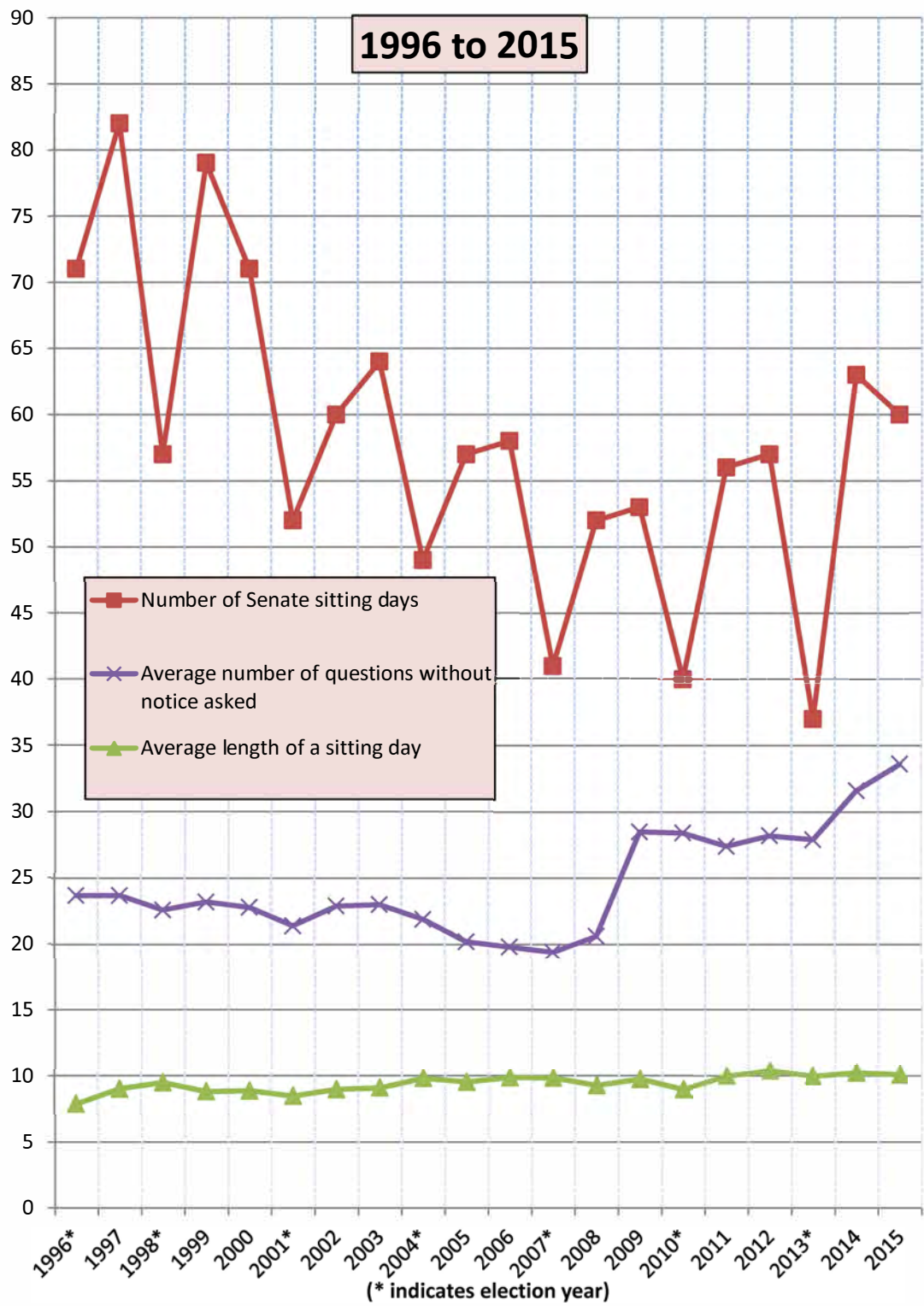


* indicates an election year

(on 24 November 2008 the format of question time was changed to allow 2 supplementaries per question)







Section 2: Legislation

2.1 Legislation statistics

Bills considered by the Senate in the period 1 January to 31 December 2015

Origin

On Senate <i>Notice Paper</i> as at 1 January 2015:	
Government bills (originating in Senate 2014)	4
Government bills (received from the House of Representatives in 2013, 2014)	28
Private senators' bills (originating in Senate in 2013, 2014)	7
Private member's bill (received from the House of Representatives in 2014)	1
Subtotal	40
Introduced in the Senate:	
Government bills	10
Private senators' bills	25
Subtotal	35
Government bills received from the House of Representatives	165
Government bills recommitted in 2015	2
Message reported disagreeing to Senate amendments to Government bill	1
Total	243

Outcome

Passed by the Senate 2015	
Passed by both Houses:	
Government bills	178
Private member's bill	1
Subtotal	179
Private senators' bills still before the House of Representatives	2
Total	181
Bills still before the Senate	
Government bills	21
Private senators' bills	29
Total	50
Bills negated at second reading:	
Government bills	8
Private senators' bills	1
Total	9
Government bills discharged from Senate <i>Notice Paper</i>	2
House of Representatives to consider message from the Senate insisting on amendments made to a government bill	1
Total	243

Number of bills on which there was disagreement between the Houses:	3
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Number of bills to which amendments and requests were moved during 2015:	
Bills to which second reading amendments were moved	18
Bills to which second reading amendments were agreed	9
Bills to which second reading amendments were negatived	7
Bills to which second reading amendments were withdrawn	2
Bills to which amendments were moved in committee of the whole	57
Bills to which amendments were agreed to in committee of the whole	29
Bills to which amendments were negatived in committee of the whole	36
Bills to which amendments were moved in committee of the whole and subsequently withdrawn	1
Bills to which requests were moved in committee of the whole	2
Bills to which requests were agreed to in committee of the whole	1
Bills to which requests were negatived in committee of the whole	1
Bills in which provisions were opposed but agreed to in committee of the whole	16
Bills in which provisions were opposed and negatived in committee of the whole	14

Amendments, requests etc moved in committee of the whole:

Moved by	Agreed to	Negatived
Australian Greens	20	159
Australian Motoring Enthusiast Party	0	2
Australian Motoring Enthusiast Party/ Family First Party/Independents (Lazarus/Madigan)	19	0
Family First Party	0	7
Government	202	0
Independent (Lazarus)	1	4
Independent (Xenophon)*	8	22
Independent (Xenophon)/ Family First Party/ Independents (Lazarus/Madigan)/Australian Motoring Enthusiast Party/Palmer United Party	1	0
Independents (Lazarus/Lambie/Madigan)	0	2
Liberal Democratic Party	1	37
Opposition	25	151
Palmer United Party	0	2
Palmer United Party/Independent (Xenophon)	2	0
Total:	279	386

* 1 amendment withdrawn.

These figures do not include amendments moved to amendments.

These figures are broken down in detail on pages 25 to 30.

Total number of amendments moved:	666
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Bills considered by the Senate during the period 1 January to 31 December 2015 can be found in the [Senate Bills List](#).

2.2 Bills still before the Senate

Number of bills still before the Senate

Number of government bills	41
Number of private senators' bills	73
Total	114

Government bills

Bill short title	Origin
Australian Citizenship and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Australian Crime Commission Amendment (Criminology Research) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Amendment Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Australian Renewable Energy Agency (Repeal) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Australian Securities and Investments Commission Amendment (Corporations and Markets Advisory Committee Abolition) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Climate Change Authority (Abolition) Bill 2013 [No. 2]	House of Representatives
Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2015	Senate
Courts Administration Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	Senate
Customs Tariff Amendment (Fuel Indexation) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Bilateral Agreement Implementation) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Standing) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Excise Tariff Amendment (Fuel Indexation) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Fair Entitlements Guarantee Amendment Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Fair Work Amendment (Bargaining Processes) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Family Law Amendment (Financial Agreements and Other Measures) Bill 2015	Senate

Bill short title	Origin
Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment (Forum on Food Regulation and Other Measures) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Freedom of Information Amendment (New Arrangements) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Fuel Indexation (Road Funding) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Fuel Indexation (Road Funding) Special Account Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Health Insurance Amendment (Safety Net) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Higher Education Support Amendment (Savings and Other Measures) Bill 2013	House of Representatives
Infrastructure Australia Amendment (Cost Benefit Analysis and Other Measures) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Inter-State Voyages) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Migration Amendment (Maintaining the Good Order of Immigration Detention Facilities) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Migration Amendment (Offshore Resources Activity) Repeal Bill 2014	House of Representatives
National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Omnibus Repeal Day (Autumn 2015) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Paid Parental Leave Amendment Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Parliamentary Entitlements Legislation Amendment Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Rural Research and Development Legislation Amendment Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Improving the Comcare Scheme) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Legislation Amendment (Exit Arrangements) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Social Security Legislation Amendment (Community Development Program) Bill 2015	Senate

Bill short title	Origin
Social Security Legislation Amendment (Further Strengthening Job Seeker Compliance) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (2014 Budget Measures No. 4) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Student Measures) Bill 2014	House of Representatives
Social Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Trustee Governance) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 3) Bill 2015	House of Representatives
Textile, Clothing and Footwear Investment and Innovation Programs Amendment Bill 2014	House of Representatives

Private senators' bills

Bill short title	Origin
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Amendment (A Stronger Land Account) Bill 2014	Siewert (AG)
Adelaide Airport Curfew Amendment (Protecting Residents' Amenity) Bill 2014	Wright (AG)
Anti-Money Laundering Amendment (Gaming Machine Venues) Bill 2012 [2013]	Xenophon (Ind)
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment (Local Content) Bill 2014	Xenophon (Ind)
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment (Rural and Regional Advocacy) Bill 2015	McKenzie (Nats)
Australian Centre for Social Cohesion Bill 2015	Milne (AG)
Australian Government Boards (Gender Balanced Representation) Bill 2015	Xenophon (Ind), Waters (AG), Lambie (Ind) and Lazarus (Ind)
Automotive Transformation Scheme Amendment (Securing the Automotive Component Industry) Bill 2015	Rice (AG) and Simms (AG)

Bill short title	Origin
Charter of Budget Honesty Amendment (Intergenerational Report) Bill 2015	Milne (AG)
Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Above the Line Voting) Bill 2013	Xenophon (Ind)
Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Donations Reform) Bill 2014	Rhiannon (AG)
Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Reducing Barriers for Minor Parties) Bill 2014	Rhiannon (AG)
Commonwealth Grants Commission Amendment (GST Distribution) Bill 2015	Wang (PUP)
Competition and Consumer Amendment (Australian Country of Origin Food Labelling) Bill 2015	Milne (AG) and Xenophon (Ind)
Competition and Consumer Amendment (Misuse of Market Power) Bill 2014	Xenophon (Ind)
Corporations Amendment (Financial Advice) Bill 2014	Whish-Wilson (AG)
Corporations Amendment (Publish What You Pay) Bill 2014	Milne (AG)
Criminal Code Amendment (Animal Protection) Bill 2015	Back (LP)
Criminal Code Amendment (Harming Australians) Bill 2013	Xenophon (Ind)
Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013	Xenophon (Ind)
Defence Legislation Amendment (Parliamentary Approval of Overseas Service) Bill 2015	Ludlam (AG)
Defence Legislation Amendment (Woomera Prohibited Area) Bill 2013	Farrell (ALP)
End Cruel Cosmetics Bill 2014	Rhiannon (AG)
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Alpine Grazing) Bill 2014	Di Natale (AG)
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment Bill 2014	Ludwig (ALP)
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Prohibition of Live Imports of Primates for Research) Bill 2015	Rhiannon (AG)

Bill short title	Origin
Fair Trade (Australian Standards) Bill 2013	Madigan (Ind)
Fair Trade (Workers' Rights) Bill 2013	Madigan (Ind)
Fair Work Amendment (Gender Pay Gap) Bill 2015	Waters (AG)
Fair Work Amendment (Penalty Rates Exemption for Small Businesses) Bill 2015	Leyonhjelm (LDP) and Day (FFP)
Flags Amendment Bill 2014	Madigan (Ind) and Xenophon (Ind)
Foreign Acquisitions Amendment (Agricultural Land) Bill 2010 [2013]	Xenophon (Ind) and Milne (AG)
Freedom of Information Amendment (Requests and Reasons) Bill 2015	Ludwig (ALP)
Freedom to Marry Bill 2014	Leyonhjelm (LDP)
Great Barrier Reef Legislation Amendment Bill 2014	Waters (AG)
Guardian for Unaccompanied Children Bill 2014	Hanson-Young (AG)
Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) Bill 2013	Madigan (Ind)
Higher Education Support Amendment (New Zealand Citizens) Bill 2015	Carr (ALP)
Independent National Security Legislation Monitor (Improved Oversight and Resourcing) Bill 2014	Wright (AG)
Interactive Gambling Amendment (Sports Betting Reform) Bill 2015	Xenophon (Ind)
Interactive Gambling and Broadcasting Amendment (Online Transactions and Other Measures) Bill 2011 [2013]	Xenophon (Ind)
International Aid (Promoting Gender Equality) Bill 2015	Rhiannon (AG)
Landholders' Right to Refuse (Gas and Coal) Bill 2015	Waters (AG)
Live Animal Export (Slaughter) Prohibition Bill 2014	Rhiannon (AG)
Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2013	Hanson-Young (AG)

Bill short title	Origin
Marriage Equality Plebiscite Bill 2015	Rice (AG), Lazarus (Ind), Leyonhjelm (LDP), Lambie (Ind), Muir (AMEP) and Xenophon (Ind)
Migration Amendment (Humanitarian Visa Intake) Bill 2014	Hanson-Young (AG)
Migration Amendment (Protecting Babies Born in Australia) Bill 2014	Hanson-Young (AG)
Migration Amendment (Visa Maximum Numbers Determinations) Bill 2013	Hanson-Young (AG)
Mining Subsidies Legislation Amendment (Raising Revenue) Bill 2014	Milne (AG)
Motor Vehicle Standards (Cheaper Transport) Bill 2014	Milne (AG)
National Broadband Network Companies Amendment (Tasmania) Bill 2014	Urquhart (ALP)
National Integrity Commission Bill 2013	Milne (AG)
Native Title Amendment (Reform) Bill 2014	Siewert (AG)
Parliamentary Expenses Amendment (Transparency and Accountability) Bill 2015	Xenophon (Ind)
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security Amendment Bill 2015	Wong (ALP)
Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Amendment Bill 2013	Xenophon (Ind)
Poker Machine Harm Reduction (\$1 Bets and Other Measures) Bill 2012 [2013]	Di Natale (AG), Madigan (Ind) and Xenophon (Ind)
Privacy Amendment (Privacy Alerts) Bill 2014	Singh (ALP)
Private Health Insurance Amendment (GP Services) Bill 2014	Di Natale (AG)
Public Service Amendment (Payments in Special Circumstances) Bill 2011 [2013]	Xenophon (Ind)
Racial Discrimination Amendment Bill 2014	Day (FFP), Bernardi (LP), Leyonhjelm (LDP) and Smith (LP)
Recognition of Foreign Marriages Bill 2014	Hanson-Young (AG)

Bill short title	Origin
Regulator of Medicinal Cannabis Bill 2014	Di Natale (AG), Macdonald (LP), Leyonhjelm (LDP) and Urquhart (ALP)
Reserve Bank Amendment (Australian Reconstruction and Development Board) Bill 2013	Xenophon (Ind) and Madigan (Ind)
Restoring Territory Rights (Assisted Suicide Legislation) Bill 2015	Leyonhjelm (LDP)
Save Our Sharks Bill 2014	Siewert (AG)
Social Security Amendment (Caring for People on Newstart) Bill 2014	Siewert (AG)
Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Caring for Single Parents) Bill 2014	Siewert (AG)
Stop Dumping on the Great Barrier Reef Bill 2014	Waters (AG)
Trade and Foreign Investment (Protecting the Public Interest) Bill 2014	Whish-Wilson (AG)
Veterans' Entitlements Amendment (Expanded Gold Card Access) Bill 2015	Lambie (Ind)
Voice for Animals (Independent Office of Animal Welfare) Bill 2015	Rhiannon (AG)

KEY			
AG	Australian Greens	LDP	Liberal Democratic Party
ALP	Australian Labor Party	LP	Liberal Party of Australia
AMEP	Australian Motoring Enthusiast Party	Nats	The Nationals
FFP	Family First Party	PUP	Palmer United Party
Ind	Independent		

2.3 Second reading—Amendments moved

The second reading debate is a policy debate relating to the principles of a particular bill. A senator may speak for up to 20 minutes and make a further contribution if a second reading amendment is moved. For government bills, the second reading debate is opened by a minister who outlines the policies of the bill, and is usually closed by a minister who may respond to issues raised during the debate. The debate culminates in a vote signifying that the bill is agreed to, or rejected, in principle.

Second reading amendments do not affect the text of a bill. The amendment is moved to the motion for the second reading (“That this bill be now read a second time”), and is generally used to express an opinion about the bill or related policy issues; to propose the reference of the bill or related matters to a committee; or to delay further consideration of the bill. In some circumstances the effect of the amendment, if agreed to, is to defeat the bill.

For more information on the legislative process see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 16 – Consideration of Legislation*.

Number of bills, or packages of bills, to which second reading amendments were moved 17

Number of second reading amendments moved: 19

Second reading amendments agreed to 9

Second reading amendments negatived 9

Second reading amendments withdrawn 2

Bill short title	Moved by	Outcome
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Bill 2015	1 AG	Negatived
Australian Citizenship Amendment (Allegiance to Australia) Bill 2015	1 Xenophon	Withdrawn
Australian Citizenship Amendment (Intercountry Adoption) Bill 2014 [Note: the amendment was moved on 26 November 2014]	1 AG	Negatived
Biosecurity Bill 2014	2 AG 1 Xenophon	Negatived Negatived
Broadcasting and Other Legislation Amendment (Deregulation) Bill 2015	1 AG	Negatived
Copyright Amendment (Online Infringement) Bill 2015	1 Opp 1 AG	Agreed to Negatived

Bill short title	Moved by	Outcome
Customs Amendment (Anti-dumping Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2015 and Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Amendment Bill 2015	1 Xenophon	Agreed to
Customs Amendment (China-Australia Free Trade Agreement Implementation) Bill 2015	1 AG	Agreed to
Education Legislation Amendment (Overseas Debt Recovery) Bill 2015	1 AG	Negatived
Higher Education Support Amendment (VET FEE-HELP Reform) Bill 2015	1 Opp	Agreed to
Migration Amendment (Regional Processing Arrangements) Bill 2015	1 AG	Agreed to
Migration Amendment (Strengthening Biometrics Integrity) Bill 2015	1 AG	Withdrawn
Social Services Legislation Amendment (More Generous Means Testing for Youth Payments) Bill 2015	1 AG	Agreed to
Social Services Legislation Amendment (No Jab, No Pay) Bill 2015	1 AG	Agreed to
Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment (Data Retention) Bill 2015	1 AG	Negatived
Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2015 Budget Measures) Bill 2015	1 Govt	Agreed to
Water Amendment Bill 2015	1 AG	Agreed to

KEY

AG	Australian Greens	Opp	Opposition (Australian Labor Party)
Govt	Government	Xenophon	Independent

2.4 Committee of the whole—Consideration

The committee of the whole process provides an opportunity for senators to consider bills in detail. Amendments moved in committee of the whole seek to change, delete or add words in the bill that may affect the final content of the law. Under section 53 of the Constitution the Senate cannot amend a bill imposing taxation, or a bill appropriating money for the ordinary annual services of government (an appropriation bill). It also may not amend a bill in a way which will increase any proposed charge or burden. If the Senate wishes to make such amendments, it must *request* the House of Representatives to amend the bill on its behalf.

For more information on the legislative process see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 16 – Consideration of Legislation*.

Number of bills:

to which amendments were moved in committee of the whole	51
to which requests were moved in committee of the whole	2
in which items (etc.) were opposed in committee of the whole	27

Number of amendments moved: 510

Number of amendments agreed to	195
Number of amendments negatived	314
Number of amendments withdrawn	1
Number of amendments pending	0

Number of requests moved: 20

Number of requests agreed to	1
Number of requests negatived	19
Number of requests withdrawn	0
Number of requests pending	0

Number of amendments moved to amendments 7

Number of items (etc) opposed and negatived 83

Number of items (etc) opposed but agreed to 52

Bill short title	Outcome
Acts and Instruments (Framework Reform) Bill 2014	1 amendment agreed to (Govt)
Airports Amendment Bill 2015	1 amendment negated (AG)
Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2014-2015	4 amendments negated (LDP) Opposed/agreed to (1 clause, 1 Schedule LDP)
Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2015-2016	1 amendment negated (LDP)
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Bill 2015	1 amendment negated (AG)
Australian Border Force Bill 2015	1 amendment negated (AG)
Australian Citizenship Amendment (Allegiance to Australia) Bill 2015	2 amendments negated (LDP)
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Amendment Bill 2015	1 amendment negated (FFP)
Biosecurity Bill 2014	8 amendments agreed to (Govt) 18 amendments negated (AG)
Broadcasting and Other Legislation Amendment (Deregulation) Bill 2015	2 amendments negated (Xenophon)
Business Services Wage Assessment Tool Payment Scheme Bill 2014 [Note: bill recommitted on 17 March 2015; refer to Business of the Senate 2014 for previous outcomes]	28 amendments agreed to (Govt) 3 amendments negated (Opp) 19 requests negated (Opp) Opposed/agreed to (1 clause Opp)
Copyright Amendment (Online Infringement) Bill 2015	9 amendments negated (AG)
Corporations Amendment (Streamlining of Future of Financial Advice) Bill 2014	16 amendments agreed to (Govt) Opposed/negated (2 sections, 38 items Govt)
Crimes Legislation Amendment (Powers, Offences and Other Measures) Bill 2015	1 amendment negated (Lazarus) Opposed/negated (2 Schedules AG)
Crimes Legislation Amendment (Psychoactive Substances and Other Measures) Bill 2014	Opposed/negated (1 item, 1 section Opp)

Bill short title	Outcome
Crimes Legislation Amendment (Unexplained Wealth and Other Measures) Bill 2014	Opposed/agreed to (2 items AG)
Customs Amendment (Anti-dumping Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2015	1 amendment withdrawn (Xenophon) Opposed/negated (1 Part Opp; 2 Parts Xenophon)
Customs Amendment (China-Australia Free Trade Agreement Implementation) Bill 2015	6 amendments negated (AG)
Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Amendment Bill 2015	1 amendment agreed to (Xenophon) Opposed/negated (4 items Xenophon)
Education Legislation Amendment (Overseas Debt Recovery) Bill 2015	3 amendments negated (AG)
Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment (Streamlining Regulation) Bill 2015	1 amendment agreed to (Opp) Opposed/negated (4 items Opp)
Enhancing Online Safety for Children Bill 2014	2 amendments agreed to (Govt)
Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2014	1 amendment negated (Xenophon)
Environment Legislation Amendment Bill 2013	27 amendments negated (25 AG; 2 Xenophon) Opposed/negated (1 Schedule AG)
Excise Tariff Amendment (Ethanol and Biodiesel) Bill 2015	1 amendment agreed to (Govt)
Fair Work Amendment Bill 2014	6 amendments agreed to (4 AMEP/FFP/ Lazarus/Madigan; 1 Xenophon/FFP/ Lazarus/Madigan/AMEP/PUP; 1 Lazarus) 12 amendments negated (4 AG; 2 FFP; 6 Opp) Opposed/agreed to (1 Schedule AG; 1 Part LDP; 1 Part Opp; 11 items Opp; 1 clause LDP; 1 clause Opp) Opposed/negated (6 Parts AMEP/FFP/ Lazarus/Madigan; 9 clauses AMEP/ FFP/Lazarus/Madigan)

Bill short title	Outcome
Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	2 amendments agreed to (AG) 25 amendments negated (20 Opp; 3 Xenophon; 2 Lazarus/Lambie/Madigan) Opposed/agreed to (1 section Opp) <i>Amendments moved to amendments:</i> <i>2 negated (FFP to AG)</i>
Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	1 amendment agreed to (Opp)
Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2015	1 amendment negated (AG) Opposed/agreed to (1 Schedule AG)
Higher Education Support Amendment (VET FEE-HELP Reform) Bill 2015	24 amendments agreed to (Govt) 1 request agreed to (Govt) 1 amendment negated (Opp) <i>Amendments moved to amendments:</i> <i>2 agreed to (Lazarus/AMEP to Govt)</i>
Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015*	20 amendments agreed to (Govt) 17 amendments negated (16 Opp; 1 Lazarus) Opposed/agreed to (2 clauses Opp)
Medical Research Future Fund (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2015	1 amendment agreed to (Govt)
Migration Amendment (Charging for a Migration Outcome) Bill 2015	55 amendments negated (Opp) Opposed/agreed to (1 item Opp)
Migration Amendment (Protection and Other Measures) Bill 2014	13 amendments agreed to (1 Opp; 12 Govt) 8 amendments negated (AG) Opposed/agreed to (1 Part, 2 Sections, 11 items AG) Opposed/negated (1 Schedule Opp)
Migration Amendment (Regional Processing Arrangements) Bill 2015	9 amendments negated (8 AG; 1 LDP)
Migration Amendment (Strengthening Biometrics Integrity) Bill 2015	1 amendment agreed to (Govt) 4 amendments negated (Opp)

Bill short title	Outcome
Migration and Maritime Powers Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2015	4 amendments agreed to (AG) 1 amendment negated (AG) <i>Amendments moved to amendment:</i> <i>2 agreed to (Opp to AG)</i>
National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Bill 2015	3 amendments negated (LDP)
National Water Commission (Abolition) Bill 2015	8 amendments agreed to (Govt)
Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2014) Bill 2014	
<i>consideration of message no. 334 from the House of Representatives</i>	1 amendment agreed to (1 Opp)
Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2015	9 amendments negated (4 Opp; 2 AG; 1 PUP; 1 Lazarus; 1 Xenophon) Opposed/agreed to (2 Parts AG; 1 item Lazarus)
Seafarers Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	5 amendments agreed to (Govt) Opposed/negated (2 items Govt)
Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Seniors Supplement Cessation) Bill 2014	2 amendments agreed to (Govt)
Social Services Legislation Amendment (No. 2) Bill 2015	6 amendments agreed to (5 Govt; 1 Opp) Opposed/negated (1 Part, 1 item Opp)
Social Services Legislation Amendment (No Jab, No Pay) Bill 2015	1 amendment negated (AG)
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2014 Measures No. 5) Bill 2014	2 amendments agreed to (Opp) Opposed/negated (2 Schedules Opp) Opposed/agreed to (1 Schedule AG)
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2014 Measures No. 7) Bill 2014	Opposed/agreed to (2 Schedules AG)
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 1) Bill 2015	Opposed/agreed to (1 Schedule AG)
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 4) Bill 2015	Opposed/agreed to (1 Schedule AG)

Bill short title	Outcome
Tax Laws Amendment (Combating Multinational Tax Avoidance) Bill 2015*	3 amendments agreed to (1 Xenophon; 2 AG) 1 amendment negated (AG)
<i>consideration of message no. 494 from the House of Representatives</i>	4 amendments agreed to (AG) 3 amendments negated (1 Opp, 2 AMEP)
Tax Laws Amendment (Research and Development) Bill 2013	2 amendments agreed to (PUP/Xenophon) 1 amendment negated (AG) <i>Amendment moved to amendment: 1 negated (Opp to PUP/Xenophon)</i>
Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment (Data Retention) Bill 2015	72 amendments negated (39 AG; 19 LDP; 13 Xenophon; 1 PUP) Opposed/agreed to (3 items AG)
Treasury Legislation Amendment (Repeal Day) Bill 2014	Opposed/agreed to (1 Schedule AG)
Treasury Legislation Amendment (Small Business and Unfair Contract Terms) Bill 2015	5 amendments agreed to (4 AG; 1 LDP) 4 amendments negated (FFP)
Tribunals Amalgamation Bill 2014	25 amendments agreed to (19 Govt; 5 Opp; 1 AG) 4 amendments negated (Opp) Opposed/negated (3 items Govt; 1 item Opp)
Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2015 Budget Measures) Bill 2015	2 amendments agreed to (Govt) Opposed/negated (1 Schedule Govt)
Water Amendment Bill 2015	2 amendments negated (LDP)

KEY			
AG	Australian Greens	LDP	Liberal Democratic Party
AMEP	Australian Motoring Enthusiast Party	Madigan	Independent
Govt	Government	Opp	Opposition
FFP	Family First Party	PUP	Palmer United Party
Lazarus	Independent	Xenophon	Independent

[* See also chapter relating to Amendments and requests—Disagreements, page 33]

2.5 Bills negatived or discharged from *Notice Paper*

The Senate often indicates its disagreement with a bill by rejecting the motion for the second or third reading, and that action is taken to be a rejection of the bill.

A senator may also move that an order of the day (a matter which the Senate has ordered to be considered on a particular day) relating to a bill be discharged from the *Notice Paper*, pursuant to standing order 97(4).

When the two Houses do not initially agree on the contents of a bill, it is usual for negotiations to continue. Amendments to amendments may be made or alternative amendments proposed until an acceptable compromise is reached. Occasionally, the impasse cannot be broken and a bill is laid aside and not proceeded with.

For more information on the legislative process, see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 16 – Consideration of Legislation*.

Number of bills:

Discharged from Senate <i>Notice Paper</i>	2
Negatived at second reading	9

Bill short title	Origin
Automotive Transformation Scheme Amendment Bill 2014 (Discharged from <i>Notice Paper</i> 25 March 2015)	House of Representatives
Building and Construction Industry (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2013 (Negatived at second reading 17 August 2015)	House of Representatives
Building and Construction Industry (Improving Productivity) Bill 2013 (Negatived at second reading 17 August 2015)	House of Representatives
Communications Legislation Amendment (SBS Advertising Flexibility and Other Measures) Bill 2015 (Negatived at second reading 24 June 2015)	House of Representatives
Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment Bill 2014 (Negatived at second reading 2 March 2015)	House of Representatives
Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment Bill 2014 [No. 2] (Negatived at second reading 17 August 2015)	House of Representatives
Food Standards Amendment (Fish Labelling) Bill 2015 (Negatived at second reading 12 August 2015)	Senate (Senator Xenophon (Ind))
Higher Education and Research Reform Bill 2014 (Negatived at second reading 17 March 2015)	House of Representatives

Bill short title	Origin
Migration Amendment (Regaining Control Over Australia's Protection Obligations) Bill 2013 (Discharged from <i>Notice Paper</i> 15 October 2015)	House of Representatives
Shipping Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 (Negatived at second reading 26 November 2015)	House of Representatives
Social Services Legislation Amendment (Youth Employment and Other Measures) Bill 2015 (Negatived at second reading 9 September 2015)	House of Representatives

2.6 Amendments and requests—Disagreements

Before it can become a law, a bill must be agreed to by both the Senate and the House of Representatives in precisely the same form. If there is a disagreement over amendments or requests, a bill may be transmitted between the two Houses a number of times until the Houses finally agree to it in the same form or it is abandoned. These negotiations on amendments and requests are conducted by the consideration of *messages* between the Houses.

For more information on the legislative process, see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 16 – Consideration of Legislation* and *No. 18 – Communication Between the Houses – Dealing with Messages*.

Bills on which there were disagreements between the Houses 3

Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015

The Senate made 20 amendments to the bill (12 August 2015).

The House agreed to 19 amendments made by the Senate, disagreed to 1 and made an identical amendment in its place (13 August 2015).

The Senate agreed to the amendment made by the House (13 August 2015).

Bill passed both Houses.

Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2014) Bill 2014

The Senate made 31 amendments to the bill (2 December 2014).

The House disagreed to the amendments made by the Senate (25 March 2015).

The Senate reported the message from the House (26 March 2015).

The Senate insisted on amendments nos 1 to 6, did not insist on amendment no. 7 but made an amendment in place of that amendment (19 August 2015).

The House reported the message from the Senate (19 August 2015).

Tax Laws Amendment (Combating Multinational Tax Avoidance) Bill 2015

The Senate made 3 amendments to the bill (11 November 2015).

The House disagreed to the amendments made by the Senate (12 November 2015).

The Senate reported the message from the House (12 November 2015).

The Senate did not insist on amendments but agreed to amendments in place of amendments nos 2 and 3 (3 December 2015).

The House agreed to the amendments made in place of amendments nos 2 and 3 made by the Senate (3 December 2015).

Bill passed both Houses.

2.7 Bills, or provisions of bills, referred to committees

Bills may be referred to committees at any stage for inquiry and report. The *provisions* of many bills are referred before the bill is received from the House of Representatives to maximise the time available for the committee inquiry.

Committees may table reports on any sitting day, or may present them when the Senate is not sitting.

For more information refer to *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 16 – Consideration of Legislation* and *No. 13 – Referring Matters to Committees*.

Number of bills referred to committees:

Referred in 2015	109
Referred in 2014, reports tabled in 2015	21
Referred in 2013, reports tabled in 2015	3

Bill short title	Committee		
<i>Where the bill is a private senator's bill or a private member's bill the name of the senator or member who introduced it is shown</i>			
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Amendment (A Stronger Land Account) Bill 2014 (<i>Senator Siewert</i>)	CA	Referred	26/06/14
		Tabled	25/03/15
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Bill 2015	Eco	Referred	20/08/15
		Tabled	15/09/15
		Additional information tabled	13/10/15
Australian Border Force Bill 2015	LCA	Referred	05/03/15
		Presented	07/05/15
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment (Local Content) Bill 2014 (<i>Senator Xenophon</i>)	EC	Referred	04/12/14
		Presented	27/03/15
		Additional information tabled	13/05/15; 17/06/15
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment (Rural and Regional Advocacy) Bill 2015 (<i>Senator McKenzie</i>)	EC	Referred	03/12/15
		Report due	20/06/16

Bill short title	Committee		
Australian Crime Commission Amendment (Criminology Research) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Tabled	12/11/15 26/11/15
Australian Government Boards (Gender Balanced Representation) Bill 2015 (<i>Senators Xenophon, Waters, Lambie and Lazarus</i>)	FPA	Referred Tabled	25/06/15 10/11/15
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Amendment Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	25/06/15 17/08/15
Australian Securities and Investments Commission Amendment (Corporations and Markets Advisory Committee Abolition) Bill 2014	Eco	Referred Tabled	12/02/15 16/03/15
Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Tabled	18/06/15 18/08/15
Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Tabled	18/06/15 18/08/15
Biosecurity Bill 2014	RRAT	Referred Tabled	27/11/14 17/03/15
Biosecurity (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2014	RRAT	Referred Tabled	27/11/14 17/03/15
Broadcasting and Other Legislation Amendment (Deregulation) Bill 2014	EC	Referred Tabled	30/10/14 09/02/15
Commonwealth Grants Commission Amendment (GST Distribution) Bill 2015 (<i>Senator Wang</i>)	FPA	Referred Report due	12/11/15 16/03/16
Communications Legislation Amendment (SBS Advertising Flexibility and Other Measures) Bill 2015	EC	Referred Interim report presented Presented Additional information tabled	26/03/15 08/05/15 29/05/15 17/06/15; 24/06/15
Competition and Consumer Amendment (Deregulatory and Other Measures) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	26/03/15 13/05/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Competition and Consumer Amendment (Misuse of Market Power) Bill 2014 (<i>Senator Xenophon</i>)	Eco	Referred Presented	20/03/14 26/02/15
Construction Industry Amendment (Protecting Witnesses) Bill 2015	EE	Referred Presented	26/03/15 08/05/15
Copyright Amendment (Online Infringement) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Interim reports presented Presented	26/03/15 29/05/15; 09/06/15 11/06/15
Corporations Amendment (Crowd-sourced Funding) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Report due	03/12/15 22/02/16
Corporations Amendment (Financial Advice) Bill 2014 (<i>Senator Whish-Wilson</i>)	Eco	Referred Tabled	05/03/15 11/08/15
Corporations Legislation Amendment (Deregulatory and Other Measures) Bill 2014	Eco	Referred Tabled	27/11/14 11/02/15
Courts Administration Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Report due	03/12/15 02/02/16
Crimes Legislation Amendment (Powers, Offences and Other Measures) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Tabled	26/03/15 16/06/15
Crimes Legislation Amendment (Proceeds of Crime and Other Measures) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Report due	03/12/15 03/02/16
Criminal Code Amendment (Animal Protection) Bill 2015 (<i>Senator Back</i>)	RRAT	Referred Interim report presented Presented Dissenting report tabled	12/02/15 29/05/15 12/06/15 16/06/15
Criminal Code Amendment (Firearms Trafficking) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Report due	03/12/15 02/02/16
Criminal Code Amendment (Harming Australians) Bill 2013 (<i>Senator Xenophon</i>)	LCA	Referred Interim report presented Tabled	12/12/13 28/05/14 13/08/15
Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013 (<i>Senator Xenophon</i>)	LCA	Referred Interim report presented Tabled	12/12/13 28/05/14 13/08/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Customs Amendment (Anti-dumping Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2015	Eco	Referred Interim report presented Presented	18/03/15 01/05/15 08/05/15
Customs Amendment (Australian Trusted Trader Programme) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Tabled	03/06/15 ¹ 15/06/15 ²
Customs Amendment (China-Australia Free Trade Agreement Implementation) Bill 2015	FADT	Referred Presented	17/09/15 06/11/15
Customs and Other Legislation Amendment (Australian Border Force) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Presented	05/03/15 07/05/15
Customs Tariff Amendment (China-Australia Free Trade Agreement Implementation) Bill 2015	FADT	Referred Presented	17/09/15 06/11/15
Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Amendment Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Interim report presented Presented	18/03/15 01/05/15 08/05/15
Defence Legislation Amendment (Military Justice Enhancements—Inspector-General ADF) Bill 2014	FADT	Referred Tabled	04/12/14 03/03/15
Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment (Streamlining Regulation) Bill 2015	EE	Referred Tabled	15/10/15 30/11/15
Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration Charges) Amendment (Streamlining Regulation) Bill 2015	EE	Referred Tabled	15/10/15 30/11/15
Energy Grants and Other Legislation Amendment (Ethanol and Biodiesel) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	04/06/15 ¹ 15/06/15 ²
Enhancing Online Safety for Children Bill 2014	EC	Referred Tabled	04/12/14 03/03/15
Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2014	EC	Referred Tabled	04/12/14 03/03/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Prohibition of Live Imports of Primates for Research) Bill 2015 (Senator Rhiannon)	EC	Referred Report due	15/10/15 01/03/16
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Standing) Bill 2015	EC	Referred Presented	20/08/15 18/11/15
Excise Tariff Amendment (Ethanol and Biodiesel) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	04/06/15 ¹ 15/06/15 ²
Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment (Direct Lending and Other Measures) Bill 2014	FADT	Referred Tabled	27/11/14 11/02/15
Fairer Paid Parental Leave Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	25/06/15 15/09/15
Fair Work Amendment (Bargaining Processes) Bill 2014	EE	Referred Presented	04/12/14 13/04/15
Fair Work Amendment (Gender Pay Gap) Bill 2015 (Senator Waters)	EE	Referred Report due	15/10/15 12/05/16
Fair Work Amendment (Remaining 2014 Measures) Bill 2015	EE	Referred Report due	03/12/15 04/02/16
Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment Bill 2014 [No. 2]	EE	Referred Tabled	14/05/15 11/08/15
Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Jobs for Families Child Care Package) Bill 2015	EE	Referred Report due	03/12/15 17/03/16
Family Law Amendment (Financial Agreements and Other Measures) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Report due	03/12/15 24/02/16
Food Standards Amendment (Fish Labelling) Bill 2015 (<i>Senators Xenophon, Lazarus, Lambie, Whish-Wilson, Wang and Madigan</i>)	RRAT	Referred Presented	26/03/15 07/05/15
Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment (Forum on Food Regulation and Other Measures) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	15/10/15 30/11/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Fees Imposition Bill 2015	Eco	Referred	20/08/15
		Tabled	14/10/15
Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	Eco	Referred	20/08/15
		Tabled	14/10/15
Gene Technology Amendment Bill 2015	CA	Referred	25/06/15
		Tabled	18/08/15
Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	FPA	Referred	26/03/15
		Presented	07/05/15
Guardian for Unaccompanied Children Bill 2014 (<i>Senator Hanson-Young</i>)	LCA	Referred	28/08/14
		Interim report presented	05/02/15
		Tabled	09/02/15
Health Insurance Amendment (Safety Net) Bill 2015	CA	Referred	12/11/15
		Tabled	23/11/15
Health Legislation Amendment (eHealth) Bill 2015	CA	Referred	15/10/15
		Tabled	09/11/15
Higher Education and Research Reform Bill 2014	EE	Referred	12/02/15
		Presented	13/03/15
Higher Education Support Amendment (VET FEE-HELP Reform) Bill 2015	EE	Referred	12/11/15
		Tabled	30/11/15
Independent National Security Legislation Monitor (Improved Oversight and Resourcing) Bill 2014 (<i>Senator Wright</i>)	LCA	Referred	04/12/14
		Tabled	17/06/15
Interactive Gambling Amendment (Sports Betting Reform) Bill 2015 (<i>Senator Xenophon</i>)	EC	Referred	26/11/15
		Report due	12/05/16
International Aid (Promoting Gender Equality) Bill 2015 (<i>Senator Rhiannon</i>)	LCA	Referred	26/03/15
		Presented	02/04/15
	FADT	Referred	12/05/15
		Tabled	17/09/15
Landholders' Right to Refuse (Gas and Coal) Bill 2015 (<i>Senator Waters</i>)	EC	Referred	05/03/15
		Presented	30/09/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Law Enforcement Legislation Amendment (Powers) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Tabled	14/05/15 18/06/15
Marriage Equality Plebiscite Bill 2015 (<i>Senators Rice, Leyonhjelm, Lambie, Lazarus, Muir and Xenophon</i>)	LCAR	Referred Report due	20/08/15 16/09/15
Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	16/06/15 10/08/15
Medical Research Future Fund (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	16/06/15 10/08/15
Migration Amendment (Charging for a Migration Outcome) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Tabled Corrigendum tabled	17/09/15 10/11/15 24/11/15
Migration Amendment (Complementary Protection and Other Measures) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Report due	15/10/15 18/02/16
Migration Amendment (Maintaining the Good Order of Immigration Detention Facilities) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Presented	05/03/15 05/06/15
Migration Amendment (Protecting Babies Born in Australia) Bill 2014 (<i>Senator Hanson-Young</i>)	LCA	Referred Tabled	19/06/14 10/02/15
Migration Amendment (Strengthening Biometrics Integrity) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Presented	05/03/15 05/06/15
Migration and Maritime Powers Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2015	LCA	Referred Tabled	17/09/15 10/11/15
Migration Legislation Amendment (Cessation of Visa Labels) Bill 2015	LCA	Referred Report due	12/11/15 25/02/16
Motor Vehicle Standards (Cheaper Transport) Bill 2014	EC	Referred Interim report presented Tabled	20/08/15 23/10/15 25/11/15
National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	16/06/15 23/06/15
Omnibus Repeal Day (Autumn 2015) Bill 2015	FPA	Referred Tabled	19/03/15 15/06/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill 2015	FPA	Referred Report due	26/11/15 03/02/16
Parliamentary Expenses Amendment (Transparency and Accountability) Bill 2015 (<i>Senator Xenophon</i>)	FPA	Referred Tabled	20/08/15 26/11/15
Parliamentary Service Amendment Bill 2014 (<i>Speaker of the House of Representatives</i>)	FPA	Referred Tabled	04/12/14 02/03/15
Private Health Insurance Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2014	CA	Referred Tabled	05/03/15 13/05/15
Private Health Insurance (Collapsed Insurer Levy) Amendment Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	27/05/15 ¹ 17/06/15
Private Health Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	27/05/15 ¹ 17/06/15
Private Health Insurance (Prudential Supervision) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	27/05/15 ¹ 17/06/15
Private Health Insurance (Risk Equalisation Levy) Amendment Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	27/05/15 ¹ 17/06/15
Private Health Insurance Supervisory Levy Imposition Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	27/05/15 ¹ 17/06/15
Public Governance and Resources Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2015	FPA	Referred Tabled	05/03/15 24/03/15
Quarantine Charges (Imposition—Customs) Amendment Bill 2014	RRAT	Referred Tabled	27/11/14 17/03/15
Quarantine Charges (Imposition—Excise) Amendment Bill 2014	RRAT	Referred Tabled	27/11/14 17/03/15
Quarantine Charges (Imposition—General) Amendment Bill 2014	RRAT	Referred Tabled	27/11/14 17/03/15
Register of Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	20/08/15 14/10/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Regulator of Medicinal Cannabis Bill 2014 (<i>Senators Di Natale, Macdonald, Leyonhjelm and Urquhart</i>)	LCA	Referred Interim report tabled Tabled	12/02/15 25/06/15 11/08/15
Reserve Bank Amendment (Australian Reconstruction and Development Board) Bill 2013 (<i>Senators Xenophon and Madigan</i>)	Eco	Referred Presented Additional information presented	12/12/13 31/03/15 13/04/15; 25/05/15
Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Improving the Comcare Scheme) Bill 2015	EE	Referred Tabled	26/03/15 16/06/15
Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Legislation Amendment (Exit Arrangements) Bill 2015	EE	Referred Presented	19/03/15 08/05/15
Seafarers Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	EE	Referred Tabled	05/03/15 24/03/15
Shipping Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	RRAT	Referred Tabled Dissenting reports tabled Additional information tabled	25/06/15 12/10/15 13/10/15 14/10/15
Social Security Legislation Amendment (Community Development Program) Bill 2015	FPA	Referred Report due	03/12/15 29/02/16
Social Security Legislation Amendment (Debit Card Trial) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	20/08/15 12/10/15
Social Security Legislation Amendment (Further Strengthening Job Seeker Compliance) Bill 2015	EE	Referred Tabled	17/09/15 24/11/15
Social Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	26/03/15 15/06/15
Social Services Legislation Amendment (Budget Repair) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Report due	03/12/15 04/02/16
Social Services Legislation Amendment (Fair and Sustainable Pensions) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	04/06/15 ¹ 22/06/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Measures) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Report due	03/12/15 22/02/16
Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Payments Structural Reform and Participation Measures) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	12/11/15 30/11/15
Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Payments Structural Reform and Participation Measures) Bill (No. 2) 2015	CA	Referred Report due	03/12/15 01/03/16
Social Services Legislation Amendment (More Generous Means Testing for Youth Payments) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	10/09/15 09/11/15
Social Services Legislation Amendment (No. 2) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	28/05/15 ¹ 15/06/15
Social Services Legislation Amendment (No Jab, No Pay) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled Additional information tabled	17/09/15 11/11/15 12/11/15
Social Services Legislation Amendment (Youth Employment) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	15/10/15 30/11/15
Social Services Legislation Amendment (Youth Employment and Other Measures) Bill 2015	CA	Referred Tabled	28/05/15 ¹ 11/08/15
Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Amendment Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	28/05/15 ¹ 15/06/15 ²
Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Trustee Governance) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	17/09/15 09/11/15
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 1) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	27/05/15 ¹ 15/06/15
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (Better Targeting the Income Tax Transparency Laws) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	10/09/15 12/10/15
Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (Employee Share Schemes) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	14/05/15 16/06/15

Bill short title	Committee		
Tax Laws Amendment (Combating Multinational Tax Avoidance) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	17/09/15 09/11/15
Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Amendment Bill 2014	EC	Referred Tabled	30/10/14 09/02/15
	EC	Referred Presented	10/02/15 20/03/15
Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Access Regime and NBN Companies) Bill 2015	EC	Referred Report due	03/12/15 22/02/16
Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Deregulation) Bill 2014	EC	Referred Tabled	30/10/14 09/02/15
	EC	Referred Presented	10/02/15 20/03/15
Treasury Legislation Amendment (Small Business and Unfair Contract Terms) Bill 2015	Eco	Referred Tabled	13/08/15 14/09/15
Tribunals Amalgamation Bill 2014	LCA	Referred Tabled	12/02/15 16/03/15
Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2015 Budget Measures) Bill 2015—Schedule 2	FADT	Referred Presented	07/09/15 25/09/15
Voice for Animals (Independent Office of Animal Welfare) Bill 2015 (<i>Senator Rhiannon</i>)	RRAT	Referred Tabled	25/06/15 15/10/15
Water Amendment Bill 2015	EC	Referred Tabled	16/06/15 08/09/15

1 On 13 May 2015 the Senate agreed that all bills introduced into the House of Representatives after 14 May 2015 and up to and including 4 June 2015 that contain provisions commencing on or before 1 July 2015 be referred to committees for inquiry and report by 15 June 2015.

2 Pursuant to the order of the Senate of 13 May 2015, the committee determined that the bill had no substantive matters requiring examination.

Abbreviations

CA	Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Eco	Economics Legislation Committee
EC	Environment and Communications Legislation Committee
EE	Education and Employment Legislation Committee
EER	Education and Employment References Committee
FADT	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
FPA	Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
LCA	Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee
LCAR	Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee
RRAT	Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Section 3: Other business

3.1 Notices of motion for disallowance

Many Acts of Parliament delegate to the executive government the power to make detailed rules and regulations (*legislative instruments*). Instruments made in this way are subject to the power of either House to veto or *disallow* them.

In most cases, within 15 sitting days after tabling a senator may give notice of a motion to disallow the legislative instrument. If the motion is agreed to, the instrument is disallowed and ceases to have effect. If a notice of motion to disallow a legislative instrument has not been resolved or withdrawn within 15 sitting days after having been given, the instrument is *deemed* to have been disallowed and automatically ceases to have effect.

For more information see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 19 – Disallowance*.

Disallowance motions moved:

Moved and agreed to	4
Moved and negatived	4

Notices of motion for disallowance:

Given and subsequently withdrawn	9
Still before the Senate	5

Notices of motion moved and agreed to:

Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998—Part 145 Manual of Standards Amendment Instrument 2014 (No. 1), made under regulation 145.015

Notice given 9 February 2015 (Senator Xenophon)

Moved, debated and agreed to (division) 18 March 2015

Family Law Act 1975 and the *Federal Circuit of Australia Act 1999*—Family Law (Fees) Amendment (2015 Measures No. 1) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 114

Notice given 10 August 2015 (Senators Collins, Wright and Lazarus)

Moved, debated and agreed to (division) 11 August 2015

Federal Court of Australia Act 1976, the *Family Law Act 1975* and the *Federal Circuit of Australia Act 1999*—Schedule 2 of the Federal Courts Legislation Amendment (Fees) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 70

Notice given 24 June 2015 (Senator Wright)

Moved and agreed to (division) 25 June 2015

Migration Act 1958 and Migration Regulations 1994—Instrument as contained in the Specification of Income Threshold and Annual Earnings 2015

Notice given 15 June 2015 (Senators Rice, Lambie and Cameron)

Moved, debated and agreed to (division) 16 June 2015

Notices of motion moved and negated:

A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999—Child Care Benefit (Children in respect of whom no-one is eligible) Determination 2015

Notice given 10 November 2015 (Senator Hanson-Young)

Moved and negated (division) 3 December 2015

Competition and Consumer Act 2010—Provisions of subclauses 5(1), 5(4) and 5(5) of the Competition and Consumer (Industry Code—Port Terminal Access (Bulk Wheat)) Regulation 2014, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2014 No. 136

Notice given 24 November 2014 (Senators Leyonhjelm and Day)

Moved, debated and negated (division) 4 March 2015

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999—Amendment to List of CITES Species, Declaration of a stricter domestic measure, made under subsection 303CB(1)

Notice given 26 March 2015 (Senator Leyonhjelm)

Moved, debated and negated 12 August 2015

Fisheries Management Act 1991—Small Pelagic Fishery (Closures Variation) Direction No. 1 2015, made under subsection 41A(3)

Notice given 23 November 2015 (Senator Whish-Wilson)

Moved, debated and negated (division) 25 November 2015

Notices of motion for disallowance given and subsequently withdrawn:

Corporations Act 2001—Corporations Amendment (Financial Advice) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 108

Notice given 16 September 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Withdrawn 26 November 2015

Customs Act 1901—Customs (Prohibited Imports) Amendment (Firearms and Firearm Magazines) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 133

Notice given 10 August 2015 (Senators Leyonhjelm and Muir)

Withdrawn 8 September 2015

Federal Court of Australia Act 1976, the Family Law Act 1975 and the Federal Circuit of Australia Act 1999—Federal Courts Legislation Amendment (Fees) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 70

Notice given 22 June 2015 (Senator Wright)

Withdrawn 25 June 2015

Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Act 1997—Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (2015 Measures No. 3) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 45

Notice given 13 August 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Withdrawn 14 October 2015

Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915—Jervis Bay Territory Emergency Management Ordinance 2015, Ordinance No. 1 of 2015

Notice given 20 August 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Withdrawn 17 September 2015

Migration Regulations 1994—Specification of Occupations, a Person or Body, a Country or Countries 2015

Notice given 16 September 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Withdrawn 13 October 2015

Private Health Insurance Act 2007—Private Health Insurance (Registration) Amendment Rules 2015 (No. 1), made under item 7 of the table in section 333-20

Notice given 20 August 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Withdrawn 17 September 2015

Social Security (Administration) Act 1999—Social Security (Administration) (Income Management – Crediting of Accounts) Rules 2015, made under section 123WN

Notice given 20 August 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Withdrawn 17 September 2015

Taxation Administration Act 1953—Pay as you go withholding – PAYG Withholding Variation: Allowances – Legislative Instrument

Notice given 16 September 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Withdrawn 12 November 2015

Notices of motion for disallowance still before the Senate:

Charter of the United Nations Act 1945—Charter of the United Nations (Sanctions—Iraq) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument No. 161

Notice given 3 December 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Charter of the United Nations Act 1945—Charter of the United Nations (Sanctions—Syria) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument No. 162

Notice given 3 December 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923—Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument No. 165

Notice given 3 December 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Utilities and Services Ordinance 1996—Christmas Island Marine Traffic and Harbour Facilities Determination 2015, made under section 4

Notice given 3 December 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

Utilities and Services Ordinance 1996—Cocos (Keeling) Islands Marine Traffic and Harbour Facilities Determination 2015, made under section 4

Notice given 3 December 2015 (Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, Senator Williams)

3.2 Statements by the President

During the course of a sitting day, the President may inform the chamber of a decision or address concerns raised in previous debates.

The Chair of Committees may make a statement during the committee of the whole debate on a bill relating to orders of the Senate concerning the passage of legislation. These statements are often to advise of the outcome of certain divisions where the votes are equally divided.

Number of statements made by:

The President of the Senate	9
The Chair of Committees/Deputy President*	2

Statement	Date	Journals page
Dissent from decision	25/06/15	2836
End of 2015 sittings	03/12/15	3628
Legislation—Amendments*	12/08/15	2914
Legislation—Amendments and requests for amendments*	13/08/15	2946
Proposed matters of privilege	12/10/15	3189
Proposed references—Standing Committee of Privileges	09/11/15	3302
Question time—Conduct of senators	19/08/15	2982
Question time—Conduct of senators	09/09/15	3065
Rules of debate—Unparliamentary language	02/03/15	2192
Senate—Photography during divisions	16/03/15	2291
Senate—Sporting and other attire	12/08/15	2910

* Statements by the Chair of Committees

3.3 Ministerial statements

A ministerial statement is used to inform the Senate of policy or other issues or decisions relating to the minister's portfolio, or to portfolios the minister represents in the Senate.

Number of ministerial statements

21

Statement	Date
Administration—	
A new regulatory reform agenda Senator Payne (for the Assistant Minister for Productivity)	12/11/15
Defence—	
Capability through diversity Senator Payne (for the Assistant Minister for Defence)	02/03/15
National security Senator Scullion (for the Prime Minister)	24/11/15
Statement on Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan and operations in the Middle East Senator Colbeck (for the Minister for Defence)	17/09/15
Economics—	
A compact between the generations: The 2015 intergenerational report Senator Colbeck (for the Treasurer)	05/03/15
The global outlook and the Australian economy Senator Nash (for the Treasurer)	10/09/15
Education—	
Our achievements in schools and cross-border education Senator Colbeck (for the Minister for Education)	09/02/15
Environment—	
Murray-Darling Basin Plan Senator Colbeck (for the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment)	26/03/15

Statement	Date
Historical events—	
Centenary of Anzac and Anzac Day 2015 Senator Payne (for the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC)	13/05/15
Centenary of Anzac and Anzac Day 2015—Revised (by the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC)	08/07/15 (presented)
Centenary of Anzac national program Senator Scullion (for the Minister for Veterans' Affairs)	01/12/15
Immigration—	
Australia's response to the Syrian humanitarian crisis Senator Colbeck (for the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection)	17/09/15
Operation Sovereign Borders—Two year scorecard Senator Cash (for the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection)	02/12/15
Indigenous Australians—	
Closing the Gap Senator Scullion (Minister for Indigenous Affairs)	11/02/15
Industry—	
Infrastructure—Annual ministerial infrastructure statement Senator Scullion (for the Prime Minister)	01/12/15
Trade—	
China-Australia Free Trade Agreement Senator Ryan (for the Minister for Trade and Investment)	17/06/15
Investment—2015 ministerial investment statement Senator Ryan (for the Minister for Trade and Investment)	15/09/15
Tabling of the 2015 review of the Export Market Development Grants (EMDG) Scheme Senator Birmingham (for the Minister for Trade and Investment)	20/08/15

Statement	Date
Transport—	
<p data-bbox="316 315 1123 387">Australian Government’s response to the Harper Review’s recommendation on road pricing</p> <p data-bbox="316 389 1123 495">Senator Cash (for the Minister for Territories, Local Government and Major Projects)</p>	02/12/15
<p data-bbox="316 517 1123 589">Progress with implementing the Australian Government’s response to the Aviation Safety Regulation Review</p> <p data-bbox="316 591 1123 663">Senator Cash (for the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development)</p>	02/12/15
Women—	
<p data-bbox="316 730 1174 801">59th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women</p> <p data-bbox="316 804 1174 875">Senator Payne (for the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women)</p>	14/05/15

3.4 Matters of public importance

A matter of public importance (or urgency motion) may be proposed by a senator for consideration on any sitting day, except Thursday, and must have the support of four other senators before the matter can be considered. Notice is not required so that newly emerging matters can be considered by the Senate. There is no question before the chair during debate on matters of public importance so no vote is taken at the end of the discussion.

For more information see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 9 – Matters of Public Importance and Urgency Debates*.

Number of matters of public importance discussed

31

Matter	Date	Journals page
Administration—Abbott Government Senator Moore	09/02/15	2057
Administration—Abbott Government Senator Moore	11/02/15	2148
Administration—Abbott Government Senator Moore	12/05/15	2559
Administration—Abbott Government Senator Moore	08/09/15	3056
Administration—Abbott Government Senator Moore	14/09/15	3111
Administration—Abbott Government—Funding cuts Senator Moore	25/03/15	2411
Administration—Responsibility for water policy Senator Moore	14/10/15	3249
Arts—Funding Senator Moore	23/11/15	3422
Budget 2015-16 Senator Moore	13/05/15	2588
Defence—Australian Defence Force pay Senator Lambie	16/09/15	3137
Economics—Economic leadership Senator Moore	15/09/15	3124
Education—Higher education reforms Senator Moore	04/03/15	2248

Matter	Date	Journals page
Education—Higher education reforms Senator Moore	16/03/15	2285
Education—Public education Senator Moore	22/06/15	2747
Employment—Unemployment rate Senator Moore	10/08/15	2885
Environment—Climate change Senator Moore	30/11/15	3522
Environment—Climate change—Emissions reduction targets Senator Siewert	12/08/15	2924
Family and community services—Housing affordability Senator Siewert	16/06/15	2668
Health—Public hospital funding Senator Moore	23/06/15	2770
Immigration—Refugee intake from Syria Senator Siewert	07/09/15	3041
Indigenous Australians—Funding for Indigenous programs Senator Moore	17/03/15	2304
Industrial relations—Penalty rates Senator Moore	12/10/15	3200
Law and justice—Marriage equality Senator Moore	17/08/15	2962
Law and justice—<i>Racial Discrimination Act 1975</i> Senator Moore	03/03/15	2228
Law and justice—<i>Racial Discrimination Act 1975—40th anniversary</i> Senator Moore	15/06/15	2646
Law and justice—Royal Commissions—Impartiality of commissioners Senator Moore	18/08/15	2975
Social issues—Superannuation inequality and housing affordability Senator Siewert	18/03/15	2326
Taxation—Goods and Services Tax Senator Moore	09/11/15	3311
Taxation—Goods and Services Tax Senator Moore	02/12/15	3594

Matter	Date	Journals page
Taxation—Tax transparency Senator Moore	24/11/15	3454
Transport—Urban freeway projects Senator Siewert	25/11/15	3484

3.5 Urgency motions

An urgency motion (or matter of public importance) may be moved on any sitting day, except Thursday, and must have the support of four other senators before the matter can be debated. Notice is not required so that newly emerging matters can be considered by the Senate. The urgency motion is debated and at the conclusion of the debate a vote is taken as to whether the matter is considered urgent or not.

For more information see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 9 – Matters of Public Importance and Urgency Debates*.

Number of urgency motions

3

Matter of urgency	Date	Journals page
Environment—Climate change targets Senator Siewert Debated and agreed to	10/11/15	3339
Environment—New South Wales—Maules Creek coal mine Senator Siewert Debated and negatived (division)	10/02/15	2121
Health—Food labelling standards Senator Siewert Debated and agreed to	02/03/15	2205

3.6 Motions agreed to

All decisions of the Senate begin as motions moved by senators. The first step is usually for a senator to give notice of his or her intention to move a motion. A notice of motion therefore signals a potential decision of the Senate. Notices of motion may seek the Senate's endorsement on an issue of domestic or foreign policy or recognition of a particular achievement or event. Others relate to the machinery of Senate business and include notices for the introduction of bills or extensions of time for committees to report, among other things.

Most notices of motion fall into one of three main categories. Business of the Senate, Government Business or General Business. Many notices of motion are dealt with by the Senate during discovery of formal business. Other notices are dealt with when the time for considering Business of the Senate or Government Business is reached in the program.

This table shows only substantive resolutions relating to public affairs agreed to by the Senate. Routine and procedural motions are not listed.

Number of principal motions agreed to **218**

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Administration—			
Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (Senators Wong, Xenophon, Muir and Siewert)	15/06/15	24/06/15*	2799
Climate Change Authority (Senator Waters)	09/09/15	10/09/15	3086
Government buildings—Gosford waterfront (Senator O'Neill)	10/11/15	01/12/15	3546
Procurement of recycled paper (Senators Rice and Muir)	10/11/15	11/11/15	3358
Animal welfare—			
Greyhound racing industry (Senator Rhiannon)	04/03/15	05/03/15	2259
Puppy farms (Senators Rhiannon, Lindgren and Singh)	26/11/15	30/11/15	3522
Budget—			
2015-16 (Senator Moore)	13/05/15	14/05/15	2614
Communications—			
Australian Broadcasting Corporation—Audio description services (Senator Siewert)	13/08/15	17/08/15	2961
Community broadcasting—4ZZZ-FM (Senators Moore and Waters)	24/11/15	25/11/15	3479

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Free-to-air television services (Senator Wang)	10/11/15	11/11/15*	3360
National Indigenous television channel (Senator Siewert)	25/03/15	26/03/15	2465
Regional and community media services (Senators McEwen, Ludlam and Muir)	09/11/15	23/11/15	3420
Community Affairs References Committee— Report—			
Grandparents raising grandchildren— Government's response (Senators Moore, Brown and Siewert)	23/11/15	24/11/15	3449
Speech pathology services—Government's response (Senators Siewert, Moore and Brown)	10/09/15	14/09/15	3111
Death of Bart Cummings, AM (Senators Lazarus and Back)	07/09/15	08/09/15	3052
Death of Felicity (Flic) Wishart (Senators Waters and Siewert)	10/08/15	11/08/15	2901
Death of Mr James Ackerman (Senator Lazarus)	23/06/15	24/06/15	2801
Death of Mr Phillip Toyne (Senators Siewert, Milne, Birmingham and Singh)	16/06/15	17/06/15	2687
Death of Peter Brock, AM—8 th anniversary (Senator Muir)	08/09/15	09/09/15	3071
Defence—			
ASC Pty Ltd (Senator Wong)	03/12/14	09/02/15	2056
Australia's Future Submarine Program (Senators Xenophon, Conroy, Lambie, Lazarus, Madigan and Muir)	16/09/15	17/09/15*	3152
Military personnel (Senator O'Sullivan)	08/09/15	09/09/15*	3073
Post-traumatic stress disorder (Senator Wang)	17/08/15	18/08/15	2973
William Kibby VC Veterans' Shed (Senators Wright and Xenophon)	17/08/15	18/08/15*	2972
Economics—			
Budget surpluses (Senators Leyonhjelm, Day and Madigan)	03/03/15	04/03/15	2247
Education—			
Higher education funding (Senator Rhiannon)	11/02/15	12/02/15	2164
Higher education reforms (Senator Rhiannon)	12/08/15	13/08/15	2941
Higher education reforms—Advertisements (Senator Rhiannon)	23/03/15	24/03/15	2376

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy—Funding (Senators Carr, Lazarus, Muir, Rhiannon, Xenophon, Madigan, Lambie and Wang)	16/03/15	17/03/15	2301
Research and science funding (Senator Rhiannon)	25/03/15	26/03/15*	2472
Resourcing for disability education (Senators Wright and O'Neill)	23/03/15	24/03/15	2376
Teacher quality—Literacy and numeracy standards (Senator Wang)	01/12/15	02/12/15*	3590
Technical and Further Education—Crows Nest campus (Senator Rhiannon)	10/11/15	11/11/15	3359
Employment—			
Older Australians (Senators Day, Lazarus, Leyonhjelm and Wang)	12/11/15	23/11/15	3421
Unemployment in regional New South Wales (Senator Rhiannon)	03/03/15	04/03/15	2246
Environment—			
Climate change (Senator McAllister)	12/11/15	23/11/15	3420
Climate change—Extreme weather events (Senator Milne)	17/03/15	18/03/15	2321
Climate change—Extreme weather events (Senator Milne)	18/03/15	19/03/15*	2341
Climate change policy (Senator Milne)	24/03/15	25/03/15	2402
Marine protection (Senator Siewert)	17/09/15	12/10/15	3196
Marine reserves (Senator Siewert)	15/10/15	09/11/15	3308
National Bilby Day (Senator Moore)	16/09/15	17/09/15	3150
New South Wales—Shenhua Watermark coal mine (Senator Rhiannon)	24/03/15	25/03/15	2401
Phytophthora Dieback management (Senator Siewert)	26/11/15	30/11/15	3521
Protection of cetaceans (Senator Whish-Wilson)	13/05/15	14/05/15	2604
Queensland—Great Barrier Reef (Senator O'Sullivan)	16/06/15	17/06/15	2688
Queensland—Great Barrier Reef (Senators O'Sullivan and Canavan)	25/03/15	26/03/15	2464
Queensland—ReefBlitz initiative (Senator Lazarus)	14/10/15	15/10/15	3268

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
South Australia—Renewable energy in Port Augusta (Senators Wright and Xenophon)	15/06/15	16/06/15	2663
Southern cassowary (Senator Waters)	12/08/15	13/08/15	2941
Western Australia—Shark catch and kill policy (Senator Siewert)	09/02/15	11/02/15§	2148
Family and community services—			
Access to income support (Senator Siewert)	13/05/15	14/05/15	2604
Domestic violence services (Senator Waters)	11/02/15	12/02/15*	2163
Earn or learn measure (Senator Siewert)	04/03/15	05/03/15	2261
Housing affordability—Land supply (Senators Day, Leyonhjelm, Back, Canavan, Williams, Bernardi, Madigan, O’Sullivan and McKenzie)	12/05/15	13/05/15	2587
National Carers Week (Senators Moore and Siewert)	12/10/15	13/10/15	3225
National Disability Insurance Scheme—Funding (Senator Siewert)	24/11/15	25/11/15	3481
Pension Loan Scheme (Senators Lazarus and Lambie)	25/11/15	26/11/15	3499
Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day (Senators Polley and Bilyk)	30/11/15	01/12/15	3544
World Down Syndrome Day (Senators Fifield, Moore and Siewert)	18/03/15	19/03/15	2342
Finance—			
Tasmania—Health and education funding (Senator Brown)	15/10/15	09/11/15*	3309
Foreign affairs—			
70 th anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations (Senators Back and Singh)	24/06/15	10/08/15	2880
Afghanistan—Support Association for the Women of Afghanistan (Senator Wright)	19/08/15	20/08/15*	3012
Banning of nuclear weapons (Senator Singh)	12/08/15	13/08/15*	2940
Brazil—Samarco iron ore mine disaster (Senator Ludlam)	23/11/15	24/11/15	3454
Egypt—Al Jazeera journalists (Senator Milne)	10/02/15	11/02/15	2144
Egypt—Mr Peter Greste (Senators Milne, Back, Xenophon and Wong)	17/06/15	18/06/15	2709
Eradication of polio (Senator Singh)	15/10/15	09/11/15*	3309
Funding for nutrition (Senator McEwen)	12/10/15	15/10/15	3263

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Japan—Whaling activity (Senators Whish-Wilson and Wang)	01/12/15	02/12/15	3591
Malaysia—Mr Anwar Ibrahim (Senators Xenophon, Milne, Leyonhjelm, Mason and Marshall)	11/02/15	12/02/15*	2160
Mr Myuran Sukumaran and Mr Andrew Chan (Senators Singh, Milne and Mason)	09/02/15	10/02/15	2119
Sustainable Development Goals (Senators Rhiannon and Bilyk)	12/10/15	13/10/15	3227
United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (Senators Ludlam and Moore)	15/10/15	23/11/15	3421
Health—			
Access to health care—Migrants (Senator Di Natale)	18/06/15	22/06/15	2745
Access to mental health services (Senator Wright)	02/03/15	03/03/15	2228
Asbestos awareness (Senators Singh and Xenophon)	24/11/15	25/11/15	3478
Childhood immunisation (Senators O’Sullivan, Williams and Canavan)	12/05/15	14/05/15*	2603
Dementia Awareness Month (Senators Siewert, Fifield and Polley)	08/09/15	09/09/15	3070
Diabetes (Senator Singh)	23/11/15	24/11/15	3450
Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement (Senator Di Natale)	25/03/15	26/03/15	2473
Food labelling standards (Senator O’Sullivan)	04/03/15	16/03/15	2284
Food labelling standards—Country of origin labelling rules (Senators O’Sullivan, Canavan and Williams)	15/06/15	16/06/15	2667
Food labelling standards—Seafood (Senators Xenophon, Sterle, Whish-Wilson, Madigan, Lambie, Lazarus and Wang)	18/08/15	19/08/15*	2994
Hepatitis C (Senators Smith and Singh)	23/06/15	24/06/15	2799
HIV prevention (Senator Simms)	26/11/15	30/11/15	3519
Individual responsibility for health and wellbeing (Senator Canavan)	12/11/15	23/11/15	3421
Lyme Disease Association of Australia (Senator Moore)	19/08/15	20/08/15	3013
Medicinal cannabis (Senator Di Natale)	26/11/15	30/11/15	3520

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Melanoma (Senators O'Neill, Di Natale, Xenophon and Seselja)	17/03/15	18/03/15	2321
Mental health sector reform (Senator Wright)	11/05/15	12/05/15	2556
Mental health services—Funding (Senators Wright and McLucas)	17/03/15	18/03/15	2322
National Asthma Week (Senator Bilyk)	07/09/15	08/09/15	3052
National Palliative Care Week (Senator Bilyk)	13/05/15	14/05/15	2602
Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month (Senators Cash and Waters)	10/02/15	11/02/15	2145
Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month (Senators Polley, Bilyk, Urquhart and Moore)	10/02/15	11/02/15	2144
Renal health—Dialysis services (Senator Siewert)	12/08/15	13/08/15	2943
Royal Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme (Senator Moore)	12/10/15	13/10/15	3225
Spinal cord injuries (Senator Lazarus)	09/11/15	10/11/15	3337
Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (Senator Muir)	19/08/15	20/08/15	3016
World AIDS Day (Senators Smith, McAllister, Singh and Simms)	30/11/15	01/12/15	3544
World Suicide Prevention Day (Senator Lazarus)	09/09/15	10/09/15	3090
World Suicide Prevention Day and RU OK Day (Senator McLucas)	09/09/15	10/09/15	3086
World Tuberculosis Day (Senators Smith, Singh and Di Natale)	23/03/15	24/03/15	2372
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II (Senators Smith, McKenzie, Day, Bullock, Lindgren, Reynolds, Fawcett, Back, Edwards, Sinodinos, Ruston, Madigan, Fifield, Bushby, Macdonald, Cash, Cormann, Ronaldson, Williams, Bernardi, Canavan, O'Sullivan, Johnston, Colbeck, Fierravanti-Wells, Ryan, Seselja, McGrath, Brandis, Heffernan and Abetz)	08/09/15	09/09/15	3071
Historical events—			
ANZAC centenary (Senators Ronaldson, Scullion, Wong, Milne, Day, Lazarus, Wang, Madigan, Xenophon, Muir and Lambie)	—	26/03/15#	2461
Dismissal of Whitlam Government—40th anniversary (Senator Wong)	10/11/15	11/11/15	3357
Magna Carta—800 th anniversary (Senators Smith, Bullock, Wright, Day and Bernardi)	14/05/15	15/06/15	2645

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Victory in the Pacific—70 th anniversary (Senators Fawcett and McEwen)	10/08/15	11/08/15	2902
West Gate bridge collapse—45th anniversary	14/10/15	15/10/15	3266
World War I—Kurrajongs (Senator Williams)	26/11/15	30/11/15	3520
Immigration—			
Detention centres—Allegations of abuse (Senators Lazarus, Wang and Hanson-Young)	03/03/15	04/03/15	2243
Vietnamese Community in Australia (Senator Macdonald)	24/06/15	10/08/15	2884
Indigenous Australians—			
Constitutional recognition (Senator Siewert)	20/08/15	07/09/15	3041
Custodial notifications services (Senator Lines)	08/09/15	09/09/15	3072
Deaths in custody—Ms Dhu (Senator Siewert)	11/08/15	12/08/15	2923
Ear health services (Senators Lines, Peris and Siewert)	01/12/15	02/12/15	3589
Engagement with the criminal justice system (Senator Lines)	11/11/15	12/11/15	3376
Eye health (Senator Siewert)	15/09/15	16/09/15	3135
Eye health (Senator Siewert)	11/11/15	12/11/15	3380
Imprisonment rates (Senators Siewert, Peris and Lines)	01/12/15	02/12/15	3590
Nindji Nindji Aboriginal arts and music festival (Senator Siewert)	09/09/15	10/09/15	3088
Partnerships with resource companies (Senator O’Sullivan)	03/12/14	09/02/15	2055
Remote Aboriginal communities (Senator Siewert)	16/03/15	17/03/15	2299
Industrial relations—			
Hutchison Ports Australia—Termination of employees (Senators Cameron and Rhiannon)	10/08/15	11/08/15	2899
Hutchison Ports Australia—Termination of employees (Senators Lazarus and Rice)	10/08/15	11/08/15*	2900
Minimum wage and penalty rates—Productivity Commission inquiry (Senators Rice and Cameron)	03/03/15	04/03/15	2247
Workers’ rights (Senator O’Sullivan)	17/08/15	18/08/15	2975
Industry—			
Australian Energy Regulator (Senator Lazarus)	08/09/15	09/09/15	3071

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Australian steel industry (Senators Rhiannon, Madigan, Carr and Xenophon)	09/09/15	10/09/15*	3084
Liquefied natural gas projects (Senator O'Sullivan)	09/02/15	10/02/15	2118
New South Wales—Port Kembla steelworks (Senator Rhiannon)	17/08/15	18/08/15*	2974
Pacific Patrol Boats tender (Senator Brown)	17/08/15	18/08/15*	2973
Pacific Patrol Boats tender (Senator Lazarus)	10/08/15	11/08/15*	2901
Law and justice—			
Australian Human Rights Commission (Senators Collins, Hanson-Young, Lazarus, Wang and Lambie)	02/03/15	03/03/15	2226
Community legal centres—Funding (Senator Waters)	13/10/15	14/10/15*	3247
Crystal methamphetamine (Senators Canavan and Williams)	16/09/15	17/09/15	3154
Marriage equality (Senator Simms)	10/11/15	11/11/15	3360
Marriage equality legislation—Conscience vote (Senator Hanson-Young)	05/03/15	18/03/15	2322
New South Wales Aboriginal Legal Service—Phone hotline (Senator Siewert)	17/06/15	18/06/15	2713
Protection of northern coastline (Senator Lazarus)	01/12/15	02/12/15	3592
Regulation of firearms (Senator Muir)	12/08/15	13/08/15	2943
Tasmanian Aboriginal Legal Service—Funding (Senator Whish-Wilson)	17/06/15	18/06/15	2713
Use of police sniffer dogs (Senator O'Sullivan)	24/06/15	10/08/15	2883
Mining—			
Mining exports (Senator Canavan)	14/09/15	16/09/15	3136
Natural resource sector (Senator O'Sullivan)	12/02/15	02/03/15	2204
Queensland—Curtis Island Liquefied Natural Gas plant (Senator O'Sullivan)	17/06/15	18/06/15	2714
Thermal coal exports (Senators O'Sullivan and Canavan)	07/09/15	08/09/15	3055
Uranium export industry (Senator O'Sullivan)	05/03/15	17/03/15	2299
Politics—			
Australian republic (Senator Gallagher)	07/09/15	08/09/15	3055

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Primary industries—			
Australian beef industry (Senators O’Sullivan, Canavan and Williams)	18/06/15	10/08/15	2883
Australian sugar industry (Senator Lazarus)	18/08/15	19/08/15	2996
Beef industry (Senators Williams, Canavan, O’Sullivan, McKenzie and Day)	11/08/15	12/08/15	2921
Contribution of the agricultural sector (Senator O’Sullivan)	23/06/15	24/06/15	2801
Egg labelling (Senators Williams, O’Sullivan and Canavan)	17/06/15	18/06/15	2710
Farm safety and biosecurity (Senators Canavan, McKenzie and Williams)	25/11/15	26/11/15*	3499
Forestry Tasmania (Senator O’Sullivan)	03/03/15	04/03/15	2243
Genetically-modified crops (Senators Leyonhjelm, Wang and Day)	23/06/15	10/08/15*	2881
Grass-fed cattle levies (Senator Whish-Wilson)	18/08/15	19/08/15§	2996
Horticultural exports—Benefits of free trade agreements (Senator O’Sullivan)	22/06/15	23/06/15	2769
Kangaroo meat and hide industry (Senator O’Sullivan)	10/02/15	11/02/15	2144
Kangaroo meat and hide industry (Senator O’Sullivan)	02/03/15	03/03/15	2227
Kangaroo meat exports (Senator O’Sullivan)	26/03/15	12/05/15	2558
Live export trade (Senators O’Sullivan and Back)	17/03/15	18/03/15	2324
New South Wales—Environment and farming practices (Senator Williams)	13/05/15	14/05/15	2603
Queensland—Port Alma live cattle export facility (Senator Canavan)	12/10/15	13/10/15	3231
Shearing and wool industries (Senator Williams)	11/05/15	12/05/15*	2556
Sustainable forest industry (Senators O’Sullivan and Muir)	14/05/15	15/06/15	2645
Tasmanian specialty timber industry (Senators O’Sullivan, Colbeck and Bushby)	12/08/15	17/08/15	2960
Use of water from aquifers for farmland (Senator O’Sullivan)	18/03/15	19/03/15	2340
Victorian dairy industry (Senator O’Sullivan)	11/02/15	12/02/15	2164

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Regional Australia—			
Family-owned production enterprises (Senators O’Sullivan and Day)	19/03/15	24/03/15	2372
Northern Australia White Paper (Senator O’Sullivan)	10/08/15	11/08/15	2899
South Australian Country Fire Service (Senator Wright)	09/02/15	10/02/15	2118
Waltzing Matilda Centre—Fire (Senator Macdonald)	24/06/15	10/08/15	2884
Western Australia—Bushfires (Senators Smith, Cormann, Back, Johnston, Reynolds, Cash, Sterle, Ludlam, Bullock, Lines, Siewert and Wang)	24/11/15	25/11/15	3480
Wet Tropics—Yellow crazy ants (Senator Macdonald)	16/09/15	17/09/15*	3149
Science and technology—			
Solar Energy eXchange Initiative (Senator Rhiannon)	16/03/15	17/03/15	2301
South Australian Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission (Senator Day)	16/03/15	18/03/15	2323
Senate—			
Casual vacancies—New South Wales (Senator Wong)	25/03/15	26/03/15	2465
Minor party and independent senators (Senators Day, Leyonhjelm, Muir, Lazarus and Wang)	04/03/15	05/03/15	2261
Social issues—			
National Adoption Awareness Week (Senators Seselja, Lindgren, Abetz, Edwards, Bernardi, McKenzie, Bushby, Heffernan, Johnston, Reynolds, Fawcett, Macdonald, Canavan, Williams, Back, Day, Lambie, Lazarus, Leyonhjelm, Madigan, Xenophon, Wang, Bullock and Collins)	11/11/15	12/11/15	3377
Sport—			
Australian motorsport (Senator Muir)	16/09/15	17/09/15	3160
Cricket—Mr Michael Clarke (Senators Williams and Moore)	07/09/18	08/09/15	3051
Gender pay gap (Senators Waters and Moore)	22/06/15	23/06/15	2768

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Netball—Trans-Tasman ANZ Netball Championships (Senator Moore, Lindgren and Waters)	22/06/15	23/06/15	2768
Netball World Cup (Senators McKenzie, Wong, Fierravanti-Wells, Hanson-Young and Cash)	11/08/15	12/08/15	2922
Netball World Cup (Senators McKenzie, McAllister, Fierravanti-Wells, Cash and Siewert)	19/08/15	20/08/15	3013
Payment of female athletes (Senators Di Natale, McEwen and McLucas)	14/09/15	15/09/15	3121
Rugby league—North Queensland Cowboys (Senator Lazarus)	12/10/15	13/10/15*	3226
Rugby league—North Queensland Cowboys (Senators Macdonald and McLucas)	12/10/15	13/10/15	3226
Victoria—Duck hunting (Senators Leyonhjelm, Muir and McKenzie)	25/03/15	26/03/15	2474
Women's cricket (Senators Moore, Peris, McKenzie and Waters)	16/09/15	17/09/15	3150
Taxation—			
Corporate tax avoidance (Senator Milne)	03/12/14	09/02/15	2057
Fuel duty rates (Senator Leyonhjelm)	11/05/15	12/05/15	2557
GST distribution (Senator Wang)	13/10/15	14/10/15	3247
Trade—			
China—Tariffs on coal (Senator Canavan)	17/09/15	12/10/15	3198
Free trade agreements—Benefits for agricultural sector (Senator O'Sullivan)	11/08/15	12/08/15*	2921
Israel (Senator Day)	24/11/15	25/11/15*	3479
Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (Senator Whish-Wilson)	25/03/15	26/03/15*	2471
Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (Senators Xenophon, Lazarus, Muir and Whish-Wilson)	12/10/15	13/10/15	3239
Transport—			
Cyclist safety (Senator Rice)	04/03/15	05/03/15	2261
Infrastructure funding (Senator Canavan)	13/10/15	14/10/15	3247
Motorcycle safety (Senators Leyonhjelm, Wang and Day)	17/06/15	18/06/15	2710
New South Wales—Newcastle heavy rail line (Senator Rhiannon)	14/09/15	15/09/15	3121
Qantas Group (Senator Back)	09/09/15	10/09/15	3089

Subject	Notice given	Agreed to	Journals page
Taxi and ride-sharing services (Senator Lazarus)	12/10/15	13/10/15	3227
Victoria—Port Rail Shuttle project (Senator Rice)	11/11/15	12/11/15	3381
Victoria—Rail and road infrastructure (Senator Muir)	09/11/15	25/11/15	3482
Western Australia—Perth light rail network (Senator Ludlam)	18/03/15	19/03/15*	2341
Women—			
40th anniversary of Brisbane Women’s House (Senators Waters and Moore)	09/11/15	10/11/15	3337
Day of the Girl (Senator Moore)	12/10/15	13/10/15	3225
Domestic violence (Senators Lazarus and Moore)	14/09/15	15/09/15	3122
Domestic violence—Affordable housing (Senator Lines)	16/09/15	17/09/15	3148
International Women’s Day (Senators Cash, Moore and Waters)	02/03/15	03/03/15	2223
Parramatta Female Factory Precinct (Senator Rhiannon)	15/09/15	16/09/15	3136
Prevention of family and domestic violence (Senators Moore, Waters and Cash)	10/11/15	11/11/15	3356
Violence against women (Senators Moore, Cash, Lines and Waters)	24/11/15	25/11/15	3481

* Moved or agreed to in an amended form

Motion moved by leave

§ Negatived, then agreed to after being put again, by leave

3.7 Condolence motions

Condolence motions are moved as a mark of respect on the death of current or former senators and members, and soldiers who lose their lives in the service of Australia. They are also moved on the occasion of significant events involving the loss of Australian lives, such as the Bali terrorist attacks in 2002.

Number of condolence motions passed **8**

9 February 2015	The Honourable Keppel (Kep) Earl Enderby, QC Former Member and Minister Moved by Senator Abetz
9 February 2015	The Honourable Thomas (Tom) Uren, AC Former Member and Minister Moved by Senator Abetz
23 March 2015	The Right Honourable John Malcolm Fraser, AC, CH Former Prime Minister Moved by Senator Abetz Sitting adjourned as a mark of respect
24 March 2015	Lee Kuan Yew, GCMG, CH Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore Moved by Senator Abetz
12 May 2015	The Honourable Peter Alexander Walsh, AO Former Senator and Minister Moved by Senator Abetz
12 May 2015	The Honourable Michael John Randal MacKellar, AM Former Member and Minister Moved by Senator Abetz
15 June 2015	The Honourable Leslie Royston Johnson, AM Former Member and Minister Moved by Senator Brandis
11 August 2015	John Peter Sim, CBE Former Senator Moved by Senator Fifield

3.8 Censure motions

While ministers are neither appointed nor removed by the Senate, they are accountable to it. If there is dissatisfaction with the performance of a particular minister, a censure motion may be moved.

Although a resolution of the Senate censuring the government or a minister can have no direct constitutional or legal consequences, as an expression of the Senate's disapproval of actions or policies they may have significant political impact.

Number of censure motions proposed

1

Subject	Date	Journals page
Attorney-General Comments made by the Attorney-General about the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission, Professor Gillian Triggs Debated and agreed to (division)	02/03/15	2192

3.9 Orders for the production of documents

The power to require the production of information is one of the most significant powers available to a legislature to enable it to carry out its functions of scrutinising legislation and the performance of the executive arm of government.

Orders for the production of documents most frequently require the tabling of documents in the possession of ministers, government departments and agencies, although occasionally an order may require the creation of a document. The order will generally describe the documents sought and specify a date for their tabling.

For more information, see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 12 – Orders for Production of Documents*.

Number of orders for the production of documents agreed to **30**

Orders for the production of documents:

Administration—Australian Public Service—Training for estimates hearings

All documents held by the Government in relation to any training since 1 January 2013 undertaken by public servants as preparation to appear before Senate estimates committees.

Order made: 30 November 2015 (Senator Rhiannon)

For tabling: 3 February 2016

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Administration—Gosford waterfront—Building contracts

Any documents recording contacts between the Commonwealth and the New South Wales State Government, Gosford City Council, the Central Coast Regional Development Corporation, the Doma Group and other tenderers in relation to the proposed Australian Taxation Office building development in Gosford.

Order made: 26 November 2015 (Senator O'Neill)

For tabling: 30 November 2015

Document tabled: 30 November 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Communications—NBN Co Limited

Documents in relation to NBN Co Limited and its *Corporate Plan 2016*.

Order made: 17 September 2015 (Senator Conroy)

For tabling: 12 October 2015

Documents tabled: 12 October 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Communications—NBN corporate plans and strategic review

Complete and unredacted copies of the NBN Corporate Plan 2015-18, and the NBN Co Corporate Plan 2014-17 and its Strategic Review.

Order made: 17 June 2015 (Senator McAllister)

For tabling: 18 June 2015

Documents tabled: 18 June 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Defence—Departments of Veterans' Affairs—2014 Client Services Survey

Information relating to the 2014 Client Services Survey conducted by ORIMA Research for the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Order made: 17 September 2015 (Senator Lambie)

For tabling: 12 October 2015

Document tabled: 12 October 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Economics—Intergenerational Report

A copy of the Intergenerational Report which was due to be publicly released on 1 February 2015.

Order made: 10 February 2015 (Senator Milne)

For tabling: 11 February 2015

Document tabled: 5 March 2015

Education—Disability Support Program review

Any reports resulting from the review of the Disability Support Program conducted by KPMG on behalf of the Department of Education and Training.

Order made: 15 October 2015 (Senator Carr)

For tabling: 15 October 2015

Documents tabled: 15 October 2015

Education—Higher education reforms—Modelling and costings

Documents held by the Government in relation to the modelling or costings of impacts of the Government's proposed changes to higher education or funding for students, universities or other related changes regarding higher education not previously provided to the Senate.

Order made: 12 August 2015 (Senator Rhiannon)

For tabling: 19 August 2015

Document tabled: 19 August 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Education—Nous Group contract

A contract between Nous Group and the Department of Education and Training, a redacted copy of the report delivered under the contract and other associated documentation.

Order made: 15 October 2015 (Senators Carr, Lambie, Lazarus and Siewert)

For tabling: 15 October 2015

Documents tabled/presented, respectively: 15 and 21 October 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Education and Employment Legislation Committee—Budget Estimates 2014-15 (Supplementary)—Questions on notice

A copy of complete answers to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-15 question on notice EM1529 15, EM1521 15 and EM1555 15.

Order made: 10 February 2015 (Senator Cameron)

For tabling: 12 February 2015

Document tabled: 12 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Environment—Marine reserves

Documents relating to the issuing, from August 2013 to date, of exploration licences and special prospecting authorities in the 40 new marine reserves declared in 2012.

Order made: 16 June 2015 (Senator Lazarus)

For tabling: 24 June 2015

Documents tabled: 24 June 2015

Family and community services—Centrepay Policy and Terms

All documents produced in relation to the Centrepay Policy and Terms which came into force on 1 July 2015.

Order made: 9 September 2015 (Senator Cameron)

For tabling: 14 September 2015

Documents tabled: 14 and 17 September 2015

Family and community services—Childcare Assistance Package

Documents relating to the Childcare Assistance Package and childcare reform package.

Order made: 2 December 2015 (Senator Xenophon)

For tabling: 8 December 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Health—Food Standards Australia New Zealand

Advice received by Food Standards Australia New Zealand relating to the interpretation of the Food Standards Code, and the contract and terms of reference for a report from an expert.

Order made: 15 October 2015 (Senator Siewert)

For tabling: 22 October 2015

Documents presented: 22 October 2015

Health—Genetically-modified foods—Advice

Advice generated by the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator stating that crops developed using EXZACT Delete technology would not contain introduced foreign nucleic acid, once the ZFN genes are no longer present, and would not be considered GMO and therefore not subject to regulation under the *Gene Technology Act 2000*.

Order made: 12 May 2015 (Senator Siewert)

For tabling: 14 May 2015

Document tabled: 14 May 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Health—National Mental Health Commission—Mental Health review

A copy of the preliminary and interim reports of the National Mental Health Commission in relation to its Mental Health review.

Order made: 9 February 2015 (Senator McLucas)

For tabling: 11 February 2015

Document tabled: 11 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Health—National Mental Health Commission—Mental Health review

A copy of the preliminary, interim and final reports of the National Mental Health Commission in relation to its Mental Health review.

Order made: 12 February 2015 (Senator McLucas)

For tabling: 12 February 2015

Document tabled: 12 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Health—National Mental Health Commission—Mental Health review

A copy of the preliminary, interim and final reports of the National Mental Health Commission in relation to its Mental Health review.

Order made: 3 March 2015 (Senator McLucas)

For tabling: 4 March 2015

Document tabled: 4 March 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Immigration—Asylum seekers—Nauru processing centre

A copy of the completed ‘review into recent allegations relating to conditions and circumstances at the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru’.

Order made: 10 February 2015 (Senator Hanson-Young)

For tabling: 11 February 2015

Document tabled: 11 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Immigration—Asylum seekers—Payments from Commonwealth officers

Documents relating to payments from Commonwealth officers to persons on board vessels en route to Australia.

Order made: 16 June 2015 (Senator Hanson-Young)

For tabling: 17 June 2015

Documents tabled: 17 June 2015

Motion moved: 22 June 2015 relating to the Minister’s failure to comply with the order of the Senate

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Industry—Automotive Transformation Scheme

Any correspondence since 1 July 2014 between ministers and the Prime Minister regarding the Automotive Transformation Scheme.

Order made: 17 March 2015 (Senators Xenophon, Carr, Madigan, Muir and Wright)

For tabling: 23 March 2015

Document tabled: 17 March 2015

Motion moved: 26 March 2015 ordering the Minister to comply with the order of the Senate of 17 March 2015 by 12 May 2015

Document presented: 22 April 2015; *document tabled:* 11 May 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Law and justice—Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979—Report for 2013-14

A copy of the report on the operation of the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979* for the year ended 30 June 2014.

Order made: 17 March 2015 (Senator Ludlam)

For tabling: 19 March 2015

Document presented: 20 March 2015; *documents tabled:* 23 March, and 17 June 2015

Politics—Coalition Agreement

The Coalition Agreement and related side letter between the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister.

Order made: 17 September 2015 (Senator Wong)

For tabling: 17 September 2015

Document tabled: 17 September 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Primary industries—Rural Industries Development Corporation—Kangaroo management

The report *Characterising the Australian public and communicating about kangaroo management*.

Order made: 17 June 2015 (Senator Rhiannon)

For tabling: 18 June 2015

Documents tabled: 18 June 2015

Social issues—Homelessness and affordable housing commitments

A statement to the Senate clarifying the Government's commitment to homelessness and affordable housing.

Order made: 10 February 2015 (Senators Ludlam and McLucas)

For tabling: 11 February 2015

Document tabled: 11 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Transport—New South Wales—WestConnex motorway project

Documents relating to the WestConnex road project not previously provided to the Senate.

Order made: 18 March 2015 (Senator Rhiannon)

For tabling: 25 March 2015

Documents tabled: 25 March 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Transport—North Star Cruises—Briefing materials and correspondence

All briefing materials or correspondence concerning meetings of Mr Bill Milby of North Star Cruises with officials from the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development on 20 May and 16 June 2015.

Order made: 15 September 2015 (Senator Conroy)

For tabling: 17 September 2015

Documents tabled: 17 September 2015

Transport—Western Australia—Perth Freight Link

Certain documents held or prepared by Infrastructure Australia in relation to the Perth Freight Link.

Order made: 10 August 2015 (Senator Ludlam)

For tabling: 11 August 2015

Documents tabled: 11 August 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Transport—Western Australia—Perth Freight Link

Documents in relation to the Perth Freight Link project which are not publicly available.

Order made: 12 November 2015 (Senators Ludlam and Sterle)

For tabling: 23 November 2015

Documents tabled: 23 November 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Transport—Western Australia—Roe 8 Extension and Perth Freight Link

Documents in relation to the Roe 8 Extension and the Perth Freight Link assessment process.

Order made: 11 August 2015 (Senator Ludlam)

For tabling: 12 August 2015

Documents tabled: 12 and 18 August 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Documents tabled pursuant to existing orders:

Administration—NBN Co Corporate Plan

A copy of the NBN Co Corporate Plan 2014-17.

Order made: 29 October 2014 (Senator Conroy)

For tabling: 24 November 2014

Documents tabled: 17 November 2014 and 18 June 2015

Defence—Air Warfare Destroyer program

Documents/information in relation to the report of the independent review into the performance of the Hobart Class Air Warfare Destroyer Program.

Order made: 2 December 2014 (Senator Xenophon)

For tabling: 3 December 2014

Document presented: 5 December 2014; *document tabled:* 9 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Education—Students with disability—Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

Reports in relation to the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on students with disability.

Order made: 3 December 2014 (Senator Wright)

For tabling: 8 February 2015

Document tabled: 11 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Family and community services—Child care and early childhood learning

A copy of the final report of the Productivity Commission’s inquiry into child care and early childhood learning.

Order made: 3 December 2014 (Senator Hanson-Young)

For tabling: 4 December 2014

Document presented: 5 December 2014; *document tabled:* 9 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Law and justice—Data retention—Cost estimates

A copy of the PricewaterhouseCoopers study or findings in relation to the cost estimates for the Government’s data retention policy, and a timeline in relation to that process.

Order made: 3 December 2014 (Senator Ludlam)

For tabling: 4 December 2014

Document presented: 5 December 2014; *document tabled:* 9 February 2015

Order remains current and on the *Notice Paper*

Documents tabled pursuant to orders with continuing effect:

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies

A list of all appointments made by the Government and existing vacancies to statutory authorities, executive agencies, advisory boards, government business enterprises and all other Commonwealth bodies.

Order made: 24 June 2008 (Senator Minchin) (varied 12 May 2009)

For tabling: By not later than 7 days before the commencement of the budget estimates, supplementary budget estimates and additional estimates hearings

Documents presented/taled: 9, 10 and 11 February, 2 March, 13 and 14 May, 15 June, 7 September, and 12, 13, 14 and 15 October and 9 November 2015

Order remains current

Departmental and agency grants

A list of all grants approved in each portfolio or agency, including the value of the grant, recipient of the grant and the program from which the grant was made.

Order made: 24 June 2008 (Senator Minchin)

For tabling: By not later than 7 days before the commencement of the budget estimates, supplementary budget estimates and additional estimates hearings

Documents presented/taled: 10 and 11 February, 2 March, 11, 13 and 14 May, 15 June, and 12, 13, 14 and 15 October and 9 November 2015

Order remains current

Entity contracts

List of entity contracts.

Order made: 20 June 2001 (varied 27 September 2001, 18 and 26 June, 4 December 2003 and 14 May 2015)

For tabling: not later than 30 September each year

Documents tabled: 10 February, 2, 3, 4 and 16 March, 20 August, 7, 8 and 15 September and 12 October 2015

Order remains current

Estimates hearings—Unanswered questions on notice

A statement in relation to questions taken on notice during the previous round of estimates hearings.

Order made: 25 June 2014 (Senator Wong)

For tabling: by not later than 10 days before the commencement of the budget estimates, supplementary budget estimates and additional estimates hearings

Documents presented/taled: 9, 10 and 11 February, 2 March, 11, 12, 13 and 14 May, 15 June, 10 and 18 August, 7, 8, 14, 15 and 17 September, and 12, 13, 14 and 15 October and 9 November 2015

Order remains current

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files

Indexed lists of files of government departments and agencies.

Order made: 30 May 1996 (varied 3 December 1998)

For tabling: by the tenth day of the autumn and spring sittings each year or statements of compliance that such indexed lists of files have been placed on the Internet

Documents tabled: 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 17, 19, 23, 24 and 26 March, 11 May, and 11, 13, 19 and 20 August, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14 September and 12 October 2015

Order remains current

Health insurance—Anti-competitive practices

Assessment reports by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on anti-competitive health cover practices.

Order made: 25 March 1999 (varied 18 September 2002)

For tabling: at the end of each period of 12 months ending on or after June 2003

Document presented: 20 October 2015

Order remains current

Unproclaimed legislation—Document—Standing order 139(2)

Document providing details of all provisions of Acts which come into effect on proclamation and which have not been proclaimed, including statements of reasons for their non-proclamation and information relating to the timetable for their operation, as at 1 August 2015.

Document tabled: 13 August 2015

3.10 Government responses to committee reports

Governments give careful consideration to Senate committee reports and may act on their recommendations. Successive governments have undertaken to inform the Senate of their responses to committee reports within a particular period.

The President reports to the Senate twice a year on those responses which are outstanding.

For more information on the role of committees see *Senate Briefs No. 4 – Senate Committees*.

Number of government responses to committee reports tabled 42

Community Affairs References Committee

Impacts on health of air quality in Australia—Report presented 16 August 2013, tabled 12 November 2013

Response presented 21 May 2015

Involuntary or coerced sterilisation of intersex people in Australia—Report presented 25 October 2013, tabled 12 November 2013

Involuntary or coerced sterilisation of people with disabilities in Australia—Report presented 25 October 2013, tabled 12 November 2013

Response tabled 17 June 2015

Economics References Committee

Future of Australia's naval shipbuilding industry: Tender process for the navy's new supply ships (part 1)—Report tabled 27 August 2014

Response presented 7 May 2015

Privatisation of state and territory assets and new infrastructure—Report tabled 19 March 2015

Response presented 1 September 2015

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Performance, importance and role of Australia Post in Australian communities and its operations in relation to licensed post offices—Report tabled 24 September 2014

Response tabled 2 December 2015

Environment and Communications References Committee

Environmental offsets—Report tabled 26 June 2014

Response tabled 10 February 2015

Recent trends in and preparedness for extreme weather events—Report presented 7 August 2013, tabled 12 November 2013
Response presented 3 August 2015

The koala – saving our national icon—Report tabled 22 September 2011
Response presented 17 December 2014, tabled 9 February 2015

Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Commonwealth procurement procedures—Report tabled 17 July 2014
Response presented 30 April 2015

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee

Australia's trade and investment relationship with Japan and the Republic of Korea—Report tabled 17 June 2013
Response tabled 17 March 2015

Review of the Defence annual report 2012-13—Report tabled 28 October 2014
Response tabled 16 June 2015

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Implementation of the *Defence Trade Controls Act 2012*—Progress report no. 2—
Report tabled 14 May 2014
Response tabled 18 August 2015

Implementation of the *Defence Trade Controls Act 2012*—Progress report no. 3—
Report tabled 18 March 2015
Response tabled 18 August 2015

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement—Report tabled 1 October 2014
Response presented 23 February 2015

Processes to support victims of abuse in Defence—Report presented 31 October 2014; tabled 17 November 2014
Response tabled 16 June 2015

Intelligence and Security—Joint Statutory Committee

Potential reforms of Australia's national security legislation: Chapters 2 and 3—
Report tabled 24 June 2013
Response presented 1 July 2015

Review of administration and expenditure no. 11 and no. 12—Australian intelligence agencies—Report tabled 22 September 2014
Response tabled 12 November 2015

Review of the declaration of al-Raqqa province, Syria—Report tabled 19 March 2015

Response presented 23 July 2015

Review of the declaration of Mosul District, Ninewa Province, Iraq—Report tabled 16 June 2015

Response presented 23 July 2015

Review of the listing of Boko Haram; Review of the re-listing of the Islamic State—Report tabled 22 September 2014

Response tabled 12 May 2015

Review of the listing of Al-Murabitun—Report presented 16 December 2014; tabled 9 February 2015

Response tabled 12 May 2015

Review of the re-listing of Ansar al-Islam, Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, Lashkar-e Jhangvi and Jaish-e-Mohammad—Report tabled 16 June 2015

Review of the re-listing of Hizballah's External Security Organisation—Report tabled 23 June 2015

Response tabled 10 November 2015

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment (Classification Tools and Other Measures) Bill 2014—Report tabled 27 August 2014

Response tabled 8 September 2015

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee

Current investigative processes and powers of the Australian Federal Police in relation to non-criminal matters—Report tabled 15 May 2014

Response tabled 10 February 2015

Incident at the Manus Island Detention Centre from 16 February to 18 February 2014—

Interim report presented 5 December 2014, tabled 9 February 2015

Response tabled 14 May 2015

Report presented 11 December 2014, tabled 9 February 2015

Response tabled 14 May 2015

National Broadband Network—Select Committee

Second interim report—Tabled 19 March 2015

Response presented 19 June 2015

National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee

Same country: different world – The future of Norfolk Island—Report tabled 28 October 2014

Response tabled 19 March 2015

Visit to the Indian Ocean Territories 21 October to 25 October 2012; Review of the Department of Regional Development, Regional Australia and Local Government annual report 2010-11—Report tabled 28 June 2013

Response tabled 10 February 2015

National Disability Insurance Scheme—Joint Standing Committee

Implementation and administration of the National Disability Insurance Scheme—Progress report presented 29 July 2014, tabled 26 August 2014

Response tabled 3 March 2015

Northern Australia—Joint Select Committee

Pivot north: Inquiry into the development of northern Australia—Final report tabled 4 September 2014

Response tabled 10 February 2015

Parliamentary committee reports

Schedule of government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports—Tabled by the President of the Senate 4 December 2014

Response tabled 24 June 2015

Schedule of government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports—Tabled by the President of the Senate 24 June 2015

Response tabled 1 December 2015

Public Accounts—Joint Statutory Committee

Review of the operations of the Parliamentary Budget Office—Report tabled 2 December 2014

Response tabled 23 June 2015

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Auditor-General's reports on Tasmanian forestry grants programs—Report tabled 19 June 2013

Response presented 22 April 2015

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—Final report presented 31 March 2014, tabled 13 May 2014

Response tabled 20 August 2015

Future of the beekeeping and pollination service industries in Australia—
Report tabled 16 July 2014
Response tabled 3 March 2015

Industry structures and systems governing levies on grass-fed cattle—Report
presented 9 September 2014, tabled 22 September 2014
Response presented 15 July 2015

Operational issues in export grain networks—Report presented 16 April 2012,
tabled 10 May 2012
Response presented 8 May 2015

Role of public transport in delivering productivity outcomes—Report presented
5 December 2014, tabled 9 February 2015
Response tabled 24 March 2015

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee

149th report—Treaty tabled on 10 February 2015—Report tabled 17 June 2015
Response tabled 11 November 2015

151st report—Treaty tabled on 28 October 2014—Report tabled 9 September 2015
Response tabled 11 November 2015

3.11 Petitions

Individuals and organisations may seek to have petitions presented to the Parliament. Petitions generally express views on matters of public policy and ask the Senate or the Parliament to take - or, in some cases, *not* to take - a particular course of action.

For more information see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 7 – Petitions*.

Number of petitions	25
Number of signatories	56 913

Subject	Petitions	Signatories
Animal welfare—Shark culling	1	6 296
Australian flag	1	5
Children—Healthy Kids Check	1	441
Communications—Australia Post	2	2 410
Communications—Internet services for Beveridge, Wallan	1	395
Communications—National Broadband Network in Howden, Tasmania	1	364
Defence—Military spending	1	760
Education—Higher education reforms	1	1 453
Family and community services—Early childhood care	2	15 345
Family and community services—Paid parental leave	1	478
Family and community services—Social security	1	288
Immigration—Asylum seeker children	1	2 550
Immigration—Trans-Tasman travel arrangement	1	18 052
Regional Australia—Drought assistance	1	110
Senate—Censure of the former Minister for Defence	1	1
Social issues—Definition of marriage	7	734
Taxation—Tax avoidance	1	7 231

3.12 Questions

Questions without notice

Questions asked of ministers in the Senate at question time are asked *without notice*, although a senator may informally advise a minister of the subject of a proposed question.

	2013	2014	2015
Australian Greens	137	261	261
Australian Labor Party	312	792	765
Australian Motoring Enthusiast Party	—	6	24
Coalition (Liberal Party and The Nationals)	469	762	777
Family First Party	—	15	21
Independent (Senator Lambie)	—	3	21
Independent (Senator Lazarus)	—	—	21
Democratic Labour Party/Independent (Senator Madigan)*	27	30	24
Independent (Senator Xenophon)	33	30	21
Liberal Democratic Party	—	15	24
Palmer United Party	—	48	24
Total	978	1962	1983

* Senator Madigan resigned from the DLP on 4 September 2014

Questions on notice

Where a senator seeks a detailed response, particularly where statistical information is sought, that question is more appropriately submitted in written form and placed *on notice*. A senator who places a question on notice and does not receive a reply within 30 days may seek from the relevant minister in the Senate an explanation as to why an answer has not been provided. There is no limit to the number of questions a senator may place on notice.

	2013	2014	2015
Australian Greens	95	140	90
Australian Labor Party	53	1344	988
Coalition	302	11	21
Independent (Senator Lambie)	—	29	103
Independent (Senator Xenophon)	—	—	81
Total	450	1524	1283

For further information about questions, see *Brief Guide to Senate Procedure No. 6 – Questions* and *Senate Brief No. 12 – Questions*. Further statistics about questions on notice are available in the [Questions on Notice Summary](#)

3.13 Attendance of senators

This table lists the attendance of senators in the Senate chamber on sitting days in 2015. Under section 20 of the Constitution, senators can lose their places if they fail to attend the Senate for two consecutive months without permission. A senator can be granted leave of absence with the consent of the chamber. Senators who are absent without the Senate’s approval are shown as “Absent without leave”.

Period: 1 January to 31 December 2015

Sitting days: 60

Senator	Days present	Absent without leave	Absent with leave	Senator	Days present	Absent without leave	Absent with leave
Abetz	48	1	11	Madigan	60	0	0
Back	60	0	0	Marshall	60	0	0
Bernardi	60	0	0	Mason ⁴	16	0	0
Bilyk	52	0	8	McAllister ⁵	44	0	0
Birmingham	60	0	0	McEwen	52	0	8
Brandis	60	0	0	McGrath	58	0	2
Brown	54	0	6	McKenzie	60	0	0
Bullock	59	0	1	McKim ⁶	25	0	0
Bushby	60	0	0	McLucas	56	0	4
Cameron	59	0	1	Milne ⁷	28	0	0
Canavan	60	0	0	Moore	60	0	0
Carr	60	0	0	Muir	60	0	0
Cash	52	2	6	Nash	55	1	4
Colbeck	58	0	2	O’Neill	60	0	0
Collins	60	0	0	O’Sullivan	40	0	20
Conroy	54	1	5	Parry	60	0	0
Cormann	53	1	6	Payne	56	0	4
Dastyari	58	1	1	Peris	55	1	4
Day	56	0	4	Polley	56	0	4
Di Natale	60	0	0	Reynolds	57	0	3
Edwards	58	1	1	Rhiannon	60	0	0
Fawcett	58	0	2	Rice	60	0	0
Fierravanti-Wells	59	1	0	Ronaldson	58	1	1
Fifield	60	0	0	Ruston	59	1	0
Gallacher	59	0	1	Ryan	59	1	0
Gallagher ¹	45	0	0	Scullion	58	2	0
Hanson-Young	60	0	0	Seselja	60	0	0
Heffernan	58	1	1	Siewert	60	0	0
Johnston	59	1	0	Simms ⁸	16	0	0
Ketter	58	0	2	Singh	56	0	4
Lambie	57	2	1	Sinodinos	60	0	0
Lazarus	60	0	0	Smith	52	0	8
Leyonhjelm	60	0	0	Sterle	55	1	4
Lindgren ²	40	0	0	Urquhart	60	0	0
Lines	59	0	1	Wang	59	0	1
Ludlam	57	0	3	Waters	56	0	4
Ludwig	58	0	2	Whish-Wilson	60	0	0
Lundy ³	14	0	0	Williams	60	0	0
Macdonald	54	1	5	Wong	60	0	0

Wright ⁹	36	0	3	Xenophon	59	1	0
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- 1 Term commenced 25 March 2015; sworn in 26 March 2015.
- 2 Term commenced 21 May 2015; sworn in 15 June 2015.
- 3 Resigned 24 March 2015.
- 4 Resigned 15 April 2015.
- 5 Term commenced 6 May 2015; sworn in 11 May 2015.
- 6 Term commenced on 19 August 2015; sworn in 20 August 2015.
- 7 Resigned 10 August 2015.
- 8 Term commenced on 22 September 2015; sworn in 12 October 2015.
- 9 Resigned on 10 September 2015.

3.14 Attendance of senators in divisions

The voting statistics do not reflect absences as a result of pairing arrangements or leave. Pairing is an unofficial arrangement between the parties, details of which are indicated in the *Hansard*, adjacent to the relevant division.

Divisions:

Divisions in the Senate	195
Divisions in committee of the whole	85
Total	280

Senator	Senate	Committee		Senator	Senate	Committee
Abetz	59	19		Madigan	140	57
Back	173	72		Marshall	110	51
Bernardi	140	57		Mason ⁴	43	13
Bilyk	99	45		McAllister ⁵	125	53
Birmingham	128	55		McEwen	161	55
Brandis	40	25		McGrath	183	78
Brown	99	56		McKenzie	186	82
Bullock	187	82		McKim ⁶	76	39
Bushby	193	80		McLucas	158	66
Cameron	153	66		Milne ⁷	99	38
Canavan	169	76		Moore	191	83
Carr	94	52		Muir	164	79
Cash	116	41		Nash	116	48
Colbeck	153	64		O'Neill	171	68
Collins	118	46		O'Sullivan	115	38
Conroy	89	32		Parry	116	41
Cormann	36	29		Payne	90	33
Dastyari	139	56		Peris	164	59
Day	153	52		Polley	115	53
Di Natale	189	84		Reynolds	165	67
Edwards	169	75		Rhiannon	194	84
Fawcett	167	72		Rice	194	85
Fierravanti-Wells	125	44		Ronaldson	131	47
Fifield	170	56		Ruston	176	76
Gallacher	182	65		Ryan	144	51
Gallagher ¹	129	61		Scullion	85	39
Hanson-Young	195	85		Seselja	136	50
Heffernan	100	41		Siewert	195	83
Johnston	124	48		Simms ⁸	54	35
Ketter	171	69		Singh	150	68
Lambie	146	55		Sinodinos	135	55
Lazarus	175	75		Smith	166	63
Leyonhjelm	171	69		Sterle	147	59
Lindgren ²	131	60		Urquhart	158	67
Lines	157	79		Wang	165	77
Ludlam	187	81		Waters	181	74
Ludwig	168	63		Whish-Wilson	195	85
Lundy ³	25	7		Williams	162	73
Macdonald	144	58		Wong	41	19

Wright ⁹	122	46		Xenophon	133	63
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- 1 Term commenced 25 March 2015; sworn in 26 March 2015.
- 2 Term commenced 21 May 2015; sworn in 15 June 2015.
- 3 Resigned 24 March 2015.
- 4 Resigned 15 April 2015.
- 5 Term commenced 6 May 2015; sworn in 11 May 2015.
- 6 Term commenced on 19 August 2015; sworn in 20 August 2015.
- 7 Resigned 10 August 2015.
- 8 Term commenced on 22 September 2015; sworn in 12 October 2015.
- 9 Resigned on 10 September 2015.