Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills

No. 11 of 2002

16 October 2002

Senate Standing Committee

for the

Scrutiny of Bills

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Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills

Members of the Committee

Senator J McLucas (Chair)
Senator B Mason (Deputy Chairman)
Senator G Barnett
Senator T Crossin
Senator D Johnston
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.

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- **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.

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

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Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Australian Crime Commission Establishment Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs. [Portfolio responsibility: Justice and Customs]

The bill proposes to establish the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) in accordance with the agreement reached between the Prime Minister, Premiers of the States and Chief Ministers of the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. The ACC combines the functions of the National Crime Authority (NCA), the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence (ABCI) and the Office of Strategic Crime Assessments (OSCA).

Schedule 1 to the bill proposes to amend the *National Crime Authority Act 1984* to replace the NCA with the ACC. The schedule includes provisions relating to the functions of the ACC, governing regime, Chief Executive Officer, Board, powers, and recognition of State legislation conferring a function, duty or power on the ACC.

Schedule 2 to the bill proposes to amend 21 Commonwealth Acts consequential on the replacement of the NCA, ABCI and OSCA by the ACC.

Schedule 3 to the bill proposes amendments to the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002*, the *Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2002* and the *Telecommunications (Interception) Act 1979* that are contingent on the commencement of other bills, in order to ensure that there are no gaps in the statutory framework within which the ACC will operate.

Schedules 1 and 2 also contain transitional provisions.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002

This bill was introduced into the Senate on 25 September 2002 by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer. [Portfolio responsibility: Communications, Information Technology and the Arts]

The bill proposes to amend the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* to delay the introduction of high definition television (HDTV) requirements on commercial television broadcasting licensees and national broadcasters in mainland State capitals for six months until 1 July 2003. The proposed amendments do not change the commencement of the HDTV obligations in areas outside mainland State capitals, because the simulcast periods in these areas have not yet commenced.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Corporations Amendment (Improving Corporate Governance) Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 23 September 2002 by Mr Crean as a Private Member's bill.

The bill proposes to amend the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to:

- increasing penalties for serious breaches of the Act;
- protecting whistleblowers providing information about corporate malpractice in good faith to the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC);
- strengthening annual reporting requirements on the provision of details of executive remuneration;
- strengthening auditor independence and reporting provisions;
- establishing disclosure standards for financial analysts and a statutory right of access to information provided during briefings to analysts by listed companies; and
- the reform of election processes for directors.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Corporations Amendment (Improving Corporate Governance) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

This bill was introduced into the Senate on 23 September 2002 by Senator Conroy as a Private Senator's bill.

The bill proposes to amend the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to:

- increasing penalties for serious breaches of the Act;
- protecting whistleblowers providing information about corporate malpractice in good faith to the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC);
- strengthening annual reporting requirements on the provision of details of executive remuneration;
- strengthening auditor independence and reporting provisions;
- establishing disclosure standards for financial analysts and a statutory right of access to information provided during briefings to analysts by listed companies; and
- the reform of election processes for directors.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Excise Laws Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration. [Portfolio responsibility: Treasury]

The bill proposes to amend the *Excise Act 1901* to enable excise duty on excisable alcoholic beverages to be paid on the higher of the labelled alcohol content or the actual alcohol content; and to allow the Commissioner of Taxation to determine, by instrument in writing, rules for working out the percentage in volume of alcohol in the beverage.

The bill also makes consequential amendments to the *Distillation Act 1901* and the *Spirits Act 1906*.

Retrospective commencement
Schedule 1

By virtue of item 2 in the table to subclause 2(1) of this bill, the amendments proposed by Schedule 1 would commence at 7.30pm on 14 May 2002, being the time when the 2002 Budget was presented. Although this measure will therefore have some retrospective effect, the Committee has been prepared to accept such retrospectivity, especially if the bill is introduced within six months of the presentation of the Budget, as is the case with this bill.

> *In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this provision.*

Parliamentary scrutiny
Proposed new section 77FB

Proposed new section 77FB of the *Excise Act 1901*, to be inserted by item 6 of Schedule 1, would permit the Commissioner of Taxation to determine rules for working out the percentage of alcohol in a beverage. It appears that such rules are of a legislative character, but there is no provision in this bill for the

rules to be subject to any Parliamentary scrutiny, such as disallowance or even tabling. The Committee, therefore, **seeks the Treasurer's advice** for the reason for this apparent omission.

Pending the Treasurer's advice, the Committee draws Senators' attention to the provision, as it may be considered to insufficiently subject the exercise of legislative power to parliamentary scrutiny, in breach of principle 1(a)(v) of the Committee's terms of reference.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Excise Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration. [Portfolio responsibility: Treasury]

Consequential to the Excise Laws Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002, the bill proposes to amend the *Excise Tariff Act 1921* to remove a previous reference to how the volume of alcohol should be physically measured; and substitute references to the new section in the *Excise Act 1901* for working out the volume of alcohol in beverages.

Retrospective commencement
Schedule 1

By virtue of item 2 in the table to subclause 2(1) of this bill, the amendments proposed by Schedule 1 would commence at 7.30pm on 14 May 2002, being the time when the 2002 Budget was presented. However, as explained earlier in this Digest, in relation to the Excise Laws Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002, the Committee has been prepared to accept such retrospectivity, if the bill is introduced within six months of the presentation of the Budget, as is the case with this bill.

> *In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this bill.*

Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Budget Initiatives and Other Measures) Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Family and Community Services]

Schedules 1 and 2 to the bill propose to amend the *Social Security (Administration) Act 1999* and the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999* to repeal existing provisions relating to nominees and to insert new provisions for correspondence nominees and payment nominees, including the stipulation of the duties of payment nominees in relation to payments they receive. The bill also consolidates within the framework of social security law a number of administrative practices relating to nominees.

Schedule 3 to the bill proposes to amend the *Social Security Act 1991* to streamline the process to allow people caring for certain terminally ill children to qualify for carer payment. The need for these amendments was identified in the Government's response to the *Review of the measure to extend carer payment eligibility to carers of children with a profound disability*.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Special Benefit Activity Test) Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services. [Portfolio responsibility: Family and Community Services]

Schedule 1 to the bill proposes to amend the:

- *Social Security Act 1991* to require holders of certain specified visas issued for temporary protection, humanitarian or safe haven purposes ('nominated visa holders') to satisfy the activity test and other newstart allowance conditions. The provisions will only apply to nominated visa holders who, from 1 January 2003, apply for special benefit and are of workforce age, or who are receiving special benefit and reach work-force age after 1 January 2003. Exemption provisions are also included.

- *Social Security (Administration) Act 1999* to ensure that activity test issues which arise in relation to special benefit are treated the same way under the Act as comparable newstart allowance issues.

Schedule 2 to the bill proposes to amend the *Social Security Act 1991* to make changes to the activity testing regime introduced by this bill in respect of nominated visa holders, reflect changes made to the general activity test regime applying to newstart allowance recipients by the *Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and Other Budget Measures) Act 2002*. The measures involve the extension of flexible participation requirements to special beneficiaries aged at least 50 years of age, and the standardisation of terminology in respect of approved programs of work for unemployment payment. This will ensure that activity test requirements are applied consistently to both special beneficiaries and newstart allowees.

Schedule 3 to the bill proposes to correct cross references to the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Consequential and Related Measures) Act (No. 2) 1999* and the *Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (1999 Budget and Other Measures) Act 1999* as a result of the enactment of the *Youth Allowance Consolidation Act 2000*.

Retrospective commencement
Schedule 3

By virtue of items 4, 5 and 6 in the table to subclause 2(1) of this bill, the amendments proposed by Schedule 3 would commence at various dates in 1999 or 2000. However, the proposed retrospective amendments do no more than correct the citation of earlier legislation, and make no substantive change to the law.

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this bill.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Insurance and Aviation Liability Legislation Amendment Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 25 September 2002 by the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government. [Portfolio responsibility: Transport and Regional Services]

The bill proposes to amend the:

- *Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959* to correct a technical error in relation to the application of the definitions of Australian citizen and Australian person to charter operators;
- *Damage by Aircraft Act 1999* to exempt passive owners from liability for damage to third parties on the ground; and
- *Insurance Contracts Act 1984* to allow for the exemption, by regulation, of third party aviation war risk insurance from cancellation and variation provisions of the Act.

Retrospective commencement
Schedule 1

By virtue of item 2 in the table to subclause 2(1) of this bill, the amendments proposed by items 1 to 4 of Schedule 1 would commence retrospectively, at the same time as the commencement of Schedule 4 to the *Aviation Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1998*. However, as is explained in the Explanatory Memorandum, the amendments are beneficial to foreign charter operators of aircraft.

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this bill.

National Gallery Amendment Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the Senate on 25 September 2002 by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer. [Portfolio responsibility: Arts and Sport]

The bill proposes to amend the *National Gallery Act 1975* (the Act) to enable the National Gallery of Australia to gift a work of art, whether or not it has a saleable value, with the approval of the Gallery Council and the Minister.

The Act currently provides for the disposal, by way of sale, gift, or destruction, of a work of art unfit for or no longer required as part of the national collection. However, the Act also states that the Council shall not gift a work unless it has no saleable value.

The bill proposes an amendment to allow the gift of works with a saleable value. This measure is expected to broaden the scope for gifting of works to other institutions, including regional galleries within Australia.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

New Business Tax System (Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration. [Portfolio responsibility: Treasury]

Further to the *New Business Tax System (Consolidation) Act (No. 1) 2002* and the New Business Tax System (Consolidation, Value Shifting, Demergers and Other Measures) Bill 2002, the bill proposes to amend the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*, the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* and the *Income Tax (Transitional Provisions) Act 1997* to further implement consolidation measures in the reform of business taxation and in the new simplified imputation system, which commenced on 1 July 2002.

The bill also contains application, transitional and consequential provisions.

Retrospective commencement
Subclause 2(1)

By virtue of the table to subclause 2(1) of this bill, and as explained in the Explanatory Memorandum, the amendments proposed by much of the bill would commence retrospectively on 1 July 2002. However, the Explanatory Memorandum also notes that the retrospective amendments are beneficial to taxpayers.

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this bill.

New Business Tax System (Franking Deficit Tax) Amendment Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration. [Portfolio responsibility: Treasury]

The bill proposes to amend the *New Business Tax System (Franking Deficit Tax) Act 2002* to make consequential amendments that are required following the commencement of the new simplified imputation system on 1 July 2002. The amendments facilitate the transitional determination of franking deficit tax liability for late balancing companies.

Retrospective commencement
Schedule 1

By virtue of item 2 in the table to subclause 2(1) of this bill, the amendments proposed by Schedule 1 would commence retrospectively at the same time as Schedule 18 to the New Business Tax System (Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2002. Schedule 18 would, in turn, commence on 1 July 2002, as is made clear in the Explanatory Memorandum to the latter bill. The Explanatory Memorandum further observes that neither the amendments proposed in Schedule 18 to the Consolidation Bill, nor those proposed in Schedule 1 to the bill currently under consideration, will have any financial impact.

> *In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this provision.*

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Telecommunications Competition Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts. [Portfolio responsibility: Communications, Information Technology and the Arts]

Schedule 1 to the bill proposes to amend the *Telecommunications Act 1997* to:

- shift the responsibility for determining which services should be subject to pre-selection from the Australian Communications Authority to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission;
- remove the legal requirement for Industry Development Plans in relation to carrier licensing; and
- align the various procedures and obligations on service providers in relation to the interconnection between networks as contained in Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Act.

Schedule 2 to the bill proposes to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974* to facilitate:

- more timely access to basic telecommunications services;
- investment in new telecommunications infrastructure;
- a more transparent regulatory market;
- the accounting separation of Telstra's wholesale and retail operations; and to
- repeal provisions relating to the Telecommunications Access Forum.

Schedule 3 to the bill proposes to amend the *Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997* to make consequential amendments to the proposed repeal of the legal requirement for Industry Development Plans in carrier licensing.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Trade Practices Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration. [Portfolio responsibility: Treasury]

The bill proposes to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (the Act) to:

- clarify the Act's prohibition of pyramid selling by rewriting the provision in plain English;
- amend the law relating to defences to prosecutions to exclude information in the nature of legal opinions or advice on the legal consequences of conduct from the type of information to which the defence applies and to clarify the original intent of the defence; and
- correct a legislative oversight from a previous legislative amendment, to re-insert imprisonment as a penalty. The imprisonment sanction was provided for under the Act prior to its amendment by the *Treasury Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Act (No. 2) 2001* when the provision was inadvertently omitted.

The bill also contains application provisions.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Trade Practices Amendment (Credit Card Reform) Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 23 September 2002 by Mr Griffin as a Private Member's bill.

Identical to the Trade Practices Amendment (Credit Card Reform) Bill 2002 [No. 2] introduced by Senator Conroy, the bill proposes to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974* to give the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission power to deal with any price exploitation arising from changes in the regulation of credit card fees.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Trade Practices Amendment (Credit Card Reform) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

This bill was introduced into the Senate on 23 September 2002 by Senator Conroy as a Private Senator's bill.

Identical to the Trade Practices Amendment (Credit Card Reform) Bill 2002 introduced by Mr Griffin, the bill proposes to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974* to give the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission power to deal with any price exploitation arising from changes in the regulation of credit card fees.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Trade Practices Amendment (Public Liability Insurance) Bill 2002

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 23 September 2002 by Mr McMullan as a Private Member's bill.

Identical to the Trade Practices Amendment (Public Liability Insurance) Bill 2002 [No. 2] introduced by Senator Conroy, the bill proposes to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974* to give the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission the power to take action against insurance companies who exploit savings from State law reform and do not charge premiums for public liability insurance which reflect the effects of the law reform.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Trade Practices Amendment (Public Liability Insurance) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

This bill was introduced into the Senate on 23 September 2002 by Senator Conroy as a Private Senator's bill.

Identical to the Trade Practices Amendment (Public Liability Insurance) Bill 2002 introduced by Mr McMullan, the bill proposes to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974* to give the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission the power to take action against insurance companies who exploit savings from State law reform and do not charge premiums for public liability insurance which reflect the effects of the law reform.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

Trade Practices Amendment (Small Business Protection) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26 September 2002 by the Minister for Small Business and Tourism. [Portfolio responsibility: Small Business and Tourism]

The bill proposes to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (the Act) to enable the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to bring representative actions in respect of contraventions of sections 45D and 45E of the Act. Section 45D of the Act prohibits secondary boycotts undertaken for the purpose of causing substantial loss or damage and section 45E prohibits certain contracts, arrangements or understandings with organisations of employees which affect the supply or acquisition of goods or services.

The bill is the same as the bill negatived on its third reading in the Senate on 19 August 2002.

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.

Australian Crime Commission Establishment Bill 2002

The bill proposes to establish the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) in accordance with the agreement reached between the Prime Minister, Premiers of the States and Chief Ministers of the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. The ACC combines the functions of the National Crime Authority (NCA), the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence (ABCI) and the Office of Strategic Crime Assessments (OSCA).

PARLIAMENTARY AMENDMENTS AND THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

AMENDMENTS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (23-26 September)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002: On 24 September 2002, the House of Representatives agreed to amend this bill. The Committee commented on the bill in *Alert Digest No. 4 of 2002* in relation to the issue of warrants authorising detention, the rights of persons in detention and the abrogation of the privilege against self-incrimination, writing to the Attorney-General about these matters. The Attorney-General wrote in reply that he would provide a response before the Senate considered the bill. The Attorney-General has now done so and the Committee thanks him for this. The Committee has reported on issues arising from the bill and the amendments in its *Twelfth Report of 2002*.

Higher Education Funding Amendment Bill 2002: On 25 September 2002, the House of Representatives agreed to amendments to this bill in place of certain Senate amendments disagreed by the House. The House agreed to other amendments passed in the Senate and disagreed to others. The Committee commented on the Senate amendments in *Alert Digest No. 10 of 2002* in relation to non-reviewable decisions by the Minister and to incorporation of external material as in force from time to time. The Committee sought the Minister's advice on these two matters and will report in the usual way when a response is received. The House amendments affect these two matters, but essentially retain the non-reviewable decisions and the incorporation power. The amendments (proposed section 98JA) also provide for other Ministerial discretions and the Committee similarly **seeks the Minister's advice** about avenues of review.

> *Pending the Minister's advice, the Committee draws Senators' attention to the provisions, as they 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 and may be considered to insufficiently subject the exercise of legislative power to parliamentary scrutiny, in breach of principle 1(a)(v) of the Committee's terms of reference.*

Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002: On 24 September 2002, the House of Representatives agreed to amend this bill. The Committee commented on the bill in *Alert Digest No. 6 of 2002* in relation to delegation of power. The amendment does not affect this comment. Apart from this, the amendment raises no issues within the Committee's terms of reference.

Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2002: On 26 September 2002, the House of Representatives agreed to amend this bill. The Committee commented on the bill in *Alert Digest No. 4 of 2002* in relation to retrospective commencement. The amendments extend a period of retrospectivity, but this appears to be beneficial for affected taxpayers.

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

16 October 2002

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE SCRUTINY OF BILLS

INDEX OF BILLS COMMENTED ON AND MINISTERIAL RESPONSES SOUGHT/RECEIVED - 2002

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED HOUSE	INTRODUCED SENATE	MINISTER	RESPONSE SOUGHT	RESPONSE RECEIVED	REPORT NUMBER
Bills dealt with in 2001							
Air Passenger Ticket Levy (Collection) Act 2001	14(26.9.01)	20.9.01	26.9.01	Transport and Regional Services	27.9.01	31.12.01	1(20.2.02)
Border Protection (Validation and Enforcement Powers) Act 2001	13(20.9.01)	18.9.01	20.9.01	Immigration and Multicultural Affairs	20.9.01	6.02.02	1(20.2.02)
Defence Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Act 2001	12(19.9.01)	29.8.01	24.9.01	Defence	20.9.01	8.11.01	1(20.2.02)
Electoral and Referendum Amendment Act (No. 1) 2001	4(28.3.01)	7.3.01	2.4.01	Finance and Administration	29.3.01	4.5.01	6(23.5.01)
				Further response required	24.5.01	10.1.02	1(20.2.02)
Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2000 [2001]	1(7.2.01) 8(27.6.01)		7.12.00	Environment and Heritage	28.6.01	20.8.01	10(22.8.01)
				Further response required	23.8.01	26.9.01	1(20.2.02)
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Wildlife Protection) Act 2001	9(8.8.01)	25.6.01	24.5.01	Environment and Heritage **re Amendments**	23.8.01	18.10.01	1(20.2.02)
Health and Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Act 2001	10(22.8.01)	8.8.01	23.8.01	Health and Aged Care	23.8.01	8.10.01	1(20.2.02)

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED HOUSE	INTRODUCED SENATE	MINISTER	RESPONSE SOUGHT	RESPONSE RECEIVED	REPORT NUMBER
Migration Amendment (Excision from Migration Zone) Act 2001	13(20.9.01)	18.9.01	20.9.01	Immigration and Multicultural Affairs	20.9.01	6.2.02	1(20.2.02)
Migration Amendment (Excision from Migration Zone) (Consequential Provisions) Act 2001	13(20.9.01)	18.9.01	20.9.01	Immigration and Multicultural Affairs	20.9.01	6.2.02	1(20.2.02)
Migration Legislation Amendment Act (No. 6) 2001	13(20.9.01)	28.8.01	24.9.01	Immigration and Multicultural Affairs	20.9.01	6.2.02	1(20.2.02)
Taxation Laws Amendment Act (No. 5) 2001	11(29.8.01)	23.8.01	26.9.01	Treasurer	30.8.01	18.9.01	1(20.2.02)
Trade Practices Amendment (Telecommunications) Act 2001	10(22.8.01)	9.8.01	19.9.01	Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	23.8.01 20.9.01	17.9.01 25.9.01	12(19.9.01) FRR13(26.9.01) 1(20.2.02)

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED HOUSE	INTRODUCED SENATE	MINISTER	RESPONSE SOUGHT	RESPONSE RECEIVED	REPORT NUMBER
Bills being dealt with in 2002							
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Amendment Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	13.3.02	16.5.02	Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs	21.3.02 20.6.02	13.5.02 28.6.02	FRR5(19.6.02) 8(21.8.02)
Airports Amendment Bill 2002	1(20.2.02)	14.2.02	--	Transport and Regional Services	21.2.02	6.5.02	DC
Australian Heritage Council Bill 2002	7(21.8.02)	27.6.02		Environment and Heritage	22.8.02		
Australian Heritage Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002	7(21.8.02)	27.6.02		Environment and Heritage	22.8.02		
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (Licence Charges) Amendment Bill 2002	4(15.5.02)	21.3.02	20.6.02	Health and Ageing	16.5.02	4.6.02	7(26.6.02)
Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002	4(15.5.02)	21.3.02	15.10.02	Attorney-General	16.5.02	27.9.02	12(16.10.02)
Border Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	12.3.02	14.3.02	Attorney-General	21.3.02	23.4.02	4(15.5.02)
Coal Industry Repeal Act 2001	1(20.2.02)	28.6.00	5.4.01	Industry, Science and Resources	21.2.02	11.3.02	2(13.3.02)
Coal Industry Repeal (Validation of Proclamation) Act 2002	2(13.3.02)	20.2.02	13.3.02	Industry, Tourism and Resources	14.3.02	22.3.02	4(15.5.02)
Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002	7(21.8.02)	27.6.02		Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	22.8.02	16.9.02	

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED HOUSE	INTRODUCED SENATE	MINISTER	RESPONSE SOUGHT	RESPONSE RECEIVED	REPORT NUMBER
Copyright Amendment (Parallel Importation) Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	13.3.02		Attorney-General	21.3.02	5.6.02	
Corporate Responsibility and Employment Security Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	11.3.02		Mr McClelland	21.3.02		
Criminal Code Amendment (Anti-hoax and Other Measures) Bill 2002	1(20.2.02)	13.2.02	11.3.02	Attorney-General	21.2.02 14.3.02 21.3.02	8.3.02 19.3.02 4.4.02	2(13.3.02) 3(20.3.02) 4(15.5.02)
Criminal Code Amendment (Espionage and Related Offences) Bill 2002 (new citation: Criminal Code Amendment (Espionage and Related Matters) Bill 2002)	3(20.3.02)	13.3.02	16.9.02	Attorney-General	21.3.02	14.6.02	9(28.8.02)
Customs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002	6(26.6.02	19.6.02	22.8.02	Justice and Customs	27.6.02	20.8.02	9(28.8.02)
Egg Industry Service Provision Bill 2002	9(18.9.02)	28.8.02	23.9.02	Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	19.9.02		
Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Roll Integrity and Other Measures) Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	14.3.02		Special Minister of State	21.3.02	30.4.02	
Financial Corporations (Transfer of Assets and Liabilities) Amendment Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	15.5.02	12.3.02	Treasury	21.3.02	3.5.02	4(15.5.02)
Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002	4(15.5.02)	21.3.02	20.6.02	Treasury	16.5.02	17.6.02	7(26.6.02)
Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002	7(21.8.02)	26.6.02		Treasury	22.8.02		

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED HOUSE	INTRODUCED SENATE	MINISTER	RESPONSE SOUGHT	RESPONSE RECEIVED	REPORT NUMBER
Financial Services Reform Bill 2001	6(23.5.01) 11(29.8.01)	5.4.01	9.8.01	Treasurer **re Amendments**	24.5.01 30.8.01 17.5.02	7.8.01 13.5.02 14.8.02	9(8.8.01) 4(15.5.02) 8(21.8.02)
Financial Services Reform (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2001	7(20.6.01)	7.6.01	9.8.01	Treasurer **Further response requested**	21.6.01 9.8.01	7.8.01 13.5.02	9(8.8.01) 4(15.5.02)
General Insurance Reform Act 2001	9(8.8.01)	28.6.01	27.8.01	Treasurer **Amendments**	9.8.01 30.8.01	27.8.01 24.6.02	11(29.8.01) 7(26.6.02)
Higher Education Funding Amendment Bill 2002	5(19.6.02) 10(25.9.02)	5.6.02	22.8.02	Education, Science and Training **Amendments**	20.6.02 26.9.02	20.8.02	9(28.8.02)
Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002	1(20.2.02) 10(25.9.02)	14.2.02	13.3.02	Education, Science and Training **Amendments**	--	12.3.02 26.9.02	2(13.3.02)
Import Processing Charges (Amendment and Repeal) Bill 2002	6(26.6.02)	19.6.02	22.8.02	Justice and Customs	27.6.02	20.8.02	9(28.8.02)
Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill 2002	7(21.8.02)	27.6.02		Industry, Tourism and Resources	22.8.02	17.9.02	
International Criminal Court Bill 2002	7(21.8.02)	25.6.02	26.6.02	Attorney-General	22.8.02		
International Criminal Court (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2002	7(21.8.02)	25.6.02	26.6.02	Attorney-General	22.8.02		
Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002	3(20.3.02)	13.3.02		Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs	21.3.02	27.5.02	
Migration Legislation Amendment (Transitional Movement) Act 2002	3(20.3.02)	13.3.02	20.3.02	Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs	21.3.02	27.5.02	5(19.6.02)

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED HOUSE	INTRODUCED SENATE	MINISTER	RESPONSE SOUGHT	RESPONSE RECEIVED	REPORT NUMBER
Plant Breeder's Rights Amendment Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)		13.3.02	Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	21.3.02	23.5.02	5(19.6.02)
Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	13.3.02	20.8.02	Justice and Customs	21.3.02	9.5.02	8(21.8.02)
Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	13.3.02	20.8.02	Justice and Customs	21.3.02	9.5.02	8(21.8.02)
Quarantine Amendment Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	14.3.02	21.3.02	Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	21.3.02		
Security Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 [No. 2]	3(20.3.02)	13.3.02	14.3.02	Attorney-General	21.3.02	14.5.02	4(15.5.02)
Superannuation Legislation (Commonwealth Employment) Repeal and Amendment Bill 2002	2(13.3.02)	21.2.02	19.6.02	Finance and Administration	14.3.02	16.5.02	FRR5(19.6.02)
Suppression of Financing of Terrorism Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	12.3.02	14.3.02	--	--	14.5.02	4(15.5.02)
Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002	3(20.3.02)	14.3.02	24.6.02	Treasury	21.3.02	25.6.02	7(26.6.02)
Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2002	4(15.5.02)	21.3.02	15.10.02	Treasury	16.5.02	27.9.02	12(16.10.02)
Taxation Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy and Medicare Levy Surcharge) Bill 2002	5(19.6.02)	14.5.02	19.6.02	Treasurer	20.6.02		
Telecommunications Interception Legislation Amendment Bill 2002	3(20.3.02)	12.3.02	14.3.02	--	--	14.5.02	4(15.5.02)
Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002	2(13.3.02)	20.2.02	20.3.02	Health and Ageing	14.3.02	19.3.02	3(20.3.02)

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED HOUSE	INTRODUCED SENATE	MINISTER	RESPONSE SOUGHT	RESPONSE RECEIVED	REPORT NUMBER
Trade Practices Amendment (Liability for Recreational Services) Bill 2002	9(18.9.02)	27.6.02	28.8.02	Treasurer	19.9.02		
Transport and Regional Services Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Bill 2002	2(13.3.02)	20.2.02	14.3.02	Transport and Regional Services	14.3.02		
Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002	6(26.6.02)	20.6.02	15.10.02	Transport and Regional Services	27.6.02	17.9.02	12(16.10.02)
Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002	4(15.5.02)	21.3.02	28.8.02	Veterans' Affairs	16.5.02	27.6.02	10(18.9.02)
Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002	7(21.8.02)	27.6.02	26.8.02	Veterans' Affairs	22.8.02	29.8.02	11(25.8.02)
Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Further Budget 2000 and Other Measures) Bill 2002	2(13.3.02)	21.2.02	21.3.02	Veterans' Affairs	14.3.02	19.3.02	3(20.3.02)
Workplace Relations Amendment (Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2002	2(13.3.02)	20.2.02	19.6.02	Employment and Workplace Relations	14.3.02 20.6.02	22.5.02 9.8.02	FRR5(19.6.02) 8(21.8.02)
Workplace Relations (Registration and Accountability of Organisations) Bill 2002	4(15.5.02)	21.3.02	15.10.02	Employment and Workplace Relations	16.5.02	19.8.02	12(16.10.02)