

Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 3 March 2016

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 6.54 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were debated

- Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Donations Reform) Bill 2014—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]
- Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security Amendment Bill 2015—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]
- Restoring Territory Rights (Assisted Suicide Legislation) Bill 2015—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were debated and passed

- Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Increasing Consumer Choice) Bill 2016 [second reading – [first speaker](#)][—bill agreed to without amendments](#)
- Business Services Wage Assessment Tool Payment Scheme Amendment Bill 2016 [second reading – [first speaker](#)][—bill agreed to without amendments](#)
- Tax Laws Amendment (Norfolk Island CGT Exemption) Bill 2016 [second reading – [first speaker](#)][—bill agreed to without amendments](#)

Bills exempted

- Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Increasing Consumer Choice) Bill 2016
- Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2015-2016
- Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2015-2016
- Tax Laws Amendment (Norfolk Island CGT Exemption) Bill 2016

Bills introduced

- Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Increasing Consumer Choice) Bill 2016 [passed by the House of Representatives 2 March 2016] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2015-2016 and Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2015-2016 [passed by the House of Representatives 1 March 2016] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Social Security Amendment (Diabetes Support) Bill 2016 [[private senator's bill](#)]
- Tax Laws Amendment (Norfolk Island CGT Exemption) Bill 2016 [passed by the House of Representatives 2 March 2016] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]



- Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Single Appeal Path) Bill 2016 [passed by the House of Representatives 2 March 2016] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]

Message reported

Courts Administration Legislation Amendment Bill 2015–agreed to without amendments

Committees

Scheduled [public committee hearings](#)
[Committee reports](#)

Estimates

[Additional information](#) received relating to estimates hearings was tabled

Reports and documents tabled

- Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Joint Committee–Examination of the annual report for 2014-15 of the Integrity Commissioner [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
- Electoral Matters Joint Committee–Commonwealth Electoral Amendment Bill 2016–Corrigendum
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–Use of unmanned air, maritime and land platforms by the Australian Defence Force–[Response](#) to report [a [motion](#) to take note of the document was agreed to]
- Publications Committee [report]

Committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports were discussed [first speaker]

Meeting during the sitting of the Senate

The Senate [authorised](#) a meeting of Migration Joint Committee to be held while the Senate is sitting

Membership

[Messages](#) from the House of Representatives was reported advising changes in the membership of joint committees

The Senate agreed to vary the membership of committees [Journals entries [23](#), [39](#) and [43](#) refer]

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee

The Senate [adopted](#) report no. 3 of 2016 of the Selection of Bills Committee and made the following references:

- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Media Reform) Bill 2016–Environment and Communications Legislation Committee–to report by 12 May 2016

- Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2016—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—to report by 17 June 2016
- Social Services Legislation Amendment (Enhanced Welfare Payment Integrity) Bill 2016—Community Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 20 June 2016
- Social Services Legislation Amendment (Interest Charge) Bill 2016—Community Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 20 June 2016

Reporting dates extended

- A [message](#) from the House was reported advising an extension of time for an inquiry of the Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee—Impairment of customer loans—to report by 20 May 2016
- The Senate [extended](#) the reporting date for an inquiry of the Economics References Committee

Notices of motion

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—12 May, 23 June and 30 June 2016—private and public meetings—[notice](#) given by Senator Smith

To refer a matter to a committee

Procedure Committee—standing order 26(4) [recommendation contained in the report of the Education and Employment Legislation Committee on the 2015-16 additional estimates]—[notice](#) given by the Chair of the Education and Employment Legislation Committee (Senator McKenzie)

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

- [Documents](#) relating to electoral law changes [The documents were tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 2 March 2016, and agreed to earlier today] [statements were made – first speaker]
- [Documents](#) relating to the restructuring of the CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere division [The documents were tabled in response to the orders of the Senate agreed to on 24 February and 29 February 2016] [statements were made – first speaker]

Motions agreed to

The Senate ordered:

- the Minister for Defence to table the [independent legal advice](#) preventing the government complying with the Senate order of 17 November 2014 concerning the submarines tender process—no later than 15 March 2016
- the Minister for Education and Training, and the Minister for Finance and the Minister representing the Treasurer to table documents relating to [school funding](#)—no later than 3.30 pm on 15 March 2016
- the Special Minister of State to table documents recording the agreement between the Government and the Australian Greens relating to [changes to the Senate voting system](#)—no later than 2 pm today [statements were made – [first speaker](#)] [documents were subsequently tabled – see entry above]

Statements, by leave

Statements were made, by leave, relating to responses not received for the orders for the production of documents due today about the restructure of the CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere division [[first speaker](#)]

Further statements were made, by leave, relating to responses not received for the orders for the production of documents due today about the restructure of the CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere division, and Senate electoral law changes [[first speaker](#)]; and additional statements were made later in the day about the same matters [[first speaker](#)]

Orders with continuing effect

Entity contracts

[A letter of advice](#) was tabled [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

1 [petition](#), and [petitioning document](#)

Other business

Questions without notice and issues arising during question time – [first question](#)

Adjournment debate – [first speaker](#)

Motions agreed to

- Defence—[Vietnam Veterans Day](#)—moved by Senators Lindgren and Reynolds
- Social issues—[Homelessness](#)—moved by Senator Siewert [statements were made – [first speaker](#)]
- Women—[International Women’s Day](#)—moved by Senators Cash, Moore and Waters

Statement, by leave

The Minister for Employment (Senator Cash) made a [statement](#) concerning the resignation of Michael Lawler as the Vice President of the Fair Work Commission

Notices of motion

The Minister for Communications (Senator Fifield) gave a notice of motion to vary the hours of meeting and routine of business for the sitting week commencing 15 March 2016

[A further notice of motion](#) given today is available in the Senate Journals

Online

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

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Contact details

Inquiries, comments and suggestions

Phone: 6277 3021 | Email: sds@aph.gov.au