SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 5 OF 2022

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Senator Anne Urquhart (Government Whip, Chair)

Senator Wendy Askew (Opposition Whip)

Senator Ross Cadell (The Nationals Whip)

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

Senator Nick McKim (Australian Greens Whip)

Senator Ralph Babet

Senator the Hon. Anthony Chisholm

Senator the Hon. Katy Gallagher

Senator Matt O'Sullivan

Senator David Pocock

Senator Paul Scarr

Senator Tammy Tyrrell

Secretary: Tim Bryant

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SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 5 OF 2022

- 1. The committee met in private session on Tuesday, 27 September 2022 at 7.50 pm.
- 2. The committee recommends that—
 - (a) the *provisions* of the Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights Legislation Amendment (Respect at Work) Bill 2022 be *referred immediately* to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 3 November 2022 (see appendix 1 for a statement of reasons for referral);
 - (b) the *provisions* of the Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Cheaper Child Care) Bill 2022 be *referred immediately* to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 16 November 2022 (see appendix 2 for a statement of reasons for referral);
 - (c) the *provisions* of the Financial Accountability Regime Bill 2022, the Financial Sector Reform Bill 2022, the Financial Services Compensation Scheme of Last Resort Levy Bill 2022 and the Financial Services Compensation Scheme of Last Resort Levy (Collection) Bill 2022 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 20 October 2022 (see appendix 3 for a statement of reasons for referral);
 - (d) the National Energy Transition Authority Bill 2022 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 14 March 2023;
 - the Parliamentary Privileges Amendment (Royal Commission Response) Bill 2022 be *referred immediately* to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 17 November 2022 (see appendix 4 for a statement of reasons for referral);
 - (f) the *provisions* of the Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Incentivising Pensioners to Downsize) Bill 2022 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 20 October 2022;
 - (g) the *provisions* of the Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Workforce Incentive) Bill 2022 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 10 November 2022 (see appendix 5 for a statement of reasons for referral); and
 - (h) the *provisions* of the Treasury Laws Amendment (2022 Measures No. 3) Bill 2022, the Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Fees Imposition Amendment Bill 2022 and the Income Tax Amendment (Labour Mobility Program) Bill 2022 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 17 November 2022 (see appendix 6 for a statement of reasons for referral).
- 3. The committee recommends that the following bills *not* be referred to committees:
 - Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (AFP Powers and Other Matters) Bill 2022
 - High Speed Rail Authority Bill 2022

- Restoring Territory Rights Bill 2022.
- 4. The committee deferred consideration of the following bills to its next meeting:
 - Animal Health Australia and Plant Health Australia Funding Legislation Amendment Bill 2022
 - Biosecurity Amendment (Strengthening Biosecurity) Bill 2022
 - Broadcasting Services Amendment (Audio Description) Bill 2019
 - Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Lowering Voting Age and Increasing Voter Participation) Bill 2018
 - Customs Legislation Amendment (Commercial Greyhound Export and Import Prohibition) Bill 2021
 - Defence Amendment (Parliamentary Approval of Overseas Service) Bill 2020
 - Electric Vehicles Accountability Bill 2021
 - Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Regional Forest Agreements) Bill 2020
 - Federal Environment Watchdog Bill 2021
 - Maritime Legislation Amendment Bill 2022
 - National Anti-Corruption Commission Bill 2022
 - National Anti-Corruption Commission (Consequential and Transitional Provisions)
 Bill 2022
 - Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Legislation Amendment Bill 2022
 - Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2022
 - Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas (Import Levy) Amendment Bill 2022
 - Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas (Manufacture Levy) Amendment Bill 2022
 - Snowy Hydro Corporatisation Amendment (No New Fossil Fuels) Bill 2021 [No. 2]
 - Treasury Laws Amendment (Australia-India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement Implementation) Bill 2022
 - Treasury Laws Amendment (More Competition, Better Prices) Bill 2022
 - United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Bill 2022.

(Anne Urquhart)

Chair

28 September 2022

Name of bill:

| Anti-discrimination and Human Rights Legislation Amendment (Respect at Work) Bill 2022 |
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| Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration: |
| The Bill implements recommendations of the respect at work report, which the Government has committed to implementing in full and which is of great interest to a wide range of stakeholders. |
| Possible submissions or evidence from: |
| Unions, business, legal experts, women's organisations, and other civil society organisations. |
| Committee to which bill is to be referred: |
| Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee |
| Possible hearing date(s): |
| October |
| Possible reporting date: |
| 3 November 2022 |
| (signed) |
| |
| Print name: |

Name of bill:

Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Cheaper Child Care) Bill 2022

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

The Bill introduces measures which will benefit a significant number of Australian families who access early childhood and education services and which account for a significant Government investment in this sector.

The Bill's key measures include:

- increasing child care subsidies;
- introducing a base level of 36 subsidised hours per fortnight for Indigenous Australian children;
- introducing integrity and transparency measures in the early childhood education and care sector.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

Members of the Early Childhood and Education Reference Group, for example Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care, Early Childhood Australia, Goodstart Early Learning, Early Learning and Care Council of Australia, Australian Childcare Alliance

United Workers Union

Other peak bodies in the sector

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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Possible hearing date(s):

October - November 2022

Possible reporting date:

November 2022

| Print name: | i the | mg | Kol | _ |
|-------------|-------|----|-----|---|
| | | | | |

| Name of | of bill | |
|---------|---------|--|
|---------|---------|--|

Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Cheaper Child Care) Bill 2022

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

Complicated issue

Possible submissions or evidence from:

Sector, Groups Individuals that are affected

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Education and employment Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

October - November

Possible reporting date:

LSes.

16 November 2022

(signed)

Print name: Wendy Askew.

Name of bill:

Financial Accountability Regime Bill 2022
Financial Sector Reform Bill 2022
Financial Services Compensation Scheme of Last Resort Levy Bill 2022
Financial Services Compensation Scheme of Last Resort Levy (Collection) Bill 2022

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

Complicated issue

Possible submissions or evidence from:

Sector, Groups Individuals that are affected

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Economics Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

September – October

Possible reporting date:

21 October 2022

(signed)

Print name: Wed, Askers

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: Parliamentary Privileges Amendment (Royal Commission Response) Bill 2022

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

- Review of recommendation 7 of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide
- Consideration of the impact of parliamentary privilege on the Royal Commission's work to date
- Consideration of the impact of parliamentary privilege on previous Royal Commissions

Possible submissions or evidence from:

- The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide
- Legal academics: Kim Rubenstein; Anne Twomey; George Williams
- The Law Council
- The Human Rights Law Centre
- Australian Lawyers Alliance / law societies
- Previous royal commissioners
- Veterans' and defence personnel representatives
- Attorney General's Department

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Legal and constitutional affairs committee

Possible hearing date(s):

17th to 21st October

| Possible reporting | g date: |
|---------------------------|--|
| 17 th November | |
| | |
| | |
| (signed) | Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member |

Name of bill:

Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Workforce Incentives) Bill 2022

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

Temporarily Increasing the Work Bonus income bank

- From commencement until 30 June 2023, age pensioners, Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment recipients over Age Pension age, as well as certain veterans' entitlement recipients over qualifying age, will have \$4,000 credited to their Work Bonus income bank for use during this financial year.
- The maximum Work Bonus income bank will increase accordingly, taking the maximum balance from \$7,800 to \$11,800 until 30 June 2023.
- The \$4,000 increase will be added to each eligible pensioner's Work Bonus income bank up front. This means eligible pensioners will be able to have an extra \$4,000 of employment income disregarded from the income test from the start of this measure, rather than accumulating it over time.
- The maximum income bank limit will return to \$7,800 (an individual's balance will be less if it has been drawn down) at the end of the financial year.

Making it easier for pensioners who work to resume Age Pension

- Under the measure, age pensioners (and equivalent DVA pensioners) who have employment income and whose payment stops because their income is too high, would be suspended for a period of up to 2 years, instead of cancelled after 12 weeks. During the two-year period, if a pensioner's income is at a level where they become payable, an abridged process would assist their return to the Age Pension. This means their link to the Age Pension is maintained and they can more easily move between periods of work and receipt of the Age Pension.
- Recipients of Age Pension and certain veterans' entitlements who have employment income and are suspended because their income is too high, will also keep their Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) for up to 2 years, instead of it being cancelled after 12 weeks. Disability Support Pensioner recipients will also be able to keep their card for up to 2 years, instead of the current 52 weeks.
- When a recipient of Age Pension, Disability Support Pension or certain veterans' entitlements is employed and has sufficient income that a pension is no longer payable, and their partner is also a pensioner, they will both keep their PCC for 2 years. Both will also be able to easily resume their pension payments within the two-year period if their income reduces to the point they become payable again.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

National Seniors – support Council of the Ageing (COTA)

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs

| Possible | hearing | date(| S |): |
|----------|---------|-------|---|----|
|----------|---------|-------|---|----|

Possible reporting date:

10 November 2022

(signed)

Print name:



Name of bill:

<u>Treasury Laws Amendment (2022</u> <u>Measures No. 3) Bill 2022</u> <u>Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Fees</u>
<u>Imposition Amendment (Labour Mobility Program) Bill 2022</u>

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

Complicated issue

Possible submissions or evidence from:

Sector, Groups Individuals that are affected

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Economics Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

September – October

Possible reporting date:

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2**O**October 2022

(signed)

Print name: Wendy Askew