

*SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE*

*REPORT NO. 12 of 2010*

*27 October 2010*

## **MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Senator Anne McEwen (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 Carol Brown

Senator Mitch Fifield

Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig

Secretary: Maureen Weeks  
 6277 3020

## SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

### REPORT NO. 12 OF 2010

1. The committee met in private session on Tuesday, 26 October 2010 at 4.29 pm.
2. The committee resolved to recommend—That the Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling—Palm Oil) Bill 2010 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by the fourth sitting day in 2011 (see appendices 1 and 2 for statements of reasons for referral).
3. The committee resolved to recommend—That the following bills *not* be referred to committees:
  - Banking Amendment (Delivering Essential Financial Services) Bill 2010
  - Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2010
  - Health Insurance Amendment (Pathology Requests) Bill 2010
  - Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities) Bill 2010
  - Higher Education Support Amendment (2010 Budget Measures) Bill 2010
  - Higher Education Support Amendment (FEE-HELP Loan Fee) Bill 2010
  - Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010
  - National Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2010
  - Poker Machine (Reduced Losses—Interim Measures) Bill 2010
  - Restoring Territory Rights (Voluntary Euthanasia Legislation) Bill 2010
  - Social Security Legislation Amendment (Connecting People with Jobs) Bill 2010
  - Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2010
  - Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Weekly Payments) Bill 2010.

*The committee recommends accordingly.*

4. The committee considered the Water (Crisis Powers and Floodwater Diversion) Bill 2010 and noted that the Senate had agreed to refer the bill to the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee for inquiry and report.
5. The committee deferred consideration of the following bills to its next meeting:
  - Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2010
  - Responsible Takeaway Alcohol Hours Bill 2010.

(Anne McEwen)

**Chair**

27 October 2010

**SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE**  
**Proposal to refer a Bill to a committee**

**APPENDIX 1**

**Name of Bill:**

Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling - Palm Oil) Bill 2010

**Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:**

In undertaking the inquiry, the Committee should consider:

- 1) The rights of consumers to be provided with accurate and truthful information to enable them to make an informed choice about the products they are eating and purchasing;
- 2) That allowing palm oil to be listed as "vegetable oil" on food packaging is misleading to consumers;
- 3) That the impact of palm oil production on wildlife, specifically Orang-utan's in South East Asia is significant unless it is done sustainably;
- 4) That sustainable palm oil can be produced with low impact on the environment and wildlife and with better labour laws on plantations; and,
- 5) That manufacturers should be encouraged to use sustainable palm oil in their production process and subsequently use the status of "Certified Sustainable Palm Oil" under this Bill.

**Possible submissions or evidence from:**

Submissions received to this Bill under the 42<sup>nd</sup> Parliament

Zoos Victoria

Humane Society International

Perth Zoo

WWF

Royal Zoological Society of South Australia

The Australian Orang-utan Project

Palm Oil Action Group

Friends of the Earth Australia

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


Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs (Legislation)

**Possible hearing date(s):**

October and November 2010

**Possible reporting date:**

24 November 2010



(signed)

Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member

**SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE**

**Proposal to refer a bill to a committee**

**Name of bill:** *Food Standards Amend (Truth in Labelling – Palm Oil) Bill 2010*

**Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:**

This Bill has already gone to committee with a report date scheduled for August 2010. However on 19 July 2010, the Governor General prorogued the 42<sup>nd</sup> Parliament and the Committee was not able to conclude its inquiry.

This inquiry received over 400 submissions. With the re-introduction of the Bill, the Committee should be provided with the opportunity to complete its inquiry and report.

**Possible submissions or evidence from:**

Australian Food and Grocery Council  
Melbourne Zoo  
Zoological Park Authority (Perth)  
Taronga Conservation Society Australia  
Food Standards Australia New Zealand  
National Heart Foundation of Australia  
State and Territory Governments

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

Community Affairs Committee

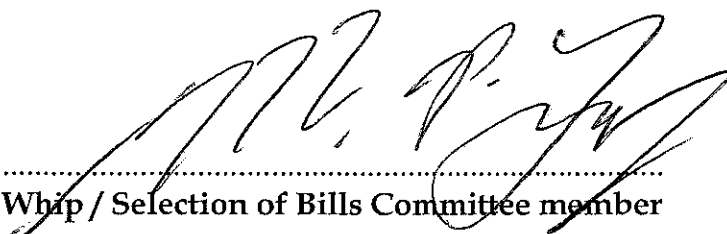
**Possible hearing date(s):**

November or December

**Possible reporting date:**

Fourth sitting day in 2011

(signed)

  
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Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member