



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 15 March 2012

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 11.07 pm

Condolence motions

The President informed the Senate of the death on 12 March 2012 of the Honourable Douglas Barr Scott, former senator for the state of New South Wales in 1970 and from 1974 to 1985, former Deputy President of the Senate from 1978 to 1979 and former Federal Minister for Special Trade Representations from 1979 to 1980. A motion moved by the Parliamentary Secretary for School Education and Workplace Relations (Senator Collins) was carried [[first speaker](#)].

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bill was introduced

- Higher Education Support Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 15 March 2012]

The following bills were debated

- Assisting Victims of Overseas Terrorism Bill 2012—second reading debate commenced—1 Australian Greens [second reading amendment](#) to be determined [[first speaker](#)]
- Minerals Resource Rent Tax Bill 2011 and 10 related bills—second reading debate commenced—1 Opposition [second reading amendment](#) to be determined [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- Fairer Private Health Insurance Incentives Bill 2012 and 2 related bills [The bills will now be assented to]

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- Legislation committees—Reports on annual reports referred to legislation committees—No. 1 of 2012
- Selection of Bills Committee—[Report no. 3 of 2012](#) [a motion to adopt the report was agreed to]

Proposed reference

The Senate did not agree to refer matters relating to [coal seam gas and liquid natural gas exploration and export industries](#) to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee.

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

The Senate authorised the following meetings to be held while the Senate is sitting:

- Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Joint Committee—16 March 2012 from 1.30 pm—public meeting—Integrity of overseas Commonwealth law enforcement operations
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—16 March 2012 from 9.00 am—public meeting—Review of Defence annual report 2010-11
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—16 March 2012 from 9.30 am—public meeting—Crimes Amendment (Fairness for Minors) Bill 2011 and the Migration Amendment (Removal of Mandatory Minimum Penalties) Bill 2012

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Community Affairs Legislation Committee—Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records Bill 2011 and a related bill—to report by 19 March 2012
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—2011-12 additional estimates—to report by 22 March 2012

[Notices of motion](#)

To refer matters to committees

- Revised Implementation Guidelines for the National Code of Practice for the Construction Industry—Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee—to report by 10 May 2012—notice given by Senator Fisher
- Road Safety Remuneration Bill 2011 and a related bill—Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee—to report by 10 May 2012—notice given by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Abetz)

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee–21 March 2012 from 5.30 pm–public meeting–Defence Trade Controls Bill 2011
- ❑ Gambling Reform Joint Select Committee–20 March 2012 from 4.00 pm–private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1), followed by an in camera hearing

To extend a reporting deadline

- ❑ Community Affairs References Committee–Health services and medical professionals in rural areas–to report by 27 June 2012

Documents

Delegated legislation

See [Disallowance Alert](#) for a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

Orders for the production of documents

[Notices of motion](#)

The following notices of motion were given requiring Ministers to table documents:

- ❑ The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Evans) to table documents relating to allegations made regarding Central Coast Group Training–no later than 5.00 pm on 19 March 2012–notice given by Senator Fierravanti-Wells
- ❑ The Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship (Senator Lundy) to table training manuals produced by Serco–no later than 22 March 2012–notice given by Senator Hanson-Young

Documents tabled

- ❑ [1 petition](#)

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- ❑ [Maintenance of River Murray levee banks](#)–moved by Senators Xenophon, Birmingham and Hanson-Young

A motion moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) and [negatived on 14 March 2012](#) which related to nuclear submarines, was moved again and [agreed to](#).

Motions negatived

- ❑ [Coal export industry](#)–moved by Senator Milne
- ❑ [Provision of a progress report by the Privileges Committee](#)–moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- ❑ [Student services and amenities fees](#)–moved by Senator Rhiannon

Notices of motion

[Notices of motion](#) given today are available in the Senate Journals.

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Online

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

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Related resources

The *Order of Business* (or 'Senate Red') and the *Dynamic Red* (which updates the *Order of Business* throughout the sitting day) are also available at www.aph.gov.au/senate

Contact details

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