



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.51 pm

Legislation

[For bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care Budget Measures) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 23 November 2010]
- ❑ Family Law Amendment (Validation of Certain Parenting Orders and Other Measures) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 23 November 2010]
- ❑ Foreign Acquisitions Amendment (Agricultural Land) Bill 2010 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Health Insurance Amendment (Pathology Requests) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 22 November 2010]
- ❑ Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 23 November 2010]
- ❑ Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 24 November 2010]
- ❑ National Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 23 November 2010]
- ❑ Patent Amendment (Human Genes and Biological Materials) Bill 2010 [private senators' bill]

The following bills were exempted from the cut-off order [to enable consideration in this period of sittings]

- ❑ Education Services for Overseas Students Legislation Amendment Bill 2010
- ❑ Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care Budget Measures) Bill 2010

The following bills were debated

- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2010—second reading agreed to [\[first speaker\]](#) and committee of the whole commenced—2 Australian Greens amendments to be determined [further amendments remain to be considered]

Notices of motion

To introduce bills

- Assisting Victims of Overseas Terrorism Bill 2010—notice given by Senator Brandis
- National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Bill 2010 and a related bill— notices given by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations (Senator Evans)

To exempt bills from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- Corporations Amendment (Sons of Gwalia) Bill 2010
 - Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Bill 2010
- notice given by the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (Senator Carr)

To give precedence to a bill

- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Anti-Siphoning) Bill 2010—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

To vary the hours of meeting

A notice was given by the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (Senator Carr) to vary the hours of meeting for 25 November 2010 to enable the Government's legislative program to be considered.

Proposed variation to hours of meeting

The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Senator Ludwig) moved to suspend standing orders to enable a motion to vary the hours of meeting for 24 November 2010 to be moved to enable further consideration of the Government's legislative program [\[first speaker\]](#). The debate was not resolved by 7.20 pm and the Senate moved to the adjournment debate. For further information, please see the [Journals of the Senate](#).

Message from the House of Representatives

- National Measurement Amendment Bill 2010—agreeing to the bill without amendments [The bill will now be assented to]

Bill assented to

Assent to the *National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) Act 2010* was reported in the Senate.

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

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

Estimates

The Senate agreed to a [motion](#) establishing dates for estimates hearings for 2011.

Reports tabled

- Community Affairs References Committee—Consumer access to pharmaceutical benefits [[report](#)] [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- Finance and Public Administration References Committee—Matter referred to the committee during the previous Parliament [[report](#)] [a motion to adopt the report was agreed to]
- Public Works Joint Committee—4th report of 2010—Referrals made in October 2010 [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No.10](#) of 2010 and [10th report](#) of 2010 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]

Government responses tabled

- Community Affairs References Committee—The hidden toll: Suicide in Australia [a motion to take note of the response was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- President's report on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports [[response](#)]

New inquiry

The Senate referred [matters](#) relating to the Department of Defence Request for Tender for the provision of air support to the Middle East Area of Operations to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee to report by 1 May 2011.

Meeting during the sitting of the Senate

The Senate authorised the Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee to hold a private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) on 25 November 2010.

[Notices of motion](#) given

To extend reporting deadlines

- Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling—Palm Oil) Bill 2010—Community Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 16 June 2011

To refer matters to committees

- Procurement procedures for items identified in the paper *Defending Australia in the Asia Pacific Century: Force 2030*—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—to report by 30 November 2011—notice given by Senators Ludlam and Kroger

Membership

The Senate discharged Senator Cormann from and appointed Senator Boyce to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References. Senator Cormann was appointed as a participating member.

Documents

Delegated legislation

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

Orders for the production of documents

Motions agreed to

The Senate ordered the following documents to be produced:

- ❑ [Copy](#) of the post-election brief for a returned Labor Government for the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations—no later than 10 December 2010
- ❑ [Documents](#) relating to the Home Insulation Safety Program—no later than noon on 25 November 2010

Motion defeated

The Senate did not agree to a [motion](#) requiring documents relating to the National Broadband Network to be presented to the President under [standing order 166](#), by no later than noon on 29 November 2010.

[Notices of motion](#) given

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

- ❑ Minister representing the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (Senator Conroy) to table documents relating to the legal interpretation of the *Water Act 2007*—no later than 13 December 2010—moved by the Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)
- ❑ Report by the Information Commissioner into matters relating to the National Broadband Network—no later than 24 December 2010—notice given by Senator Fisher

Documents tabled

- ❑ Australian parliamentary delegation—122nd assembly of the Inter-parliamentary Union, Bangkok, Thailand, and a bilateral visit to the People's Republic of China—25 March to 11 April 2010—Report [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
- ❑ [Government documents](#)

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Sport (Senator Arbib) [tabled](#) a ministerial statement and other documents about the Montara Commission of Inquiry [a [motion](#) to take note of the documents was agreed to].

Other business

[Questions without notice and issues arising during question time—first question](#)

[Matters of public interest debate—first speaker](#)

[Adjournment debate—first speaker](#)

Motions agreed to

- ❑ [Case of Sakineh Mohammadi-Ashtiani](#)—moved by Senators Barnett and Bernardi
- ❑ [Death of Professor Frank Fenner](#)—moved by the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (Senator Carr) and Senators Mason, Milne and Siewert
- ❑ [Elimination of violence against women](#)—moved by Senator Cash
- ❑ [Human trafficking and slavery](#)—moved by Senator Barnett
- ❑ [Massacre of journalists](#) in the Maguindanao province, Mindanao, Philippines—moved by Senator Wortley
- ❑ [Provision of quality palliative care](#)—moved by Senator Boyce
- ❑ [Volunteers and volunteer organisations](#)—moved by Senators Barnett and Fifield

Motions negatived

- ❑ [Future of Tasmanian forests](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- ❑ [Global carbon budget](#)—moved by Senator Milne

Matter of public importance discussed

- ❑ [Mental health services](#)—proposed by Senator Fifield [[first speaker](#)]

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 on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate

It is issued by the Senate Table Office as a convenient summary of each day's proceedings in the Senate. For a complete account see the official record, the *Journals of the Senate*, on the Internet at <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm>

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 on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate

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