REPORT NO. 3 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. 3 OF 2010

- 1. The committee met in private session on Thursday, 25 February 2010 at 11.52 am.
- 2. The committee resolved to recommend—That—
 - (a) the *provisions* of the Health Practitioner Regulation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 9 May 2010 (see appendix 1 for a statement of reasons for referral);
 - (b) the *provisions* of the National Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2010 be *referred immediately* to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 15 March 2010 (see appendices 2 and 3 for statements of reasons for referral); and
 - (c) the Wild Rivers (Environmental Management) Bill 2010 [No. 2] be *referred immediately* to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 9 May 2010 (see appendix 4 for a statement of reasons for referral).
- 3. The committee resolved to recommend—That the following bills *not* be referred to committees:
 - Anti-People Smuggling and Other Measures Bill 2010
 - Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Recreational Fishing for Mako and Porbeagle Sharks) Bill 2010
 - Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care) Bill 2010
 - Renewable Energy—Electricity (Water Heaters and Phantom Certificates)
 Bill 2010
 - Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Scholarship Payments) 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** 25 February 2010

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: Health Practitioner Regulation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

To examine the implications for healthcare providers, particularly the reserve powers relating to registration requirements

Possible submissions or evidence from:

AMA (State Divisions)
Peak bodies for each medical discipline

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

Throughout April break.

Possible reporting date:

May 11th 2010

(signed)

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

APPENDIX 2

Name of bill: National Radioactive Waste Management Bill

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

This Bill overrides the Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984. It is necessary to examine the costs and benefits of doing so in this instance. This Bill overrides the EPBC Act. It is necessary to examine the costs and benefits of doing so in this instance. This Bill provides the Commonwealth with the power to override all state and territory laws that could delay, hinder or regulate the imposition of a radioactive waste facility. The States and Territories should be afforded the opportunity through a Senate inquiry to offer their views on the implication of this action.

The Bill's stated intention is to resolve long-standing disputes over the management of radioactive waste which has generated public debate and controversy for many decades. There is no doubt there will be a high degree of public interest in this bill.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

State and Territory governments

Other organisations that have shown considerable interest and possess expertise on the issue are:
Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Association (ANSTO), Alice Springs Town Council, Arid Lands Environment Centre - Beyond Nuclear Initiative, Northern Land Council, Muckaty Traditional Owners, Public Health Association of Australia, Australian Uranium Association, Central Land Council, Australian Nuclear Association, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Australian Section) Inc, Top End Aboriginal Conservation Alliance, Friends of the Earth Sydney, Katherine Town Council, Medical Association for the Prevention of War (Northern Territory Branch), Arid Lands Environment Centre, Inc, Environment Centre NT, Medical Association for Prevention of War (Australia), Blue Mountains Nuclear Free Group, Friends of the Earth Adelaide, Oxfam Australia, Australian Student Environment Network, Working Group for Aboriginal Rights (WGAR), Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies (FASTS), Friends of the Earth, Australia, Pindimar Bundabah Community Association, People for Nuclear Disarmament Western Australia, No Waste Alliance, Australian Conservation Foundation, Anti-Nuclear Alliance of Western Australia

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Environment, Communication and the Arts Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

25, 26, 27 April

Possible reporting date:

24 June

(signed)

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill:

National Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2010

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

This is important legislation involving a significant exercise of Commonwealth power, warranting consideration by the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

Northern Land Council

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date:

9 March 2010

(signed)

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill: Wild Rivers (Environmental Management) Bill 2010 [No 2]

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

To examine broadly the implications of this piece of legislation.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

Queensland State Government North Queensland Land Council Cape York Institute Mr Noel Pearson

Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

Throughout April break.

Possible reporting date:

May 11th 2010

(signed)

AMENDMENT TO REPORT

SENATOR LUDLAM:

I move the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add "but, in respect of the National Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2010, the provisions of the bill also be referred to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 24 June 2010".

SENATOR PARRY:

I move the following amendment to Senator Ludlam's proposed amendment:

Omit all words after "add", insert "but, in respect of the National Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2010, the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee report by 30 April 2010".

Question—That Senator Parry's amendment to Senator Ludlam's proposed amendment be agreed to—put and passed.

Question—That the amendment, as amended, be agreed to—put and passed.

Main question, as amended, put and passed.