



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 15 September 2011

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.43 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Defence Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 [passed by the House of Representatives on 14 September 2011]
- Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Amendment (Oils in the Antarctic Area) Bill 2011 [passed by the House of Representatives on 14 September 2011]

The following bills were debated

- Carbon Tax Plebiscite Bill 2011 [No. 2] [private senator's bill]—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]
- National Health Reform Amendment (National Health Performance Authority) Bill 2011—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]

The following private senator's bill was defeated by a majority vote

- National Broadband Network Financial Transparency Bill 2010 (No. 2)—defeated at second reading [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration Charges) Amendment Bill 2011 and a related bill [These bills will now be assented to]
- Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2011 and 2 related bills [These bills will now be assented to]
- Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Amendment (Inventory) Bill 2011 [The bill will now be assented to]
- Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Early Release of Superannuation) Bill 2011 [The bill will now be assented to]

Message from the House of Representatives

Reported

- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment (National Regulator) Bill 2011—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

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- National Health Reform Amendment (Independent Hospital Pricing Authority) Bill 2011—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee [\[report\]](#)
- Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Fair Protection for Firefighters) Bill 2011—Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee [\[report\]](#) [a motion to take note of the report was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]

Other report

- Treaties Joint Committee—119th report—Treaty tabled on 5 July 2011 [\[report\]](#) [a [motion](#) to take note of 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 July 2011

[Government responses](#) tabled

- Economics References Committee—Augmented tax assessments
- Publications Joint Committee—Inquiry into the development of a digital repository and electronic distribution of the Parliamentary Papers Series—Recommendation 5
- Scrutiny of New Taxes Select Committee—The student amenities fee – Another tax by another name

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 12](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- Constitutional Corporations (Farm Gate to Plate) Bill 2011—Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 24 November 2011
- Qantas Sale Amendment (Still Call Australia Home) Bill 2011—Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 2 November 2011
- Quarantine Amendment (Disallowing Permits) Bill 2011—Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 2 November 2011

Variation of appointment

The Senate agreed to a [variation](#) to the resolution appointing the Cyber Safety Joint Select Committee [The House of Representatives will now consider the variation made by the Senate].

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

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

- Australia's Clean Energy Future Legislation Joint Select Committee–
15 September 2011–private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
- Community Affairs References Committee–22 September 2011 from 4.30 pm–
Commonwealth contribution to former forced adoption policies, and the
Professional Services Review Scheme–public meeting
- Electoral Matters Joint Committee–21 September 2011 from 9.30 am to
11.00 am–Funding of political parties and election campaigns–public meeting

Reporting date extended

The Senate extended the reporting date for the inquiry of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee into Schedule 3 of the Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 to 19 September 2011.

[Notices of motion](#)

To extend a reporting deadline

- Scrutiny of Bills Committee–Future direction and role of the committee–to report
by 30 November 2011

To refer a matter to a committee

- Higher education and skills training for agriculture and agribusiness–Education,
Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee–to report by
1 March 2012–notice given by the Chair of the Education, Employment and
Workplace Relations References Committee (Senator Back)

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

Notice of motion

Senator Fierravanti-Wells gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Ludwig) to table advice relating to audits of dentists by Medicare Australia—no later than 5.00 pm on 31 October 2011.

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

A correction to the letter of advice for the Innovation, Industry, Science and Research portfolio was 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]

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit report](#) no. 6 of 2011-12
- [1 petition](#)

Documents discussed

Government documents, committee reports and government responses were discussed [see Journals entries [41](#) and [42](#)].

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Finance and Deregulation (Senator Wong) tabled a ministerial statement about the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry, along with the Commonwealth response to the interim report of the commission of inquiry.

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- [ABC broadcast of the South Australian National Football League](#)—moved by Senators Hanson-Young, Wright, McEwen, Birmingham and Xenophon
- [Kurdish community](#)—moved by Senator Di Natale

Motion negatived

- [Slaughter of dolphins and porpoises](#)—moved by Senator Siewert

Motion debated

- [Government's fiscal strategy](#)—moved by Senator Fifield [[first speaker](#)]

Statement by President

The President made a [statement](#) relating to remarks made by the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (Senator Carr) in question time on 14 September 2011.

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*, at www.aph.gov.au/senate/work/journals/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 at www.aph.gov.au/senate

Contact details

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