

Community Affairs References Committee

Report on matters referred to the Community Affairs References Committee in the 42nd Parliament

The committee met and considered references which the committee commenced during the 42nd Parliament but for which, due to the timing of the election and prorogation of parliament, the committee was unable to make substantive reports.

The committee has resolved to **recommend** to the Senate that the following inquiries of the 42nd Parliament be re-referred with the same terms of reference so that the committee can complete and table a comprehensive report on the findings of the committee:

- Inquiry into Gene Patents, with a reporting date of 25 November 2010; and
- Inquiry into Consumer Access to Pharmaceutical Benefits, with a reporting date of 25 November 2010.

The committee has resolved to **recommend** to the Senate that the following inquiry of the 42nd Parliament be re-referred with updated terms of reference so that the committee can complete and table a comprehensive report on the findings of the committee:

- Inquiry into Planning Options and Services for People Ageing with a Disability, with a reporting date of 31 March 2011.

The committee recommends the following updated terms of reference in order to clarify the intent of the inquiry into Planning Options and Services for People Ageing with a Disability:

Access to options for and services to assist people with a disability and their carers to plan for the future, including:

- (a) Inadequacies in the choice and funding of planning options currently available to people ageing with a disability and their carers;
- (b) Ways to ensure the continued quality of life for people with a disability as they and their carers age;
- (c) The types of options and services that could be developed to help people with a disability and their carers to plan for the future; and
- (d) Any other matters which would assist carers to find an adequate and appropriate answer to the question: 'What happens when I / we can no longer care?'

That, in respect of each of the matters to be referred to the committee, it have the power to consider and use the records of the Community Affairs References Committee appointed in the previous parliament.

Senator Rachel Siewert
Chair
September 2010