



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 11 September 2012

The Senate met from 12.30 pm until 8.57 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following private senators' bill was introduced

- ❑ Migration Amendment (Health Care for Asylum Seekers) Bill 2012

The following bills were exempted from the cut-off order [to enable consideration in this period of sittings – 14 August to 29 November 2012]

- ❑ International Monetary Agreements Amendment (Loans) Bill 2012
- ❑ Statute Law Revision Bill 2012

Motions agreed to

Hours of meeting and routine of business varied

The Senate agreed to a motion to vary the hours of meeting and routine of business for 18 September 2012 to enable the consideration of the Marriage Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2012.

[Notice of motion](#) to introduce a private senator's bill

- ❑ Minerals Resource Rent Tax Amendment (Protecting Revenue) Bill 2012—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne)

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to a number of laws was reported in the Senate.

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- ❑ Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee—Parliamentary delegation to the People's Republic of China—Report
- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee—129th report—Treaties tabled on 19 and 26 June 2012 [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]

New inquiry

The Senate referred matters relating to [teaching and learning in Australian schools](#) to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee to report by 21 March 2013.

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 October, 1 November and 29 November 2012 from 11.00 am—private meetings
- Community Affairs Legislation Committee—18 September 2012 from 12.35 pm—private meeting
- Community Affairs References Committee—18 September 2012 from 12.35 pm—private meeting
- Cyber Safety Joint Select Committee—19 September, 10 October, 31 October and 28 November 2012 from 4.15 pm to 6.00 pm—public meetings—Cyber-safety for senior Australians
- Environment and Communications Legislation and References Committees—13 September 2012 from 1.00 pm—private meeting
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—9 October 2012 from 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm—public meeting—Slavery, slavery-like conditions and people trafficking
- Gambling Reform Joint Select Committee—18 September, 9 October, 30 October and 27 November 2012 from 4.00 pm—private meetings
- Law Enforcement Joint Committee—19 September, 10 October, 31 October and 28 November 2012 from 5.30 pm—private meetings
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—12 September 2012 from 1.45 pm—private meeting
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—
 - 10 October and 31 October 2012 from 11.00 am—private meetings, followed by private briefings
 - 10 October 2012 from noon—public meeting—Review of Auditor-General's reports
- Treaties Joint Committee—29 October and 26 November 2012 from 1.00 pm—public meetings—Review of tabled treaty actions

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Community Affairs References Committee—Palliative care in Australia—to report by 10 October 2012
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Bill 2012—to report by 20 September 2012

Notices of motion

To refer matters to committees

- Importation of potatoes from New Zealand–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 21 November 2012–notice given by Senators Colbeck, Xenophon, Nash, McKenzie and Madigan

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee–17 September 2012 from 6.30 pm–public meeting–Allowance payment system

To require the publication of documents

A notice of motion was given by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Abetz) and Senator Fierravanti-Wells to require the publication of documents received by the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee relating to the Fair Work Australia investigations into the Health Services Union.

Membership

The Senate agreed to the following changes to committee membership:

- Environment and Communications References Committee–Senator Boswell discharged and Senator Ruston appointed
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–Senator Milne discharged and Senator Whish-Wilson appointed

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]

Motion debated

The Senate debated a motion to approve the designation of the Republic of Nauru as a regional processing country [[homepage](#)] [[first speaker](#)] [an amendment moved by Senator Cash is pending].

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

The Senate [ordered](#) the Minister representing the Treasurer to table monthly updates on revenue from the Minerals Resource Rent Tax by no later than noon on the 30th day of each month.

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

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

Documents tabled

- [Government documents](#) [[and considered](#)]

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- [Foreign acquisition of agricultural land](#)—moved by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Abetz) and the Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)
- [London 2012 Paralympic Games](#)—moved by Senator Bernardi, Fifield and Lundy

Motions negatived

- [2013 Defence White Paper](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam
- [Banning of super trawlers from Australian waters](#)—moved by Senator Siewert
- [Protection of threatened species and wilderness places](#)—moved by Senator Waters
- [Sale of Cubbie Station](#)—moved by Senators Hanson-Young and Waters

Matter of public importance discussed

- [Carbon tax](#)—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 at www.aph.gov.au/senate

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Contact details

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