



Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 17 March 2014

The Senate met from 10 am until 10.28 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were debated

Clean Energy Legislation (Carbon Tax Repeal) Bill 2013 and 8 related bills—second reading agreed to [[first speaker](#)]-1 Australian Greens second reading amendment negatived; 1 Opposition second reading amendment was agreed to [expressing views about the policy of the bill]-committee of the whole commenced-Opposition amendments nos 1, 2 and 3 to be determined [further amendments remain to be considered]

Private senators' bills to be debated

On 14 November 2013 the Senate agreed to a temporary order allowing private senators' bills to be considered on Thursdays. On 20 March 2014 the Defence Legislation Amendment (Woomera Prohibited Area) Bill 2013 and the National Broadband Network Companies Amendment (Tasmania) Bill 2014 are scheduled for debate

[Notice of motion](#) to exempt bills from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 2) 2013-2014 and 2 related bills—notice given by the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield)

Bills assented to

[Assent to a number of laws](#) was reported in the Senate

[See committees for details of reports on legislation]

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- Infrastructure Australia Amendment Bill 2013–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee [\[report\]](#)
- Social Security Legislation Amendment (Green Army Programme) Bill 2014–Community Affairs Legislation Committee [\[report\]](#) [a [motion](#) to adopt the recommendation of the report was agreed to – see entry under ‘new inquiries’ for details of the reference to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee]
- Tax Laws Amendment (Research and Development) Bill 2013–Economics Legislation Committee [\[report\]](#)

Meeting during the sitting of the Senate

The Senate [authorised](#) the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee to hold a private meeting while the Senate is sitting on 18 March 2014 from 1.50 pm

[Notices of motion](#)

To extend reporting deadlines

- Environment and Communications Legislation Committee–Australia Post–to report by 14 April 2014
- Environment and Communications References Committee–Direct Action Plan–to report by 26 March 2014
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–Overseas aid–to report by 27 March 2014

To hold meeting when the Senate is sitting

Environment and Communications References Committee–on 18 March 2014 from 5 pm–public meeting–Direct Action Plan

To refer matters to a committee

Economics References Committee–Challenges to Australian industries and jobs by increasing global competition in innovation, science, engineering, research and education–to report by the first sitting day in July 2015–notice given by Senators Carr, Milne and Madigan

New inquiry

The Senate [agreed to refer](#) to the provisions of the Social Security Legislation Amendment (Green Army Programme) Bill 2014 to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee–to report by 13 May 2014

Membership

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]

Disallowance motions

Regulations disallowed

The Senate disallowed the following regulations relating to the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*—[\[first speaker\]](#)

- Amendment No. 1 to the Commonwealth Grant Scheme Guidelines 2012, made under section 238-10 of the Act [\[F2013L02078\]](#); and the
- Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Education) 2013, made under section 238-10 of the Act [\[F2013L02070\]](#)

[Notice of motion](#) to rescind a disallowance

The Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Senator Cash) gave a notice of motion for the Senate to rescind its resolution of 2 December 2013 disallowing the Migration Amendment (Temporary Protection Visas) Regulation 2013, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2013 No. 234, and made under the *Migration Act 1958* [\[F2013L01811\]](#)

Orders for the production of documents

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to the following orders:

- The Minister representing the Minister for Education to table documents relating to the [Heads of Agreement on National Education Reform](#)—no later than noon on 21 March 2014
- The Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Investment to table documents relating to the [free trade agreement negotiations with the Republic of Korea](#)—no later than noon on 18 March 2014

Notices of motion

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

- The Minister representing the Minister for the Environment to table documents relating to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—no later than noon on 27 March 2014—notice given by Senator Waters
- The Minister representing the Minister for the Environment to table documents relating to the Maules Creek coal project—no later than noon on 20 March 2014—notice given by Senator Waters

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

A [letter of advice](#) for the National Mental Health Commission was tabled [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]

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. 23 of 2013-14](#)
- Responses to Senate resolutions about—
 - Australian Curriculum—from the Minister for Education (Mr Pyne) [resolution agreed to on 12 February 2014] [a [motion](#) to take note of the response was agreed to]
 - Syrian conflict and humanitarian aid—from the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms Bishop) [resolution agreed to on 12 February 2014]
 - Bell Bay Pulp Mill project—from the Minister for the Environment (Mr Hunt) [resolution agreed to on 13 February 2014] [a motion to take note of the response was agreed to – [first speaker](#)]

Other business

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

Death of former senator

The President informed the Senate of the death, on 14 March 2014, of the Honourable Warwick Raymond Parer, AM, a senator for the state of Queensland from 1984 to 2000. A [motion](#) of condolence moved by the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Abetz) was carried [[first speaker](#)]

Matter of public importance discussed

Finance—National Commission of Audit—proposed by Senator Moore [[first speaker](#)]

Motion agreed to

Law and justice—[Anti-discrimination laws](#)—moved by Senators Moore, Pratt and Boyce

Motions negatived

- Administration—[Lobbyists](#)—Regulation—moved by Senator Rhiannon [a [statement](#) was made]
- Environment—[Montara oil spill](#)—moved by Senator Siewert

Notices of motion

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

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Online

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available at www.aph.gov.au/senate

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Contact details

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