



# Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 3 March 2014

The Senate met from 10 am until 10.27 pm

## Legislation

---

[Bills and related documents](#)

### Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Amendment (Dairy Produce) Bill 2014 [passed by the House of Representatives on 26 February 2014] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Tax Bonus for Working Australians Repeal Bill 2013 [passed by the House of Representatives on 24 February 2014] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]

The following bill was debated and defeated

Climate Change Authority (Abolition) Bill 2013—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]; 1 Opposition second reading amendment was agreed to [expressing views about the policy of the bill]—[defeated](#) at the second reading

The following bills were debated

Clean Energy Legislation (Carbon Tax Repeal) Bill 2013 and 8 related bills—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]—Australian Greens second reading amendment to be determined

Private senator's bill to be debated

On 14 November 2013 the Senate agreed to a temporary order allowing private senators' bills to be considered on Thursdays. On 6 March 2014 the Landholders' Right to Refuse (Gas and Coal) Bill 2013 is scheduled for debate

### [Notice of motion](#) to introduce a bill

Native Title Amendment (Reform) Bill 2014—notice given by Senator Siewert

## Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

### Reports presented out of sitting

- Abbott Government's Commission of Audit Select Committee [\[interim report\]](#)
- Community Affairs References Committee—Care and management of younger and older Australians living with dementia and behavioural and psychiatric symptoms of dementia (BPSD) [\[second interim report\]](#)
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—Public interest immunity claim [\[interim report\]](#)
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—
  - Effect on Australian ginger growers of importing fresh ginger from Fiji [\[Fourth interim report\]](#)
  - Effect on Australian pineapple growers of importing fresh pineapples from Malaysia [\[Fifth interim report\]](#)
  - Proposed importation of potatoes from New Zealand [\[Fourth interim report\]](#)

### Document tabled

- Electoral Matters Joint Committee—Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Above the Line Voting) Bill 2013 [a [motion](#) to take note of the document was agreed to]

### Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Community Affairs References Committee—Care and management of younger and older Australians living with dementia and behavioural and psychiatric symptoms of dementia—to report by 19 March 2014
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—Migration Amendment (Regaining Control Over Australia's Protection Obligations) Bill 2013—to report by 18 March 2014
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—A public interest immunity claim—to report by 6 March 2014
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—
  - Effect on Australian ginger growers of importing fresh ginger from Fiji—to report by 31 March 2014
  - Effect on Australian pineapple growers of importing fresh pineapples from Malaysia—to report by 31 March 2014
  - Proposed importation of potatoes from New Zealand—to report by 31 March 2014

### [Notices of motion](#)

- Privileges Committee—152nd report—Endorse the conclusion, and adopt the recommendation contained, in the report—notice given by the Chair of the Privileges Committee (Senator Collins)

- To authorise the publication of unpublished documents provided to the former Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee by Fair Work Australia—notice given by Senator Fierravanti-Wells

### To extend reporting deadline

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—Criminal Code Amendment (Harming Australians) Bill 2013—to report by 28 May 2014

### To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Electoral Matters Joint Committee—5, 19 and 26 March 2014 from 9.40 am—public meetings
- Environment and Communications Legislation Committee—4 March 2014—public meeting
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—5 March 2014—private meeting
- National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee—6, 20 and 27 March 2014—private meetings

### To refer matters to committees

- Environment and Communications References Committee—Use of environmental offsets in federal environmental approvals in Australia—to report by 16 June 2014—notice given by Senator Waters
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—
  - Financial performance of Qantas—to report by 26 June 2014—notice given by Senator Xenophon
  - Government support for Qantas—to report by 18 March 2014—notice given by Senator Rhiannon

## Membership

A [message](#) was received from the House of Representatives notifying changes in the membership of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit and the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

The Senate agreed to [various](#) changes to committee membership

## Documents

---

### Delegated legislation

See [Disallowance Alert](#) for a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

[Clerk's documents](#) were tabled [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]

## Orders for the production of documents

### Documents tabled

- A [document](#) relating to funding for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 13 February 2014]
- A [document](#) relating to Government assistance to SPC Ardmona [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 12 February 2014]
- A [document](#) relating to lifeboats for the purpose of border protection operations [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 12 February 2014]
- [Documents](#) relating to Operation Sovereign Borders [The documents were tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 13 February 2014]
- [Documents](#) relating to the Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement [The documents were tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 13 February 2014]

### Notices of motion

The following [notices of motion](#) were given requiring Ministers to table documents:

- The Assistant Minister for Health to table correspondence from Mr Furnival to the Minister pertaining to potential conflicts of interest for ministerial staff—no later than 12.45 pm on 5 March 2014
- The Minister for Finance to table documents received from the National Commission of Audit—no later than noon on 17 March 2014—notice given by Senator Di Natale

### Orders with continuing effect

#### *Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies*

[Letters of advice](#) for various portfolios were tabled [Lists of appointments made and existing vacancies are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

#### *Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet*

Letters of advice for various portfolios were tabled [Journals entries [32](#) and [47](#) refers] [Letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies are required to be tabled twice a year]

#### *Departmental and agency grants*

Letters of advice for various portfolios were tabled [Journals entries [34](#) and [48](#) refers] [Lists of all grants approved are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

#### *Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet*

[Statements of compliance](#) were tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

### Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit report](#) no. 20 of 2013-14
- [Business of the Senate](#): 1 January to 31 December 2013
- [Government documents](#)
- [Orders](#) from the Court of Disputed Returns – Disposing of election petitions in respect of the election of senators for the state of Western Australia

- [Original certificate](#) of the choice by the Queensland Parliament of Senator O’Sullivan
- [Report of the Australian parliamentary delegation](#) to the 22nd annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum held in Mexico from 12 to 16 January 2014, and in Mexico City from 16 to 19 January 2014 [a motion to take note of the report was agreed to]
- Responses to Senate resolutions about—
  - Cambodia—from the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Cambodia (His Excellency Mr Sounry) [resolution agreed to on 13 February 2014] [a [motion](#) to take note of the response was agreed to]
  - Great Barrier Reef coastline—from the Minister for the Environment (Mr Hunt) [resolution agreed to on 12 February 2014] [a [motion](#) to take note of the response was agreed to]
  - Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area—from the Minister for the Environment (Mr Hunt) [resolution agreed to on 12 February 2014]

## Other business

---

[Questions without notice and issues arising during question time—first question](#)  
[Adjournment debate—first speaker](#)

### Question on notice—Failure to provide answer

[Senator Ludlam](#) asked the Minister representing the Minister for Communications (Senator Fifield) why an answer had not been provided to a question on notice relating to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Senator Fifield indicated that an answer would be provided. A motion moved by Senator Ludlam to take note of the explanation was debated and agreed to [[first speaker](#)]

### Matter of public importance discussed

[Administration—Abbott Government](#)—proposed by Senator Moore [[first speaker](#)]

### Motions agreed to

- Health—Central Australia—[Renal services](#)—moved by Senator Siewert [[statements](#) were made]
- Law and justice—[Underage and forced marriages](#)—moved by Senators Cash, Moore, Waters and Kroger

### Motion negatived

Law and justice—[Mr Edward Snowden](#)—Proposed order for the production of documents—moved by Senator Ludlam [[statements](#) were made]

### Notices of motion

[Notices of motion](#) given today are available in the Senate Journals

\*\*\*\*\*

**Online**

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available at [www.aph.gov.au/senate](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate)

It is issued by the Senate Table Office as a convenient summary of each day's proceedings in the Senate. For a complete account see the official record, the *Journals of the Senate*.

Follow the Australian Senate on Twitter: [@AuSenate](https://twitter.com/AuSenate)

**Related resources**

The *Order of Business* (or 'Senate Red') and the *Dynamic Red* (which updates the *Order of Business* throughout the sitting day) are also available at [www.aph.gov.au/senate](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate)

**Contact details**

Inquiries, comments and suggestions:      phone 6277 3021  
e-mail: [sds@aph.gov.au](mailto:sds@aph.gov.au)