



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 11 March 2010

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.44 pm

Legislation

For [bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Antarctic Treaty (Environment Protection) Amendment Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 10 March 2010]
- ❑ Ombudsman Amendment (Education Ombudsman) Bill 2010 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No. 1) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 10 March 2010]

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

- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2010 GST Administration Measures No. 1) Bill 2010

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Food Importation (Bovine Meat Standards) Bill 2010—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)] [A division was called for on a motion that the question be put on the second reading of the bill. As required by [standing order 57\(3\)](#), the division will be held on 15 March 2010.]
- ❑ Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2009—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Corporations Amendment (Financial Market Supervision) Bill 2010 and Corporations (Fees) Amendment Bill 2010
- ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment (Torture Prohibition and Death Penalty Abolition) Bill 2009
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2009 GST Administration Measures) Bill 2009
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2009 Measures No. 6) Bill 2009
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2010 GST Administration Measures No. 1) Bill 2010

[These bills will now be assented to]

Notices of motion

To introduce a private senator's bill

- ❑ Responsible Takeaway Alcohol Hours Bill 2010—notice given by the Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)

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

- ❑ Antarctic Treaty (Environment Protection) Amendment Bill 2010
 - ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment (Sexual Offences Against Children) Bill 2010
 - ❑ Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Close of Rolls and Other Measures) Bill 2010
 - ❑ Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care) Bill 2010
 - ❑ Social Security and Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Weekly Payments) Bill 2010
 - ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No. 1) Bill 2010
- notice given by the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig)

To vary the days of meeting

A [notice](#) was given by the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig) to vary the days of meeting to enable the Government's legislative program to be considered.

Message from the House of Representatives

- ❑ Crimes Amendment (Working With Children—Criminal History) Bill 2009—agreeing to the amendment 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](#)

Estimates

The Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee tabled [additional information](#) arising from the 2009-10 additional and supplementary budget estimates hearings.

Reports tabled

Report on legislation

- ❑ [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (Confidentiality of Taxpayer Information) Bill 2009—Economics Legislation Committee

Other reports

- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Import restrictions on beef—[Third interim report](#) [a motion to extend the final reporting date to 18 March 2010 was agreed to]
- ❑ Seven legislation committees [see Journals entries nos [19](#) and [35](#)][—Examination of annual reports tabled by 31 October 2009](#)

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 4](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following reference:

- Anti-People Smuggling and Other Measures Bill 2010—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 11 May 2010

New joint select committee

The Senate [amended](#) and agreed to a motion to concur with a [resolution](#) of the House of Representatives appointing the Cyber-Safety Joint Select Committee.

Proposed reference

The Senate did not agree to refer [matters](#) relating to the appropriateness of applying the public benefit test to charitable and religious organisations in Australia to the Economics References Committee [[first speaker](#)].

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—
 - 11 March 2010 from noon—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
 - 11 March 2010 from 12.15 pm—examination of the annual report 2008-09 of the Integrity Commissioner
- Electoral Matters Joint Committee—15 March 2010 from 12.30 pm—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)

Membership

The Senate agreed to [various changes](#) to committee membership.

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]

Regulations disallowed

The Senate debated [[first speaker](#)] and disallowed the following regulations:

- Parts 8, 9 and 10 of Schedule 1 of the National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits – Therapeutic Groups) Determination 2010 (Instrument number PB 1 of 2010), made under subsection 84AG(1) of the *National Health Act 1953* [[homepage](#)]
- Amendment determination – Drugs on F1 and drugs in Part A of F2 (Instrument number PB 2 of 2010), made under subsections 85AB(1) and 85AC(1) of the *National Health Act 1953* [[homepage](#)]

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

The Senate ordered the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) to table the National Broadband Network Implementation Study and government response by no later than 10.00 am on 17 March 2010.

Documents tabled

Documents were tabled in response to an order of the Senate agreed to on [25 February 2010](#) relating to proposed sites for a Commonwealth radioactive waste dump.

Notice of motion given

Senator Milne gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the documents referred to in resolutions of the Senate agreed to on [16 September 2009](#) and [18 November 2009](#) to be tabled by 10.00 am on 18 March 2010.

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

Letters of advice for [various portfolios](#) were tabled [Letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

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, committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports were discussed

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water (Senator Wong) tabled a ministerial statement about the home insulation program [a motion to take note of the statement was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)].

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- [World Kidney Day](#)—moved by Senator Siewert
- [National occupational health](#) and safety laws—moved by Senator Siewert

