

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 11 of 2005

5 October 2005

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Senator Ferris (Government Whip, Chair)

Senator George Campbell (Opposition Whip)

Senator Bartlett (Australian Democrats Whip)

Senator McGauran (The Nationals Whip)

Senator Siewert (The Australian Greens Whip)

Senator Eggleston

Senator the Hon C Ellison

Senator Ludwig

Senator Webber

Secretary: Rosemary Laing
  6277 3020

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 11 OF 2005

1. The committee met in private session on Tuesday, 4 October 2005 at 4.20 pm.
2. The committee resolved to recommend—That—
 - (a) the **provisions** of the Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005 be **referred immediately** to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 7 November 2005 (see appendix 1 for statement of reasons for referral);
 - (b) the **provisions** of the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 be **referred immediately** to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 1 November 2005 (see appendix 2 for statement of reasons for referral);
 - (c) the **provisions** of the Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Video Link Evidence and Other Measures) Bill 2005 be **referred immediately** to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 1 November 2005 (see appendices 3 and 4 for statements of reasons for referral); and
 - (d) the **provisions** of the National Health Amendment (Budget Measures—Pharmaceutical Benefits Safety Net) Bill 2005 be **referred immediately** to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 1 November 2005 (see appendix 5 for statement of reasons for referral).
3. The committee resolved to recommend—That the following bills **not** be referred to committees:
 - Customs Tariff Amendment (Commonwealth Games) Bill 2005
 - Migration and Ombudsman Legislation Amendment Bill 2005
 - National Health Amendment (Immunisation Program) Bill 2005
 - Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment (Stored Communications and Other Measures) Bill 2005
 - Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2005.

The committee recommends accordingly.

4. The committee **deferred** consideration of the following bills to the next meeting:

Bills deferred from meeting of 4 October 2005

- Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 4) Bill 2005
- Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment Bill 2005
- Tax Laws Amendment (Loss Recoupment Rules and Other Measures) Bill 2005.

(Jeannie Ferris)

Chair

5 October 2005



THE SENATE
CANBERRA ACT 2600
SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

The extent of businesses covered by the proposed
threshold of 0.5 petajoules of energy used per year and
whether more businesses should be covered.

The adequacy of the proposed energy efficiency assessment

Possible submissions or evidence from: BCSE, environment groups eg
ACF, large energy using companies & associated industry associations

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Economists

Possible hearing date(s): 24-28/10

Possible reporting date: 7/11/05

(signed)

Michael Smart
Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member

APPENDIX 2



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE**Proposal to refer a bill to a committee****Name of bill:** Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2005**Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:**

To examine the provisions of the bill relating to new powers to set conditions, limitations and restrictions on the circumstances in which Medicare benefits will be payable for health services; in particular to

- a) consider the evidence that these powers are necessary;
- b) identify if the Bill provides sufficient mechanisms to ensure that decisions to impose conditions, limitations and restrictions are made in line with scientific evidence;
- c) determine the need for appropriate structures to guarantee consumer and expert consultation in the decision making process; and
- d) examine the need for appeals mechanisms to prevent arbitrary application of the power.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

Australian Medical Association
Doctors Reform Society
Public Health Association of Australia
Women's Health Network
Reproductive Choice Australia
Australian Private Hospitals Association
Australian Healthcare Association
Women's Health Victoria
National Association of Practising Psychiatrists
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
Australian Divisions of General Practice
Health Consumers' Council
Australian Consumers Association
State and Territory Governments

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Community Affairs Committee**Possible hearing date(s):****Possible reporting date:** 30 November 2005**Senator Andrew Bartlett, Australian Democrats Whip**

4. OCT. 2005 16:15

DEPARTMENT OF SENATE

NO. 4768 P. 1

APPENDIX 3



THE SENATE

CANBERRA ACT 2600

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill

LAW & JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT
(VIDEO LINK EVIDENCE & OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2005

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF PROSECUTION & DEFENCE
IN TEST FOR ADMISSABILITY OF VIDEO LINK EVIDENCE

Possible submissions or evidence from:

LAW COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA, ALRC ETC

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

LEGAL & CON.

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date:

NOV 28th 2005

(signed)

Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Video Link Evidence and Other Measures) Bill 2005

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

To examine the provisions of the bill relating to the the inter-jurisdictional matching of DNA profiles over the National Criminal Investigation DNA Database.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

The Law Council of Australia
Australian Federal Police
New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date: 10 November 2005

Senator Andrew Bartlett, Australian Democrat Whip

APPENDIX 5



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: National Health Amendment (Budget Measures—Pharmaceutical Benefits Safety Net) Bill 2005

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

To examine the provisions of the bill relating to increases in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Safety Net thresholds and new safety net and patient co-payment arrangements for some pharmaceutical benefits where the pharmaceutical benefit is supplied within 20 days of a previous supply to determine the implications for access and equity in relation to medicines for all Australians.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

Medicines Australia
Australian Consumers Association
National Rural Health Alliance
Veterans
Doctors Reform Society
Australian Divisions of General Practice
Health Issues Centre
Catholic Health Australia
Anglicare
Australian Council of Social Services
Australian Medical Association
Public Health Association of Australia

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Community Affairs Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date: 25 November 2005

Senator Andrew Bartlett, Australian Democrats Whip