



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 15 August 2012

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.57 pm

Senators

Senator Thorp gave her [first speech](#).

The President announced the resignation, on 14 August 2012, of Senator Fisher.

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bill was introduced and debated

- Migration Legislation Amendment (Regional Processing and Other Measures) Bill 2012 [passed by the House of Representatives on 15 August 2012]—second reading debate commenced [\[first speaker\]](#)—1 Opposition second reading amendment to be determined

The following bill was debated

- Higher Education Support Amendment (Student Contribution Amounts and Other Measures) Bill 2012—second reading debate commenced [\[first speaker\]](#)

The following bill was passed

- Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Screening) Bill 2012 [\[first speaker\]](#) [This bill will now be assented to]

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

- Fair Work Amendment (Small Business—Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

Motion agreed to

The Senate debated and agreed to a [motion](#) to vary the hours of meeting and routine of business for 16 August 2012 to enable the Migration Legislation Amendment (Regional Processing and Other Measures) Bill 2012 to be considered [\[first speaker\]](#).

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

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- ❑ Defence Trade Controls Bill 2011–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee [[preliminary report](#)] [a motion setting a final reporting date of 31 October 2012 and referring any proposed Government amendments to the committee was agreed to]
- ❑ Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Bill 2012 and a related bill–Environment and Communications Legislation Committee [[report](#)]

Other report

- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee–[Alert Digest No. 8](#) and [8th report](#) of 2012 [contains assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds] [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]

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–
 - 16 August 2012 from 11.00 am–private meeting
 - 13 September 2012 from 11.00 am–private meeting
- ❑ Community Affairs Legislation Committee–
 - 16 August 2012 from 5.00 pm–public meeting–Low Aromatic Fuel Bill 2012
 - 21 August 2012 from 12.30 pm to–private meeting
- ❑ Community Affairs References Committee–21 August 2012 from 12.30 pm–private meeting
- ❑ Electoral Matters Joint Committee–22 August 2012 from 9.30 am to 11.00 am–public meeting–Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Improving Electoral Procedure) Bill 2012
- ❑ Environment and Communications Legislation and References Committees–16 August 2012 from 1.00 pm–private meeting
- ❑ Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–16 August 2012 from 4.30 pm–public meeting–Examination of the Foreign Investment Review Board national interest test

Reporting date extended

The Senate extended the reporting date for the inquiry of the Community Affairs References Committee into health services and medical professionals in rural areas to 22 August 2012.

[Notices of motion](#) to hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- ❑ Community Affairs References Committee–16 August 2012 from 4.00 pm–private meeting

- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–21 August 2012 from 4.30 pm–public meeting–Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Bill 2012

Membership

The Senate agreed to the following changes to committee membership:

- ❑ Environment and Communications Legislation and References Committees–Senator Birmingham 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]

Documents tabled

- ❑ Australian parliamentary delegation–UK, Spain, Germany and the United States–14 April to 3 May 2012–Report
- ❑ A [petitioning document](#)
- ❑ Communiqué–43rd Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference–Honiara, Solomon Islands
- ❑ Collection of condolence speeches relating to Senator Judith Adams

Orders for the production of documents

Orders with continuing effect

Unproclaimed legislation

A document was tabled showing details of unproclaimed Acts, together with a statement of reasons for non-proclamation and a timetable for their operation [[Standing order 139\(2\)](#) requires tabling before 31 August each year]

Motion defeated

The Senate did not agree to a motion requiring the Minister representing the Treasurer to table information relating to Minerals Resource Rent Tax revenues.

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

- ❑ [2/27th Battalion AIF](#)–moved by Senator McEwen
- ❑ [Homelessness](#)–moved by Senators Wright and Ludlam
- ❑ [Performance of Australian athletes at the London Olympics](#)–moved by the Minister for Sport (Senator Lundy)

Motions negatived

- ❑ [Logging in the Solomon Islands](#)—moved by Senator Rhiannon
- ❑ [TrapWire surveillance system](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam

Matter of public importance discussed

- ❑ [Asylum seeker policy](#)—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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Related resources

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Contact details

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