



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 28 November 2012

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.56 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Biosecurity Bill 2012 and a related bill [Senate bills] [Minister's [second reading speeches](#)]
- Customs Amendment (Malaysia-Australia Free Trade Agreement Implementation and Other Measures) Bill 2012 and a related bill [passed by the House of Representatives on 27 November 2012] [Minister's [second reading speeches](#)]
- Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 27 November 2012]
Migration Amendment (Reform of Employer Sanctions) Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 27 November 2012]
[Minister's [second reading speeches](#)]
- Treasury Legislation Amendment (Unclaimed Money and Other Measures) Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 27 November 2012] [Minister's [second reading speech](#)]
- Parliamentary Service Amendment Bill 2012 [private senator's bill] [President's [second reading speech](#)]

The following bill was debated

- Wheat Export Marketing Amendment Bill 2012—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bill was passed

- Fair Work Amendment Bill 2012 [The bill will now be assented to]

[Notices of motion](#)

To introduce bills

- Citizen Initiated Legislation (Plebiscite) Bill 2013—notice given by Senator Madigan
- Citizen Initiated Referendum Bill 2013—notice given by Senator Madigan

- Fair Trade (Workers' Rights) Bill 2013—notice given by Senator Madigan

To vary the hours of meeting and routine of business

A notice of motion was given by the Parliamentary Secretary for School Education and Workplace Relations (Senator Collins) to vary the hours of meeting and routine of business for 29 November 2012 and to consider the following bills under a limitation of time:

- Wheat Export Marketing Amendment Bill 2012
- Treasury Legislation Amendment (Unclaimed Money and Other Measures) Bill 2012
- National Gambling Reform Bill 2012 and 2 related bills
- Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Further MySuper and Transparency Measures) Bill 2012

Messages from the House of Representatives reported

- Fair Work Amendment (Transfer of Business) Bill 2012—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- Higher Education Support Amendment (Streamlining and Other Measures) Bill 2012—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- Migration Legislation Amendment (Student Visas) Bill 2012—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- Superannuation Legislation Amendment (MySuper Core Provisions) Bill 2012—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

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- International Fund for Agricultural Development Amendment Bill 2012—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee [[report](#)]
- National Gambling Reform Bill 2012 and 2 related bills—Community Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
- Regulatory Powers (Standard Provisions) Bill 2012—Law Enforcement Joint Committee [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) to adopt the report was agreed to referring the bill to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee to report by 18 March 2013]
- Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Excessive Noise from Wind Farms) Bill 2012—Environment and Communications Legislation Committee [[report](#)]

Other reports

- ❑ Economics References Committee–The post-GFC banking sector [[report](#)] [a motion to take note of the report was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee–The performance of the Department of Parliamentary Services [[report](#)] [a motion to take note of the report was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Finance and Public Administration References Committee–Medicare funding for Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment [[report](#)]
- ❑ Human Rights Joint Committee–[7th report of 2012](#)–Examination of legislation in accordance with the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*: Bills introduced 29 October to 1 November 2012; Legislative instruments registered with the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments 17 October to 16 November 2012 [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
- ❑ Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–
 - 433rd report–Annual report 2011-12 [[report](#)]
 - 434th report–Annual public hearing with the Commissioner of Taxation – 2012 [[report](#)]
- ❑ Public Works Joint Committee–6th report–Referrals made May to September 2012 [[report](#)]
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–Examination of the Foreign Investment Review Board national interest test–Interim report–Tax arrangements for foreign investment in agriculture and the limitations of the *Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act 1975* [[report](#)]
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee–[15th report](#) of 2012 [contains assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- ❑ Treaties Joint Standing Committee–131st report–Treaties tabled on 21 August, 11 and 18 September 2012 [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]

Government responses tabled

- ❑ Schedule of government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports–tabled by the President of the Senate on 28 June 2012 [[response](#)]
- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee–126th report–Review of the treaty tabled on 21 November 2011: Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement [[response](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the response was agreed to]

New inquiries

- ❑ [Air quality](#)–Community Affairs References Committee–to report by 16 May 2013
- ❑ [Entitlements of state public sector employees](#)–Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee–to report by 17 June 2013
- ❑ [Extreme weather events](#)–Environment and Communications References Committee–to report by 20 March 2013 [also see Journals entry [16](#)]

New committee

The Senate concurred with a [resolution](#) of the House of Representatives establishing a Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Joint Select Committee.

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

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

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee–29 November 2012 from 9.30 am–public meeting–Australia’s trade and investment relationship with Japan and the Republic of Korea
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–29 November 2012 from 4.00 pm–private briefing

Notices of motion to refer matters to committees

- Antimicrobial resistance implementation–Finance and Public Administration References Committee–to report by 21 March 2013–notice given by Senator Di Natale
- Federal Court of Australia fee increases–Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–to report by 21 March 2013–notice given by Senator Wright

Membership

The Senate agreed to appoint Senators Bushby and Fawcett to the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government Joint Select Committee.

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported notifying [changes](#) to the membership of joint committees.

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, including Governor-General’s Proclamations]

Motion to disallow defeated

The Senate debated but did not agree to a motion to disallow the Basin Plan 2012, made under Part 2 of the *Water Act 2007* [[homepage](#)] [[first speaker](#)].

Notice of intention to withdraw notice

Senator Xenophon gave notice of his intention to withdraw a notice to disallow item [1] of Schedule 1 to the National Health (Weighted average disclosed price – interim supplementary disclosure cycle) Amendment Determination 2012 (No. 2) [PB98 of 2012] made under subsection 99ADB(4) of the *National Health Act 195* [[homepage](#)].

Orders for the production of documents

Document tabled

A document was tabled in response to an order relating to the report by ARTD Consultants and WestWood Spice referred to in the Northern Territory Emergency Response – Evaluation Report 2011 [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [1 November 2012](#)].

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit report no. 11 of 2012-13](#)
- Australian parliamentary delegations—
 - 125th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly, Bern, Switzerland and bilateral visits to Germany and Austria, 16 to 25 October 2012 [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
 - Solomon Islands and Samoa, 31 July to 11 August 2011
 - The People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Indonesia, 26 August to 7 September 2012 [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
- [Government documents](#)
- Responses to Senate resolutions about—
 - World Sight Day—from the Minister for Health (Ms Plibersek) [resolution agreed to on [11 October 2012](#)] [a [motion](#) to take note of the response was agreed to]
 - World Mental Health Day—from the Senior Adviser, Social Policy, Office of the Premier of Victoria (Ms Sperling) [resolution agreed to on [10 October 2012](#)]
- Rules for media related activity in Parliament House and its precincts [the Acting Deputy President (Senator Marshall) made a [statement](#) in relation to the rules]

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

- [Anti-homosexuality legislation in Uganda and Nigeria](#)—moved by Senators Hanson-Young and Pratt
- [Recognition of Australian peacekeepers](#)—moved by Senator Wright

Motions negatived

- [Rights of asylum seekers](#)—moved by Senator Hanson-Young
- [Uranium mining in Western Australia](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam

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

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*.

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Contact details

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