



Senate Daily Summary

4 October 2000

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.32pm

Legislation

[For full text of bills and other associated documents click here](#) 

The following bills were considered

Renewable Energy (Electricity) Bill 2000—committee of the whole consideration continued (11 Government amendments agreed to; 3 Opposition amendments (1 amended by Australian Greens) agreed to; 5 Australian Green amendments agreed to; 4 Democrat amendments (1 amended by Australian Greens) agreed to)
Renewable Energy (Electricity) (Charge) Bill 2000—committee of the whole consideration continued—1 request (moved by the Democrats) pending

Notices of motion given to introduce bills

Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000—notice of motion given by Senator Murray
Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2000—notice of motion given by Senator Murray

*See the **Committees** section for details of reports relating to legislation*

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings click here](#) 
[For committee reports click here](#) 

Reports tabled

- ❑ *Guidelines for government advertising*—Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—377th Report
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 13 of 2000](#) and [13th report of 2000](#) [contains assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- ❑ [Selection of Bills Committee](#)—Report No. 15 of 2000 (tabled and adopted) [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]

Membership

The Senate agreed to the following changes to committee membership:

- Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business and Education Legislation and References Committees—Senator Buckland appointed as a participating member
- Finance and Public Administration References Committee—Senator Hutchins discharged; Senator Buckland appointed
- Publications Committee—Senator Ludwig discharged; Senator Buckland appointed
- Regulations and Ordinances Committee—Senator McLucas discharged; Senator Buckland appointed
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation and References Committees—Senator Buckland appointed as a participating member
- Senators' Interests Committee—Senator Mackay discharged; Senator Buckland appointed

New inquiry

The Senate agreed to refer the following matter to a committee:

- Legal and Constitutional References Committee—The management arrangements and adequacy of funding of the Australian Federal Police and the National Crime Authority—to report by the first sitting day in August 2001

Motion defeated

- A motion to refer the process followed in the selection of the successful tenderer for the proposed Sydney to Canberra Very Fast train project to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee was defeated

See the **Reports tabled** section (*Selection of Bills Committee Report*) for details of bills referred to committees

Notices of motion given

To extend reporting deadlines

- Gene Technology Bill 2000—Community Affairs References Committee—1 November 2000
- Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Bill 2000—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—10 October 2000
- Public hospital funding—Community Affairs References Committee—28 November 2000

To refer a bill to a committee

- Corporate Code of Conduct Bill 2000 [Private senator's bill]—Corporations and Securities Joint Committee—to report by 31 March 2001

To refer delegated legislation to a committee

- Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (High Quality Beef Export to the European Union) Order 2000—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 7 December 2000

Delegated legislation

[For a complete list of notices of motion to disallow \(and outcomes\) click here](#) 

Notices of motion given

- A notice of motion was given to disallow Part 3 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000, as contained in Statutory Rules 2000 No. 181 and made under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999*—on 11 October 2000—by Senator Bolkus
- [Notices of motion](#) were given to disallow certain elements of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000, as contained in Statutory Rules 2000 No. 181 and made under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999*—on 31 October 2000—by Senator Brown

Notice of intention given to withdraw a notice

A notice of intention was given to withdraw a notice to disallow the Dairy Structural Adjustment Program Scheme 2000, made under clause 10 of Schedule 2 to the *Dairy Produce Act 1986*

Notices of motion withdrawn

[Notices of motion](#) to disallow several instruments were withdrawn

See the **Documents** section for details of instruments tabled

Motion agreed to

The Senate *agreed* to a motion without debate about the formation of [Greenfleet](#)—moved by Senator Allison

Notices of motion

[For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere click here](#) 

Orders for the return of documents

Motions agreed to

- The Senate ordered the Minister representing the Treasurer to table certain reports and documents from the Australian Taxation Office (no later than immediately after question time 19 sitting days after today)—motion moved by Senator Cook
- The Senate ordered the Minister for the Environment and Heritage to table a report by KPMG for the Australian Greenhouse Office on the Derby Tidal Energy Project, dated August 2000 (no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on 5 October 2000)—motion moved by Senator Bolkus

Questions on notice—failure to provide answers

Senator Faulkner asked the Acting Leader of the Government in the Senate why answers had not been provided to 127 questions on notice to ministers. The Acting Leader provided [an explanation](#). The Senate *agreed to* take note of the Acting Leader's [explanation](#).

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Auditor-General—Report No. 13 of 2000-2001—Performance audit—Certified agreements in the Australian Public Service
- [Clerk's documents](#) (disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled)
- [Government documents](#) were tabled
- *Parliamentary elections in Zimbabwe 24-25 June 2000*—Report of the Australian parliamentary observer delegation

Petitions

[3 petitions](#) were tabled

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Matters of public interest debate
- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- [Urgency debate](#) about comments made by the Minister for Reconciliation
- Government documents were discussed
- Adjournment debate

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