



# Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 12 May 2011

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 8.58 pm

*The Senate will meet again on [14 June 2011](#). Senate committees will meet from 23 May 2011 to 2 June 2011 to consider [2011-12 Budget estimates](#).*

## Budget 2011-12

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[Budget Papers, Portfolio Budget Statements and related sites](#)  
<[www.budget.gov.au](http://www.budget.gov.au)>

The [Opposition](#) and the Leader of the [Australian Greens](#) responded to the Budget statement and documents.

## Legislation

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For [bills and related documents](#)

### Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Air Cargo) Bill 2011 [passed by the House of Representatives on 11 May 2011]
- ❑ Customs Amendment (Export Controls and Other Measures) Bill 2011 [passed by the House of Representatives on 11 May 2011]
- ❑ Family Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment (Child Care and Other Measures) Bill 2011 [passed by the House of Representatives on 11 May 2011]
- ❑ Public Service Amendment (Payments in Special Circumstances) Bill 2011 [private senator's bill]
- ❑ Trans-Tasman Proceedings Amendment and Other Measures Bill 2011 [passed by the House of Representatives on 11 May 2011]

The following private senator's bill was debated

- ❑ Wild Rivers (Environmental Management) Bill 2010 [private senator's bill]—committee of the whole commenced—1 Australian Greens [amendment](#) to be determined [further amendments remain to be considered]

The following bill was passed

- ❑ Sex and Age Discrimination Legislation Amendment Bill 2010—3 Opposition amendments agreed to and 1 item negatived [see Journals entries nos [23](#) and [29](#)] [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]

## Message from the House of Representatives

- Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Provisional Voting) Bill 2011—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

## Committees

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For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

### Estimates

[Additional information](#) arising from estimates hearings was tabled.

### Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- Commonwealth Commissioner for Children and Young People Bill 2010 [[report](#)]—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Other reports

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—First report—Incidents onboard HMAS Success between March and May 2009 and subsequent events [[report](#)] [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- Publications Committee—6th report [[report](#)] [a motion to adopt the report was agreed to]

### Documents tabled

- Regulations and Ordinances Committee—Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation for the period January to March 2011

### [Government responses](#) tabled

- Economics References Committee—Impacts of supermarket price decisions on the dairy industry—Interim report
- Finance and Public Administration Committee—Annual reports referred to committees—Report No. 1 of 2009
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Report on parliamentary privilege—Possible interference in the work of the committee
- Rural Affairs and Transport References Committee—Import risk analysis for the importation of Cavendish bananas from the Philippines
- Treaties Joint Committee—
  - 107th report—Treaties tabled on 20 August (2) and 15 September 2009
  - 111th report—Treaties tabled on 25 November 2009 (3), and 4 and 24 February 2010
- Intelligence and Security Joint Committee—Annual report of committee activities 2008-09

## **New inquiries**

### **Selection of Bills Committee report**

The Senate adopted [reports nos 5](#) and [6 of 2011](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre Supervisory Cost Recovery Levy Bill 2011 and 2 related bills—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 16 June 2011
- Child Support (Registration and Collection) Amendment Bill 2011—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 7 July 2011
- Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security Amendment Bill 2011—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 7 July 2011
- Migration Amendment (Strengthening the Character Test and Other Provisions) Bill 2011—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 20 June 2011
- Native Title Amendment (Reform) Bill 2011—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 20 September 2011
- Remuneration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—to report by 17 June 2011

### **Other references**

- [Any bills](#) introduced into the House of Representatives after 12 May 2011 and before 2 June 2011 that contain provisions commencing on or before 1 July 2011—Committees—to report by 14 June 2011

## **Variation of appointment**

The Senate agreed to an [amendment](#) made by the House of Representatives to a [resolution](#) in relation to the Electoral Matters Joint Committee.

## **Meetings during the sitting of the Senate**

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

- Economics Legislation and References Committees—12 May 2011 from 3.00 pm—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
- Environment and Communications Legislation Committee—16 June 2011 from 4.00 pm to 11.00 pm—to take evidence from the Australian Communications and Media Authority and NBN Co in relation to the consideration of the 2011-12 Budget estimates
- National Broadband Network Joint Committee—12 May 2011 from 5.00 pm—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)

## **Reporting date extended**

The Senate extended the reporting date for the inquiry of the Community Affairs References Committee into the Commonwealth contribution to former forced adoption policies to 21 November 2011.

## Notice of motion

A notice of motion was given to extend the reporting deadline of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for its inquiry into equity and diversity health checks in the Royal Australian Navy to 22 September 2011.

## Membership

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

## Documents

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### Delegated legislation

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

### Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

The Senate [ordered](#) that answers to questions placed on notice during the consideration by the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee of the 2010-11 additional estimates be tabled no later than 18 May 2011.

Notice of motion

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) gave a [notice of motion](#) to require a report by the Productivity Commission on the development of a sovereign wealth fund for Australia to be tabled—no later than 20 September 2011.

### Orders with continuing effect

*Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies*

Letters of advice for [various portfolios](#) were tabled [Lists of appointments made and existing vacancies are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

*Departmental and agency grants*

Letters of advice for [various portfolios](#) were tabled [Lists of all grants approved are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

## Other business

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

### Motion agreed to

- [Community hospitals](#) in South Australia—moved by Senators Birmingham, Ferguson, Bernardi, Fisher, Minchin and Xenophon

### Motions negatived

- [Alcohol pricing](#)—moved by Senator Siewert
- [Cluster munitions](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam

### **Motion debated**

- [Pressures on household budgets](#)—moved by Senator Fifield [[first speaker](#)]

### **Questions on notice—Failure to provide answers**

Various senators asked Ministers for explanations of answers not being provided to questions placed on notice during consideration of estimates by Senate committees. Responses and explanations were given by Ministers and motions to take note were agreed to [for details see [Journals of the Senate](#), and [Senate Hansard](#), commencing at page 54].

### **Notices of motion**

[Notices of motion](#) given today are available in the Senate Journals.

## **Statistics**

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Statistics on the work of the Senate this week will be available in the [Statistical Summary](#), which forms part of [StatsNet](#)—the Department of the Senate’s online statistical collection.

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#### **Online**

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at [www.aph.gov.au/senate](http://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](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate)

#### **Contact details**

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