REPORT NO. 2 of 2010

#### MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Senator Kerry O'Brien (Government Whip, Chair)

Senator Stephen Parry (Opposition Whip)

Senator John Williams (The Nationals Whip)

Senator Rachel Siewert (The Australian Greens Whip)

Senator Steve Fielding (The Family First Party Whip)

Senator Judith Adams

Senator David Bushby

Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig

Senator Anne McEwen

Secretary: Maureen Weeks

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#### REPORT NO. 2 OF 2010

- 1. The committee met in private session on Tuesday, 23 February 2010 at 4.30 pm.
- 2. The committee resolved to recommend—That—
  - (a) the *provisions* of the Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Bill 2010, the ComSuper Bill 2010 and the Superannuation Legislation (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2010 be *referred immediately* to the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 15 March 2010 (see appendix 1 for a statement of reasons for referral);
  - (b) the *provisions* of the Health Insurance Amendment (Pathology Requests) Bill 2010 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 12 May 2010 (see appendix 2 for a statement of reasons for referral);
  - (c) the *provisions* of the Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 and the Healthcare Identifiers (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 15 March 2010 (see appendix 3 for a statement of reasons for referral);
  - (d) the *provisions* of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2010 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 23 April 2010 (see appendix 4 for a statement of reasons for referral); and
  - (e) the *provisions* of the Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No. 1) Bill 2010 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 15 March 2010 (see appendix 5 for a statement of reasons for referral).
- 3. The committee resolved to recommend—That the following bills *not* be referred to committees:
  - Antarctic Treaty (Environment Protection) Amendment Bill 2010
  - Australian Research Council Amendment Bill 2010
  - Corporations (Fees) Amendment Bill 2010
  - Corporations Amendment (Financial Market Supervision) Bill 2010
  - Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Close of Rolls and Other Measures)
    Bill 2010
  - Higher Education Support Amendment (FEE-HELP Loan Fee) Bill 2010
  - National Consumer Credit Protection Amendment Bill 2010
  - Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Safety Levies) Amendment Bill 2010

- Social Security and Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Weekly Payments) Bill 2010
- Tax Laws Amendment (2010 GST Administration Measures No. 1) Bill 2010.

### The committee recommends accordingly.

4. The committee deferred consideration of the Keeping Jobs from Going Offshore (Protection of Personal Information) Bill 2009 to its next meeting.

(Kerry O'Brien) **Chair** 24 February 2010

#### APPENDIX 1

## SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

## Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

#### Name of bill:

Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Scheme Bill 2010 ComSuper Bill 2010 Superannuation Legislation (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2010

# Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

To determine whether it is necessary to retain a separate board to administer the military superannuation schemes and whether these schemes differ markedly from other Commonwealth Government administered schemes.

### Possible submissions or evidence from:

Australian Reward Investment Alliance Military Superannuation and Benefits Board Defence Force Retirement and Deaths Benefits Authority Defence Force Welfare Association Returned and Services League of Australia

### Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

### Possible hearing date(s):

Throughout Autumn break

### Possible reporting date:

11 May 2010

(signed)

### Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: Health Insurance Amendment (Pathology Requests) Bill 2010

## Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

Examination of the onus being placed on patients to choose the pathology practitioner.

Examine possible problems arising between unknown referring doctors and pathology practitioners – resulting in delays.

Examine problems that may arise as a result of the inconsistent measurement series and reference ranges used by different pathologist practitioners.

Examine potential impacts on arrangements between GPs and pathology providers relating to emergency and out of hours contacts.

### Possible submissions or evidence from:

Department of health and Ageing Medicare Australia Pathology Practitioners Health Advocacy Groups Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Royal Australian College of GPs

#### Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

#### Possible hearing date(s):

Throughout Autumn break

Possible reporting date:

12th May 2010

(signed)

## Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

#### Name of bill:

Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 Healthcare Identifiers Bill (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010

# Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

- Privacy safeguards in the Bill
- Operation of the Healthcare Identifier Service, including access to the Identifier
- Relationship to national e-health agenda and electronic health records

## Possible submissions or evidence from:

Australian Medical Association, Royal Australasian College of General Practitioners, National e-Health Transition Authority, Australian Nursing Federation, Australian Information Industry Association

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Community Affairs

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date:

Monday 15 March 2010

(signed)

### Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2010

# Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

Examine the bill as necessary, particularly schedule 1, part 1.

### Possible submissions or evidence from:

**APPEA** 

Western Australian State Government

### Committee to which bill is to be referred:

**Economics Legislation Committee** 

## Possible hearing date(s):

Throughout Autumn break

### Possible reporting date:

23rd April 2010

(signed)

## Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: Schedule 1 only of Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No 1) Bill 2010

# Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

- Whether the legislation will have unintended consequences for the superannuation market;
- Whether the legislation is anti-competitive in relation to privately operating Clearing Houses;
- Whether Medicare is an appropriate agency to operate the Clearing House under the legislation.

### Possible submissions or evidence from:

- Medicare
- Treasury
- Investment and Financial Services Association (IFSA)
- The Association of Superannuation Funds Australia (ASFA)
- SuperChoice
- Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- NSW Business Chamber Australian Business Industrial

### Committee to which bill is to be referred:

**Economics Legislation Committee** 

### Possible hearing date(s):

Whenever possible prior to reporting

