



Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 19 September 2011

The Senate met from 10.00 am until 10.28 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bill was debated

- Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities) Bill 2010—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- Australian Energy Market Amendment (National Energy Retail Law) Bill 2011 [The bill will now be assented to]
- Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care Financial Viability) Bill 2011 [The bill will now be assented to]
- Migration Amendment (Complementary Protection) Bill 2011 [The bill will now be assented to]
- National Health Reform Amendment (National Health Performance Authority) Bill 2011—1 Government and 1 Opposition amendment agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendments](#) made by the Senate]
- Schools Assistance Amendment Bill 2011 [The bill will now be assented to]

Bills assented to

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

See **Committees** for details of reports relating to legislation

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)
[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- Trade Marks Amendment (Tobacco Plain Packaging) Bill 2011—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]

- ❑ Disability impairment tables: Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011–Schedule 3–Community Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]

New inquiry

The Senate referred matters relating to higher education and skills training for agriculture and agribusiness to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations References Committee for report by 1 March 2012 [[terms of reference](#)].

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–Government’s response to kidnappings of Australian citizens overseas–to report by 24 November 2011
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee–Future direction and role of the committee–to report by 30 November 2011

Notices of motion

To extend reporting deadlines

- ❑ Environment and Communications References Committee–Status, health and sustainability of the koala population–to report by 21 September 2011
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–Native Title Amendment (Reform) Bill 2011–to report by 3 November 2011
- ❑ Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–Qantas Sale Amendment (Still Call Australia Home) Bill 2011–to report by 21 November 2011
- ❑ Rural Affairs and Transport References Committee–Live export trade, together with the Live Animal Export (Slaughter) Prohibition Bill 2011 [No. 2] and the Live Animal Export Restriction and Prohibition Bill 2011 [No. 2]–to report by 12 October 2011

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- ❑ Australia’s Clean Energy Future Legislation Joint Select Committee–21 September 2011 from 9.30 am to noon–public meeting
- ❑ Environment and Communications References Committee–20 September 2011 from 5.30 pm–Status, health and sustainability of the koala population–private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–22 September 2011 from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm–International child abduction to and from Australia–public meeting
- ❑ National Broadband Network Joint Committee–20 September 2011 from 6.00 pm to 9.30 pm–public meeting
- ❑ National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee–21 September 2011 from 12.30 pm to 1.45 pm–public meeting
- ❑ Rural Affairs and Transport References Committee–20 September 2011 from 4.30 pm–Live export trade, together with the Live Animal Export (Slaughter) Prohibition Bill 2011 [No. 2] and the Live Animal Export Restriction and Prohibition Bill 2011 [No. 2]–public meeting

Membership

The Senate agreed that Senator Colbeck replace Senator Heffernan on the Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for the committee's inquiry into the Quarantine Amendment (Disallowing Permits) Bill 2011, and that Senator Heffernan be appointed as a participating member.

A message from the House of Representatives advising of [appointments](#) to Australia's Clean Energy Future Legislation Joint Select Committee was reported.

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

Motion agreed to

The Senate [ordered](#) 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.

Notice of motion

Senator Colbeck gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Senator Ludwig) to table information relating to New Zealand apple exports—no later than 5.00 pm on 6 October 2011.

Orders with continuing effect

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].

Document tabled

A [government document](#) was tabled.

Other business

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

Motion agreed to

- [Mental health services and climate change](#)—moved by Senator Wright

Matter of public importance discussed

- [Impact of the proposed carbon tax](#) on charitable and not-for-profit organisations—proposed by Senator Fifield [[first speaker](#)]

Questions on notice–Failure to provide answers

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate ([Senator Abetz](#)) asked the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship (Senator Carr) why answers had not been provided to questions on notice nos 673 and 674 asked on 30 May 2011. [Senator Carr](#) provided an explanation. A [motion](#) moved by Senator Abetz to take note of the response was agreed to.

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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