

**Senate Standing Committee
for the
Scrutiny of Bills**



Alert Digest

No. 3 of 2000

15 March 2000

Senate Standing Committee
for the
Scrutiny of Bills

Alert Digest No. 3 of 2000

15 March 2000

ISSN 1329-668X

Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills

Members of the Committee

Senator B Cooney (Chairman)
Senator W Crane (Deputy Chairman)
Senator T Crossin
Senator J Ferris
Senator B Mason
Senator A Murray

Terms of Reference

Extract from **Standing Order 24**

- (1) (a) At the commencement of each parliament, a Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills shall be appointed to report, in respect of the clauses of bills introduced into the Senate, and in respect of Acts of the Parliament, whether such bills or Acts, by express words or otherwise:
- (i) trespass unduly on personal rights and liberties;
 - (ii) make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon insufficiently defined administrative powers;
 - (iii) make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon non-reviewable decisions;
 - (iv) inappropriately delegate legislative powers; or
 - (v) insufficiently subject the exercise of legislative power to parliamentary scrutiny.
- (b) The committee, for the purpose of reporting upon the clauses of a bill when the bill has been introduced into the Senate, may consider any proposed law or other document or information available to it, notwithstanding that such proposed law, document or information has not been presented to the Senate.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

• A New Tax System (Family Assistance and Related Measures) Bill 2000	5
A New Tax System (Fringe Benefits) Bill 2000	7
A New Tax system (Medicare Levy Surcharge—Fringe Benefits) Amendment Bill 2000	8
Aviation Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2000	9
• Child Support Legislation Amendment Bill 2000	10
• Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2000	12
Interstate Road Transport Amendment Bill 2000	14
• Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2000	15
• Jurisdiction of Courts Legislation Amendment Bill 2000	16
• Road Transport Charges (Australian Capital Territory) Amendment Bill 2000	18
• Telecommunications (Interception) Legislation Amendment Bill 2000	19
Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2000	23
Bills Giving Effect to National Schemes of Legislation	24

- **The Committee has commented on these bills**

This Digest is circulated to all Honourable Senators.
Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the
Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

A New Tax System (Family Assistance and Related Measures) Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 9 March 2000 by the Minister for Community Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Family and Community Services]

The bill proposes to amend the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999* and *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999* to simplify the structure and administration of family assistance to:

- provide the administrative infrastructure to support the payment of child care benefit;
- clarify the operation of certain aspects of the family assistance law;
- replace regulation-making powers with substantive provisions; and
- make technical amendments.

The bill also proposes to amend the *Social Security Act 1991* in relation to a 4 per cent increase for certain social security payment supplements and allowances.

Consequential and technical amendments are also proposed to 7 other Acts. These amendments are part of the overall financial implications for the Government's family assistance package and contain both savings and transitional provisions.

Use of tax file numbers Schedule 2, items 6 and 60

Schedule 2 to this bill proposes certain amendments to the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance)(Administration) Act 1999*. Specifically, item 6 of Schedule 2 proposes to insert a new section 8A in that Act, and among other things, item 60 proposes to insert new sections 57B, 57C and 57D in that Act. Each of these provisions permits the Secretary of the Department of Family and Community Services to obtain a person's tax file number.

The Committee has frequently had reason to comment on the extension of the tax file number scheme far beyond its original purpose. However, in this instance, the requirement to provide tax file numbers seems in accord with the original purpose of that scheme, as the reason for the requirement is to enable the Secretary to reconcile a claimant's estimated taxable income with his or her actual taxable income. The measures may, therefore, be seen as part of taxation law, rather than as part of social security law.

In these circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on these provisions.

Non-reviewable decisions Schedule 2, item 103

Item 103 of Schedule 2 to this bill proposes to insert a new section 104 in the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance)(Administration) Act 1999*. This new section states that, under proposed section 105, "the Secretary may review a decision of any officer under the family assistance law" but then sets out certain exceptions.

The Explanatory Memorandum accompanying the bill seems to suggest that the exceptions listed are reviewable. Given the lack of explanation in the Explanatory Memorandum, the Committee **seeks the Minister's advice** as to the reasons for excluding the specified decisions from the general scheme of internal and external review.

Pending the Minister's advice, the Committee draws Senators' attention to this provision, as it may be considered to make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon non-reviewable decisions, in breach of principle 1(a)(iii) of the Committee's terms of reference.

A New Tax System (Fringe Benefits) Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 9 March 2000 by the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation. [Portfolio responsibility: Treasury]

The bill proposes to amend the *Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act 1986* to:

- stop the overuse of concessional fringe benefit tax (FBT) treatment for public benevolent institutions and certain non-profit organisations;
- extend the application of the current FBT exemption for remote area housing benefits;
- allow an FBT exemption to primary producers in remote areas who provide non-entertainment meals for remote employees; and
- introduce a new FBT gross-up formula to neutralise the tax treatment between fringe benefits and cash salary following the introduction of GST.

The bill also proposes to amend the following Acts:

A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 to ensure that taxable supplies that are subject to FBT rules are not also subject to the goods and services tax;

Medicare Levy Act 1986 in relation to the income threshold for the Medicare levy surcharge.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

A New Tax System (Medicare Levy Surcharge—Fringe Benefits) Amendment Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 9 March 2000 by the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation. [Portfolio responsibility: Treasury]

The bill proposes to amend the *A New Tax System (Medicare Levy Surcharge—Fringe Benefits) Act 1999* to make minor technical corrections to ensure consistency between the Medicare levy surcharge on reportable fringe benefits and the additional 1 per cent Medicare levy on taxable income of taxpayers who do not have adequate private patient hospital insurance.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Aviation Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 March 2000 by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Transport and Regional Services]

The bill proposes to amend the *Air Navigation Act 1920* to ease ownership and control restrictions in Australia's international airlines other than Qantas whilst retaining the current 49 per cent limit on foreign ownership.

The bill also proposes to amend the *Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995* to increase the maximum penalties which may be imposed for certain breaches by a factor of five.

The bill also makes two minor technical amendments to the *Air Navigation Act 1920*.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Child Support Legislation Amendment Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 9 March 2000 by the Minister for Community Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Community Services]

The bill proposes to amend the *Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1988*, *Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989* and *Family Law Act 1975* to enable Australia to fulfil its international maintenance obligations. This is to be achieved by inserting a regulation-making power into each of the Acts to allow regulations to be made prescribing, in relation to countries with which Australia has maintenance enforcement arrangements, all matters relevant to the recognition and enforcement of child support and spousal maintenance liabilities.

Henry VIII clause

Schedule 1, items 2, 4 and 5

Item 2 of Schedule 1 to this bill proposes to insert a new section 163B in the *Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989*. Item 4 of Schedule 1 proposes to insert a new section 124A in the *Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1988* and item 5 proposes to insert a new section 124A in the *Family Law Act 1975*. Proposed new subsections 163B(3), 124A(3) and 124A(3) respectively authorise the making of regulations which are inconsistent with their respective enabling Acts, and which would prevail over the enabling Act to the extent of any inconsistency.

The Explanatory Memorandum observes that the “purpose of this approach is to allow the regulations to vary the operation of the ... Act where the existing provisions are not appropriate for the purpose of meeting Australia’s international maintenance obligations”.

Since its establishment, the Committee has consistently drawn attention to Henry VIII clauses. While the explanation put forward in the case of this bill may provide a justification for including these particular provisions, the Committee nevertheless remains concerned whenever subordinate legislation takes precedence over the primary legislation which creates it.

For this reason, the Committee draws Senators' attention to these provisions, as they may be considered to inappropriately delegate legislative powers, in breach of principle 1(a)(iv) of the Committee's terms of reference.

Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 9 March 2000 by the Minister for Community Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Family and Community Services]

The bill proposes to amend the following four Acts:

Social Security Act 1991 to expand the definition of a “double orphan”, and their eligibility to receive a double orphan pension, to include the situation where one parent is dead and the other is a long term remandee;

A New Tax System (Bonuses for Older Australians) Act 1999 to ensure that the disqualifying period for the self-funded retirees bonus ends on 30 June 2000; and

Social Security (Administration) Act 1999 and *Social Security (Administration and International Agreements) (Consequential Amendments) Act 1999* to correct minor inaccuracies.

Retrospective application

Subclause 2(2) and Schedule 1, item 7

By virtue of subclause 2(2) of this bill, the amendments proposed by Part 2 of Schedule 1 are to commence retrospectively on 1 July 1998. Additionally, by virtue of item 7 of Schedule 1, the amendments proposed by Part 3 of that Schedule – although commencing on 1 July 2000 – are to apply from 1 July 1998.

The Explanatory Memorandum accompanying the bill states that the amendments are beneficial to the recipients of double orphans benefit. As is its practice, the Committee makes no further comment where retrospectivity operates beneficially. However, the Explanatory Memorandum does not make clear why the date of 1 July 1998 has been chosen, beyond a somewhat cryptic reference to this as the date the problem “was first identified”. The Committee, therefore, **would appreciate the Minister’s advice** as to how the date of 1 July 1998 was chosen.

Given that the retrospective application of this bill is beneficial, the Committee makes no further comment on these provisions.

Interstate Road Transport Amendment Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 March 2000 by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Transport and Regional Services]

The bill is part of a package of three bills to implement updated nationally consistent heavy vehicle registration charges as agreed by the Australian Transport Council which comprises the Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers responsible for transport.

The bill proposes to amend the *Interstate Road Transport Act 1985* by amending the definition of “trailer”.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 March 2000 by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Transport and Regional Services]

The bill is part of a package of three bills to implement updated nationally consistent heavy vehicle registration charges as agreed by the Australian Transport Council which comprises the Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers responsible for transport.

The bill proposes to amend the *Interstate Road Transport Charge Act 1985* to implement the updated annual heavy vehicle registration charges for Federally registered vehicles.

Commencement Subclause 2(2)

By virtue of subclause 2(2) of this bill, the measures proposed may commence at any time up to 1 January 2001 – therefore possibly beyond the 6 month period specified in *Drafting Instruction No 2 of 1989* issued by the Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

However, the Explanatory Memorandum observes that this bill is part of a national scheme of legislation, and its commencement is dependent on complementary legislative action by the States and Territories.

In these circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on these provisions.

Jurisdiction of Courts Legislation Amendment Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 March 2000 by the Attorney-General. [Portfolio responsibility: Attorney-General]

The bill proposes to amend a number of Acts to:

- deal with some of the consequences of the High Court's decision in *Re Wakim; ex parte McNally* in relation to the inability of federal courts to exercise State jurisdiction;
- repeal provisions which purport to consent to the conferral of State jurisdiction on federal courts;
- confer federal jurisdiction on federal courts to review the decisions of Commonwealth officers and bodies made in performance of functions conferred on them by State and Territory law; and
- enable State and Territory Supreme Courts to exercise limited federal judicial review jurisdiction.

The bill also proposes to amend the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977*, the *Corporations Act 1989* and the *Judiciary Act 1903* to make provision with respect to the review of decisions in the criminal justice process to restrict access by defendants in criminal matters to administrative law remedies.

Reducing the review rights of defendants Schedule 2

Schedule 2 to this bill proposes a series of amendments relating to the review of administrative decisions made in the criminal justice process. Specifically, this Schedule proposes to amend a number of Acts to remove the right of defendants to access federal administrative law procedures and remedies. For example, defendants will no longer be able to use the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977* to challenge decisions to prosecute, or other decisions taken in the criminal justice process at any time after a prosecution has commenced, or when an appeal is on foot. Neither will defendants in State and Territory courts be able to use section 39B of the

Judiciary Act 1903 to bring an application in the Federal Court to review decisions of Commonwealth officers made in the prosecution process.

The Minister's Second Reading Speech states that the object of the bill is "to avoid the use of unmeritorious delaying tactics in the criminal justice process". While the bill may have this effect, it will also affect "meritorious" claims for review, and therefore the rights of defendants.

The Committee is concerned at such a significant reduction in the rights currently available to defendants, and **seeks the Attorney-General's advice** as to why such action is appropriate; how the action proposed in the bill is proportionate to the mischief it is aimed at; and whether an alternative approach should be adopted involving the imposition of time-limits on applications for review.

Pending the Attorney's advice, the Committee draws Senators' attention to these provisions, as they may be considered to trespass unduly on personal rights and liberties in breach of principle 1(a)(i) of the Committee's terms of reference, and make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon non-reviewable decisions in breach of principle 1(a)(iii) of the Committee's terms of reference.

Road Transport Charges (Australian Capital Territory) Amendment Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 March 2000 by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Transport and Regional Services]

The bill is part of a package of three bills proposed to form part of a system of nationally consistent road transport laws envisaged under the Inter-governmental agreements on Road Transport signed by Heads of Government in 1991.

The bill proposes to amend the *Road Transport Charges (Australian Capital Territory) Act 1993* to:

- revise definitions of various classes of heavy vehicles for charging purposes; and
- provide levels of heavy vehicle registration charges to be levied from 2000/2001.

The bill will provide the basis of consistent legislation in other Australian jurisdictions.

Commencement Subclause 2(2)

By virtue of subclause 2(2) of this bill, the measures proposed may commence at any time up to 1 January 2001 – therefore possibly beyond the 6 month period specified in *Drafting Instruction No 2 of 1989* issued by the Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

However, the Explanatory Memorandum observes that this bill is part of a national scheme of legislation, and its commencement is dependent on complementary legislative action by the States and Territories.

In these circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on these provisions.

Telecommunications (Interception) Legislation Amendment Bill 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 16 February 2000 by the Attorney General. [Portfolio responsibility: Attorney General]

The bill proposes to amend the *Telecommunications (Interception) Act 1979* to:

- enable access to certain intercepted material by the Inspector of the Police Integrity Commission of New South Wales;
- provide for named person warrants;
- provide for foreign communication warrants;
- remove an obsolete requirement for the Australian Federal Police to execute certain warrants; and
- provide for disclosure of intercepted information in certain further proceedings.

The bill also proposes transitional provisions and makes technical and consequential amendments to the *Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act 1979* and the *Telecommunications (Interception) Act 1979*.

On 13 March 2000, the Committee received a briefing on the provisions of the bill from officers of the Attorney-General's Department and the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, and expresses its appreciation to those officers for that briefing.

Widening access to intercepted telecommunications Schedule 1

The amendments proposed in Schedule 1 to this bill are intended to further extend the list of those entitled to have access to intercepted telecommunications material. The Act currently permits intercepted information to be given to (among others) the Police Integrity Commission of NSW. This bill now proposes to permit the Inspector of the Police Integrity Commission, who occupies a separately constituted statutory office, also to have access.

The Committee has previously noted that the core provision of the *Telecommunications (Interception) Act 1979* is section 7, which prohibits the interception of communications passing over a telecommunications system except in certain “special circumstances”. These exceptions were intended to achieve the objects of the Act, which was introduced as part of a package to reform the powers of ASIO and to facilitate the investigation of narcotics offences.

The Act has since been amended on a number of occasions to widen the list of exceptions to section 7 and to increase the range of “special circumstances”.

In *Alert Digest No 7 of 1997*, the Committee considered the then Telecommunications (Interception) and Listening Devices Amendment Bill 1997. In discussing that bill, the Committee expressed its concern at the proposal to extend access to intercepted material to the Police Integrity Commission of NSW. The Committee observed that that bill was “again an extension of an intrusive power and, as such, a fresh example of legislative creep”.

This bill now further extends access. In these circumstances, it can be seen as yet another “fresh example of legislative creep”.

The Committee draws the Senate’s attention to the continual widening of access to intercepted material, but otherwise makes no further comment on these provisions.

The possible width of intercepted services and telecommunications Schedule 2

As noted above, the amendments proposed in Schedule 2 provide for the issue of named person warrants – warrants which authorise the interception of communications that are being made to or from any telecommunications service that a named person is using or is likely to use.

Such warrants are potentially very wide – possibly authorising the interception of communications from the phone of a friend or acquaintance of the named person in certain circumstances. In response to concerns at the potential width

of the power, the Committee was told that, in the circumstances outlined, the procedures for requesting a new warrant would be followed.

In response to concerns at the possible interception of personal conversations involving persons not under surveillance, the Committee was told that any such material would be recorded automatically but not transcribed, and “would be destroyed” in the same way as intercepted material involving a person under surveillance that was not relevant to a security issue.

The Committee notes the possible width of the material that might be monitored and intercepted, but, given these assurances, makes no further comment on these provisions.

Search and entry without judicial warrant Proposed new subsections 9B(2) and 11D(1)

As noted above, Schedule 2 to this bill makes provision for the issue of named person warrants and foreign communications warrants. Proposed new section 9A authorises the Attorney-General to issue a telecommunications interception warrant in relation to a named person. Proposed subsection 9B(2) states that, where such a warrant authorises entry onto premises, the warrant may, if the Attorney-General thinks fit, provide that entry may be made without consent first being sought, and may authorise measures that the Attorney-General is satisfied are necessary for that purpose.

Among other things, proposed new subsection 11D(1) makes similar provision in relation to foreign intelligence warrants, and gives the Attorney-General similar powers.

Neither of these subsections provides for the issue of a warrant by an independent judicial officer. However, neither provision makes any change in the law, but merely re-enacts the effect of the current subsections 9(4) and 11A(3) of the principal Act.

At a briefing on the bill, the Committee was informed that the policy underlying this approach was that “the reasons for telecommunications interception under the ASIO Act are national security reasons, and those reasons properly reside with the Executive arm of government”.

The Committee was also informed of various accountability arrangements which were said to minimise the potential for abuses in the issue of warrants. For example, with regard to ASIO, a case had first to be developed within the organisation and had to be signed off by the head of the organisation's Collection Division. The organisation's Legal Adviser had to be satisfied that the proposal was consistent with the law, and the Director-General of Security had to personally sign the request to the Attorney-General. The Attorney-General's Department had to certify that the request was consistent with the law, and the Attorney-General himself (or herself) had to personally approve the issue of the warrant. There were additional accountability requirements through the reports of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security.

A number of other accountability measures have previously been suggested to the Committee in similar circumstances. These include:

- providing that a warrant be returned to, or acquitted before, the court or person who issued it, together with information on its exercise;
- imposing a time-limit on the exercise of a warrant; and
- where a warrant is issued by a Minister or a Departmental officer, requiring the issuer to report (in general terms) on the number of occasions such warrants were issued in a year.

Accordingly, the Committee **seeks the Attorney-General's advice** on the applicability of such safeguards in the circumstances proposed by this bill.

On this issue, the Committee notes that it intends to report to the Senate on search and entry provisions in Commonwealth legislation, but proposes to make no further comment on these provisions at this time.

Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2000

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 9 March 2000 by the Minister representing the Minister for Aged Care and the Centenary of Federation. [Portfolio responsibility: Health and Aged Care]

The bill proposes to amend the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989* to:

- introduce new offences for dealing with counterfeit therapeutic goods;
- clarify the offence of importation, exportation, manufacture and/or supply of unapproved therapeutic goods; and
- include an additional ground in relation to advertisements, for removal of therapeutic goods from the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

BILLS GIVING EFFECT TO NATIONAL SCHEMES OF LEGISLATION

Recent discussions between the Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Commonwealth, State and Territory Scrutiny Committees have again noted difficulties in the identification and scrutiny of national schemes of legislation. Essentially, these difficulties arise because 'national scheme' bills are devised by Ministerial Councils and are presented to Parliaments as agreed and uniform legislation. Any requests for amendment are seen to threaten that agreement and that uniformity.

To assist in the early identification of national schemes of legislation, the Committee proposes to note bills that give effect to such schemes as they come before the Committee for consideration.

Interstate Road Transport Amendment Bill 2000

Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2000

Road Transport Charges (Australian Capital Territory) Amendment Bill 2000

These bills propose to implement updated nationally consistent heavy vehicle registration charges as agreed by the Australian Transport Council, which comprises the Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers responsible for Transport.

The Explanatory Memorandum states that these bills form part of a system of nationally consistent road transport laws envisaged under the Inter-governmental Agreements on Road Transport signed by the Heads of Government in 1991 (the Heavy Vehicles Agreement) and in 1992 (the Light Vehicles Agreement).

In accordance with these Agreements, it is intended that the Road Transport Charges (Australian Capital Territory) Amendment Bill 2000 will amend the substantive law of the ACT in respect of heavy vehicle registration charging. The Explanatory Memorandum states that Victoria and the Northern Territory intend to adopt this bill unchanged as the law in their respective jurisdictions. The remaining States intend to adopt the substance of the bill in their own legislation.

For vehicles registered under the *Interstate Road Transport Act 1985*, the Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2000 and the Interstate Road Transport Amendment Bill 2000 implement the nationally agreed provisions.

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE SCRUTINY OF BILLS

INDEX OF BILLS COMMENTED ON AND MINISTERIAL RESPONSES SOUGHT/RECEIVED - 2000

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE SOUGHT RECEIVED	REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE			
Bills Carried over from 1999						
Convention on Climate Change (Implementation) Bill 1999	14(22.9.99)		2.9.99	Senator Brown	23.9.99	
Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Bill 1999	14(22.9.99)	2.9.99		Attorney-General	23.9.99	
Criminal Code Amendment (Theft, Fraud, Bribery and Related Offences) Bill 1999	19(1.12.99)	24.11.99		Justice and Customs	2.12.99	15.3.00
Fair Prices and Better Access for All (Petroleum) Bill 1999	14(22.9.99)	30.8.99		Mr Fitzgibbon	23.9.99	23.12.99
Fisheries Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 1999	14(22.9.99)	1.9.99	14.10.99	Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	23.9.99	1(16.2.00) Act No. 143
<i>Migration Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1999</i> (previous citation: Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 1998)	1(15.2.99)	30.6.99	3.12.98	Immigration and Multicultural Affairs	16.2.99 25.3.99 24.6.99	23.3.99 22.6.99 20.12.99
Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 1999	14(22.9.99)	2.9.99	14.10.99	Attorney-General	23.9.99 21.10.99	17(20.10.99) Act No 151

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE		REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE		SOUGHT	RECEIVED	
Bills being dealt with during 2000							
Broadcasting Services Amendment Bill (No. 3) 1999	1(16.2.00)	6.12.99	9.12.99	Communications, Information and the Arts	17.2.00		Act No.198
Broadcasting Services Amendment Bill (No. 4) 1999	1(16.2.00)	9.12.99		Communications, Information and the Arts	17.2.00		
Customs Legislation Amendment (Criminal Sanctions and Other Measures) Bill 1999	*19(1.12.99) 2(8.3.00)	24.11.99		Justice and Customs	9.3.00	15.3.00	
Dairy Industry Adjustment Bill 2000	2(8.3.00)	16.2.00		Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	9.3.00	14.3.00	2(15.3.00)
Pooled Development Funds Amendment Bill 1999	1(16.2.00)	8.12.99		Industry, Science and Resources	17.2.00	2.3.00	
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Bill 1999	1(16.2.00)		8.12.99	Environment and Heritage	17.2.00		
Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 11) 1999	1(16.2.00) 2(8.3.00)	9.12.99		Treasurer	17.2.00 9.3.00		