SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 1 OF 2020

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Senator Dean Smith (Government Whip, Chair)

Senator Perin Davey (The Nationals Whip)

Senator Stirling Griff (Centre Alliance Whip)

Senator Pauline Hanson (Pauline Hanson's One Nation Whip)

Senator Rachel Siewert (Australian Greens Whip)

Senator Anne Urquhart (Opposition Whip)

Senator Raff Ciccone

Senator Katy Gallagher

Senator the Hon James McGrath

Senator the Hon Anne Ruston

Secretary: Rachel Callinan

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SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 1 OF 2020

- 1. The committee met in private session on Wednesday, 5 February 2020 at 7.12 pm.
- 2. The committee recommends that—
 - (a) the *provisions* of the Australian Business Growth Fund Bill 2019 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 21 February 2020 (see appendix 1 for a statement of reasons for referral);
 - (b) contingent upon introduction in the House of Representatives, the *provisions* of the Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Simplifying Income Reporting and Other Measures) Bill 2020 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 20 February 2020 (see appendix 2 for a statement of reasons for referral); and
 - (c) contingent upon introduction in the House of Representatives, the *provisions* of the Paid Parental Leave Amendment (Flexibility Measures) Bill 2020 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 19 March 2020.
- 3. The committee recommends that the following bills *not* be referred to committees:
 - International Human Rights and Corruption (Magnitsky Sanctions) Bill 2020
 - Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Amendment (Improving Safety) Bill 2019
 - National Consumer Credit Protection Amendment (Mandatory Credit Reporting and Other Measures) Bill 2019
 - National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Amendment Bill 2019
 - Student Identifiers Amendment (Higher Education) Bill 2019
 - Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Amendment (Prohibiting Academic Cheating Services) Bill 2019
 - Treasury Laws Amendment (2019 Measures No. 3) Bill 2019
 - Treasury Laws Amendment (2019-20 Bushfire Tax Assistance) Bill 2020
- 4. The committee **deferred** consideration of the following bills to its next meeting:
 - Air Services Amendment Bill 2018
 - Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Donation Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2020
 - Constitution Alteration (Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Press) 2019
 - Customs Amendment (Safer Cladding) Bill 2019
 - Discrimination Free Schools Bill 2018
 - Governor-General Amendment (Cessation of Allowances in the Public Interest) Bill 2019
 - Great Australian Bight Environment Protection Bill 2019

- Regional Forest Agreements Legislation (Repeal) Bill 2017
- Social Services Legislation Amendment (Better Targeting Student Payments) Bill 2019
- Social Services Legislation Amendment (Ending the Poverty Trap) Bill 2018
- Social Services Legislation Amendment (Payment Integrity) Bill 2019
- Treasury Laws Amendment (Reuniting More Superannuation) Bill 2020
- 5. The committee considered the following bill but was **unable to reach agreement**:
 - Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Ensuring Integrity No. 2) Bill 2019 (see appendix 3 for a statement of reasons for referral)
 - Treasury Laws Amendment (Research and Development Tax Incentive) Bill 2019 (see appendix 4 for a statement of reasons for referral)

(Dean Smith) **Chair**6 February 2020

Name of bill: Australian Business Growth Fund Bill 2019
Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration: To seek clarity on the governance and operational arrangements of the Fund To seek views from stakeholders and experts on how best to implement the Fund
Possible submissions or evidence from: Department of the Treasury
Committee to which bill is to be referred: Senate Economics Legislation Committee
Possible hearing date(s): To be determined by the Committee
Possible reporting date:

21 February 2020

Senator Anne Urquhart

Name of bill:

- Australian Business Growth Fund Bill 2019

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

- To understand the current supply of credit to small and medium enterprises (SMEs), including any particular market conditions and any regulations that are affecting the supply of credit to SMEs.
- To understand the possible competition impacts of this Bill, including whether it would give preference to bank capital over other forms of capital.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

- Economists
- Business associations and industry groups
- Financial sector
- Shareholders

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Economics

Possible hearing date(s):

- Not necessary

Possible reporting date:

- April 2020

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Print name:

Name of bill: Social Security and other Amendments (Simplifying Income Reporting and Other Measures) Bill 2020

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

• Ensure there will not be negative consequences for any social security recipients.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

- ACOSS
- National Social Security Rights Network
- COTA
- National Seniors

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

To be determined by the Committee

Possible reporting date:

19 March 2020

Senator Anne Urquhart

Name of bill: Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Simplifying Income Reporting and Other Measures) Bill 2020

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration: This bill fundamentally changes the way income is reported and assessed for the purposes of determining income support payments. It will affect 1.2 million income support recipients and generates significant savings from the social security budget. It is necessary to scrutinise and understand the impact this new legislation will have on income support recipients.

Possible submissions or evidence from: ACOSS, NSSRN, Anglicare Australia, Jobs Australia, Australian Unemployed Workers Union, Community and Public Sector Union, Accountable Income Management Network.

Committee to which bill is	to be referred: Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Possible hearing date(s):	
Possible reporting date:	
(signed)	Malo Suf
Print name:	Rachel Siewert

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Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Ensuring Integrity No. 2) Bill 2019

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

The Bill is substantially different from its previous iteration. None of the amendments incorporated by the Government to form the new bill were debated in either House. The potential impacts of these amendments need to be examined in detail.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

The ACTU, state labour councils, unions, union members, workplace relations academics and lawyers, employer representatives.

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):
To be determined by the Committee

Possible reporting date: Friday, 1 May 2020.

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Senator Anne Urquhart

Name of bill: Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Ensuring Integrity No.2)
Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:
The Bill is incompatible with International Labour Organisations (ILO) treaties and infringes on the rights of workers and their unions.
Possible submissions or evidence from:
Unions Fair Work Commission Fair Work Ombudsman
Committee to which bill is to be referred:
Education and Employment Legislation Committee
Possible hearing date(s):
Possible reporting date:
25 June 2020
(signed)
Print name:

Name of bill:

Treasury Laws Amendment (Research and Development Tax Incentive) Bill 2019

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

- Stakeholder feedback on changes between this bill and previous iteration, including new intensity threshold schedules
- Evaluate likely impacts (sectors, industries, businesses by firm size or type) of the bill
- Evaluation the impact of technical definitions in the bill
- Interaction with other industry and innovation support

Possible submissions or evidence from:

- Treasury
- Industry
- External (numerous)

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Economics Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):
To be determined by the Committee

Possible reporting date: Friday, 30 April 2020

Senator Anne Urguhart

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE— PRESENTATION OF 1ST REPORT OF 2020— AMENDMENT AGREED TO BY THE SENATE ON 6 FEBRUARY 2020

At the end of the motion, add "and in respect of

- (a) Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Ensuring Integrity No. 2) Bill 2019, the bill not be referred to a committee; and
- (b) the Treasury Laws Amendment (Research and Development Tax Incentive) Bill 2019, the provisions of the bill be referred immediately to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 30 April 2020."