



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 17 March 2010

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.16 pm

Legislation

For [bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were debated

- Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Close of Rolls and Other Measures) Bill 2010—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]
- Social Security and Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Weekly Payments) Bill 2010—second reading agreed to [[first speaker](#)] and committee of the whole completed—2 Government requests for amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the [requests](#) made by the Senate]
- Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Income Support for Students) Bill 2009 [No. 2]—second reading agreed to [[first speaker](#)] and committee of the whole completed—14 Government amendments agreed to and 2 Government requests for amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the [requests](#) made by the Senate]

The following bill was passed

- Trade Practices Amendment (Australian Consumer Law) Bill 2009—[30 Government amendments](#) agreed to [see Journals of the Senate, 16 March 2010 [entry no. 33](#), for previous consideration of the bill] [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]

Notices of motion

To introduce a private senator's bill

- National Integrity Commissioner Bill 2010—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

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

- Trans-Tasman Proceedings Bill 2009 and a related bill—notice given by the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig)

Message from the House of Representatives

- Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

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

Committees

For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Report on legislation

- [Safe Climate](#) (Energy Efficient Non-Residential Buildings Scheme) Bill 2009—Economics Legislation Committee [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the report]

Other reports

- Australian Crime Commission Joint Committee—[Examination](#) of the annual report for 2008-09 of the Australian Crime Commission [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 4](#) of 2010 and [4th report](#) of 2010 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]

Documents tabled

- Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Bill 2010 and related bills—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Correction to report

[Appointment of Select Committee](#)

The Senate agreed to appoint the Reform of the Australian Federation Select Committee at the conclusion of the National Broadband Network Select Committee.

[Notices of motion](#) given

To vary the appointment of a committee

- National Broadband Network Select Committee—notice given by Senator Macdonald

To extend a reporting deadline

- Economics References Committee—Australian dairy industry—to report by 13 May 2010

To refer matters to a committee

- Documents relating to a proposed paid parental leave scheme—Community Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 3 June 2010—notice given by the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig)

Membership

The Senate:

- recommitted the ballot for the Cyber-Safety Joint Select Committee [see Journals entries nos [2](#) and [22](#)]
- agreed that Senator Birmingham replace Senator Boswell on the Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee for the committee's inquiries into sustainable management by the Commonwealth of water resources, and the administration and effectiveness of the Green Loans Program, and Senator Boswell be appointed as a participating member of the committee

Documents

Delegated legislation

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

- [Clerk's documents](#) were tabled [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]

Orders for the production of documents

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to the following orders:

- [Documents](#) relating to the home insulation program—by 12.00 pm on 18 March 2010
- Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) [to table](#) the interim report of the National Broadband Network Implementation Study by 9.30 am on 18 March 2010
- Minister representing the Attorney-General (Senator Wong) [to table](#) the Government's response to the National Human Rights Consultation report by 4.00 pm on 11 May 2010

Statement by Minister

The Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) made [a statement](#) relating to the order of the Senate [agreed to on [11 March 2010](#)] requiring the tabling of the National Broadband Network Implementation Study and the Government's response.

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

Statements of compliance for [various agencies](#) were tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Documents discussed

[Government documents](#) were discussed.

Ministerial statements tabled

The Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion (Senator Stephens) tabled ministerial statements about:

- ❑ Whistleblower protection [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the statement]
- ❑ Zimbabwe

Other business

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

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

[Adjournment debate—first speaker](#)

Motions agreed to

- ❑ [Human rights](#) and electoral conditions in Burma—moved by Senator Ludlam
- ❑ [Standards of decency](#) in election advertisements—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Motions negatived

- ❑ [Investigation of allegations](#) relating to the Japanese whaling industry—moved by Senator Siewert
- ❑ [Provision of support](#) to the captain of the *Ady Gil*—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- ❑ [Same-sex marriage](#)—moved by Senator Hanson-Young

Matter of public importance discussed

- ❑ [Building the Education Revolution program](#)—proposed by Senator Parry [[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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