

**Committee-related
activity in the chamber
1 January 2020–30 June 2020**

Matters referred to Committees

During the reporting period, 29 matters were referred to Senate Committees for inquiry and report. This included 17 individual/packages of bills referred through the Selection of Bills Committee, 1 matter adopted by a Legislation Committee, 5 matters referred to References Committees, 4 matters referred to, adopted or re-adopted by Joint Committees and 2 Select Committees established. The details are as follows:

Committee	Inquiry	Date Referred (Daily Total)
FADT (Ref)	Opportunities for strengthening Australia's relations with the Republic of France (for inquiry and report by 13 August 2020)	05.02.2020 (3)
FPA (Ref)	2019–20 Australian bushfire season (for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in 2021)	
Sports Grants (Select)	Administration and award of funding under the Community Sport Infrastructure Grant Program (for inquiry and report by 24 March 2020)	
ECO (Leg)	Australian Business Growth Fund Bill 2019 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 21 February 2020)	06.02.2020 (5)
CA (Leg)	Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Simplifying Income Reporting and Other Measures) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 20 February 2020)	
CA (Leg)	Paid Parental Leave Amendment (Flexibility Measures) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 19 March 2020)	
ECO (Leg)	Treasury Laws Amendment (Research and Development Tax Incentive) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 30 April 2020)	
NDIS (Joint)	NDIS workforce (adopted by committee for inquiry and report)	
LCA (Ref)	Domestic violence with particular regard to violence against women and their children (for inquiry and report by 13 August 2020)	26.02.2020 (1)
EE (Leg)	Australian Education Amendment (Direct Measure of Income) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 1 May 2020)	27.02.2020 (6)
FPA (Leg)	Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Donation Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2020 (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 30 June 2020)	
EC (Leg)	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Climate Trigger) Bill 2020 (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 14 October 2020)	

Committee	Inquiry	Date Referred (Daily Total)
FPA (Leg)	Intelligence and Security Legislation Amendment (Implementing Independent Intelligence Review) Bill 2020 (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 25 June 2020)	27.02.2020 <i>continued</i>
ECO (Leg)	National Radioactive Waste Management Amendment (Site Specification, Community Fund and Other Measures) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 12 June 2020)	
EE (Ref)	General Motors Holden in Australia (for inquiry and report by the 1 st sitting day in May 2020)	
COVID (Select)	Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and any related matters (for inquiry and report by 30 June 2022)	08.04.2020 (1)
CFS (Joint)	Present level of regulation applying to Australia's growing class action industry (referred by the House of Representatives for inquiry and report by 7 December 2020)	13.05.2020 (1)
LCA (Leg)	Migration Amendment (Prohibiting Items in Immigration Detention Facilities) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 5 August 2020)	14.05.2020 (2)
FADT (Ref)	Issues facing diaspora communities in Australia (for inquiry and report by 26 November 2020)	
EE (Leg)	Payment Times Reporting Bill 2020 [Provisions] and Payment Times Reporting (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 30 July 2020)	12.06.2020 (3)
RRAT (Leg)	Primary Industries (Customs) Charges Amendment (Dairy Cattle Export Charge) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 30 July 2020)	
EC (Leg)	Product Stewardship (Oil) Amendment Bill 2020 [Provisions] and the Excise Tariff Amendment Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 30 July 2020)	
EC (Leg)	Future of Australia Post's service delivery (for inquiry and report by 11 August 2020)	16.06.2020 (1)
CA (Leg)	Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Financial Transparency) Bill 2020 (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 23 November 2020)	18.06.2020 (4)
ECO (Leg)	Banking Amendment (Deposits) Bill 2020 (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 10 August 2020)	

Committee	Inquiry	Date Referred (Daily Total)
RRAT (Leg)	Biosecurity Amendment (Traveller Declarations and Other Measures) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by 30 July 2020)	18.06.2020 <i>continued</i>
FPA (Leg)	Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Banning Dirty Donations) Bill 2020 (through the Selection of Bills Committee for inquiry and report by the second sitting day in March 2021)	
LE (Joint)	COVID-19, criminal activity and law enforcement (adopted by committee for inquiry and report)	10.06.2020 (1)
NDIS (Joint)	NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (adopted by committee for inquiry and report)	23.06.2020 (1)

Reports tabled by Senate Committees

During the reporting period, committees supported by the Senate Committee Office tabled/presented 40 reports. This included 28 Legislation Committee reports, 7 References Committee reports and 5 Joint Committee reports. The details are as follows:

Committee	Inquiry	Date Tabled (Daily Total)
RRAT (Leg)	Agriculture Legislation Amendment (Streamlining Administration) Bill 2019 (presented OOS 31.01.2020)	04.02.2020 (3)
CA (Leg)	*Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment (Enhancing Australia's Anti-Doping Capability) Bill 2019 [Provisions]–Progress report (presented OOS 03.02.2020)	
CA (Leg)	*Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment (Sport Integrity Australia) Bill 2019 [Provisions]–Progress report (presented OOS 03.02.2020)	
CA (Leg)	Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment (Sport Integrity Australia) Bill 2019 [Provisions]	05.02.2020 (1)
ECO (Leg)	Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment (Cross-boundary Greenhouse Gas Titles and Other Measures) Bill 2019 [Provisions] and Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 07.02.2020)	10.02.2020 (2)
RRAT (Leg)	Export Control Bill 2019 [Provisions] and related bills (presented OOS 07.02.2020)	
CA (Ref)	*Centrelink's compliance program–Interim report	11.02.2020 (1)
EC (Leg)	Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer) Bill 2019 [Provisions] and Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 14.02.2020)	24.02.2020 (6)
EE (Leg)	Student Identifiers Amendment (Enhanced Student Permissions) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 19.02.2020)	
LCA (Leg)	Transport Security Amendment (Testing and Training) Bill 2019 (presented OOS 19.02.2020)	
CA (Leg)	Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Simplifying Income Reporting and Other Measures) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (presented OOS 20.02.2020)	
ECO (Leg)	Australian Business Growth Fund Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 21.02.2020)	
CA (Leg)	Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment (Enhancing Australia's Anti-Doping Capability) Bill 2019 [Provisions]	

Committee	Inquiry	Date Tabled (Daily Total)
ACLEI (Joint)	Examination of the Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner 2017–18	26.02.2020 (1)
LCA (Leg)	Migration Amendment (Regulation of Migration Agents) Bill 2019 [Provisions] and Migration Agents Registration Application Charge Amendment (Rates of Charge) Bill 2019 [Provisions]	27.02.2020 (4)
LCA (Ref)	Impact of changes to service delivery models on the administration and running of Government programs	
FADT (Ref)	Australia's declarations made under certain international laws	
CFS (Joint)	*Regulation of auditing in Australia–Interim report	
ECO (Leg)	Currency (Restrictions on the Use of Cash) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 28.02.2020)	23.03.2020 (9)
LCA (Leg)	Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 10.03.2020)	
LCA (Leg)	Family Law Amendment (Western Australia De Facto Superannuation Splitting and Bankruptcy) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 13.03.2020)	
EC (Ref)	*Press freedom–Progress report (presented OOS 16.03.2020)	
LCA (Leg)	Crimes Legislation Amendment (Combatting Corporate Crime) Bill 2019 (presented OOS 17.03.2020)	
CA (Leg)	Paid Parental Leave Amendment (Flexibility Measures) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (presented OOS 19.03.2020)	
ECO (Leg)	Saving Australian Dairy Bill 2019 (presented OOS 20.03.2020)	
ECO (Leg)	Treasury Laws Amendment (Your Superannuation, Your Choice) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 20.03.2020)	
EE (Leg)	Australian Education Amendment (Direct Measure of Income) Bill 2020 [Provisions] (presented OOS 20.03.2020)	
LCA (Leg)	Transport Security Amendment (Serious Crime) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 25.03.2020)	08.04.2020 (2)
CA (Ref)	Current barriers to patient access to medicinal cannabis in Australia (presented OOS 25.03.2020)	
EC (Leg)	Coal-Fired Power Funding Prohibition Bill 2017 (presented OOS 16.04.2020)	12.05.2020 (6)
EC (Leg)	Competition and Consumer Amendment (Prevention of Exploitation of Indigenous Cultural Expressions) Bill 2019 (presented OOS 16.04.2020)	

Committee	Inquiry	Date Tabled (Daily Total)
EC (Leg)	Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Unsolicited Communications) Bill 2019 (presented OOS 17.04.2020)	12.05.2020 <i>continued</i>
LE (Joint)	Examination of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission Annual Report 2017-18 (presented OOS 23.04.2020)	
CA (Ref)	Adequacy of Newstart and related payments and alternative mechanisms to determine the level of income support payments in Australia (presented OOS 30.04.2020)	
LE (Joint)	Examination of the Australian Federal Police Annual Report 2017-18 (presented OOS 30.04.2020)	
NDIS (Joint)	Supported Independent Living	13.05.2020 (1)
LCA (Ref)	Domestic violence with particular regard to violence against women and their children (presented OOS 19.05.2020)	10.06.2020 (1)
RRAT (Leg)	Performance of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	17.06.2020 (2)
ECO (Leg)	Performance of the Inspector-General of Taxation	
ECO (Leg)	*Report to Chamber on Order for Production of Documents – Australian Taxation Office	18.06.2020 (1)

* Reports that did not discharge a reference

Estimates reports:

There were 8 reports tabled during the reporting period.

Reports on Annual Reports:

During the reporting period, Senate Legislation Committees tabled 8 reports.

Government Responses to Committee reports

During the reporting period, 14 Government responses to Senate Committee reports were tabled/presented. The details are as follows:

Committee	Inquiry	Date Tabled (Daily Total)
Red Tape (Select)	Effect of red tape on private education—Eighth interim report (report tabled 29.11.2018)	05.02.2020 (1)
LCA (Leg)	Migration Amendment (Strengthening the Character Test) Bill 2018 [Provisions] and Migration Amendment (Strengthening the Character Test) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (2018 report tabled 17.12.2018; 2019 report tabled 13.09.2019)	13.02.2020 (1)
CA (Leg) Oversight of the implementation of redress related recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Joint Select)	Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Extend Family Assistance to ABSTUDY Secondary School Boarding Students Aged 16 and Over) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 17.02.2020; report tabled 05.09.2019) Getting the National Redress Scheme right: An overdue step towards justice (presented OOS 18.02.2020; report tabled 02.04.2019)	24.02.2020 (2)
EE (Ref)	The people behind 000: mental health of our first responders (report tabled 14.02.2019)	25.02.2020 (1)
NDIS (Joint)	Market readiness for provision of services under the NDIS (report tabled 20.09.2018)	03.03.2020 (HoR) (3)
NDIS (Joint)	NDIS planning interim report (report tabled 03.12.2019)	
NDIS (Joint)	Progress report (report tabled 29.03.2019)	
RRAT (Leg)	Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendment (Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority Board and Other Improvements) Bill 2019 [Provisions] (presented OOS 13.03.2020; report tabled 28.11.2019)	23.03.2020 (1)
ECO (Ref)	Non-conforming building products: the need for a coherent and robust regulatory regime (presented OOS 23.04.2020; report tabled 04.12.2018)	12.05.2020 (1)

Committee	Inquiry	Date Tabled (Daily Total)
EE (Ref)	Jobactive: failing those it is intended to serve (presented OOS 28.05.2020; report tabled 14.02.2019)	10.06.2020 (1)
RRAT (Ref)	Aspects of road safety in Australia (report tabled 26.10.2017)	18.06.2020 (1)
CA (Ref)	Effectiveness of the Aged Care Quality Assessment and accreditation framework for protecting residents from abuse and poor practices, and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practised (presented OOS 25.06.2020; report tabled 03.04.2019)	Presented OOS (2)
EC (Ref)	Protection of Aboriginal rock art of the Burrup Peninsula (presented OOS 25.06.2020; report tabled 21.03.2018)	

Additional Comments, Dissenting Reports, Minority Reports and Supplementary Reports*

<i>Legislation</i>	LP/NAT	ALP	AG	Minor Parties	Multi-Party
Additional Comments	1	8	7	3	–
Dissenting Reports	–	6	8	–	–
<i>References</i>	LP/NAT	ALP	AG	Minor Parties	Multi-Party
Additional Comments	–	–	–	–	–
Dissenting Reports	3	–	–	2	–
<i>Select/Joint</i>	LP/NAT	ALP	AG	Minor Parties	Multi-Party
Additional Comments	–	–	–	–	–
Dissenting Reports	–	–	–	–	–

* *These statistics record the signatory to the reports*

LP/NAT (Liberal Party, National Party), ALP (Australian Labor Party), AG (Australian Greens), minor parties include CA (Centre Alliance), JLN (Jacqui Lambie Network), PHON (Pauline Hanson's One Nation).

Extension of time to present reports

During the reporting period, there were 55 extensions of time – 2 of one week or less; 10 of over a week; 43 of over a month – granted to a committee administered by the Senate Committee Office to present reports.

Leave to meet while the Senate is in session

During the reporting period, Senate Committees were granted leave to meet while the Senate was in session on 87 occasions.

Appointment of Committees

The Select Committee on the Administration of Sports Grants was appointed on 5 February 2020.

The Select Committee on COVID-19 was appointed on 8 April 2020.

Change of Committee Name

Nil