

*SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE*

*REPORT NO. 11 of 2012*

*13 September 2012*

## **MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Senator Anne McEwen (Government Whip, Chair)

Senator Helen Kroger (Opposition Whip)

Senator John Williams (The Nationals Whip)

Senator Rachel Siewert (Australian Greens Whip)

Senator the Hon Jacinta Collins

Senator Carol Brown

Senator David Bushby

Senator Mitch Fifield

Secretary: Maureen Weeks  
 6277 3020

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 11 OF 2012

1. The committee met in private session on Wednesday, 12 September 2012 at 7.14 pm.
2. The committee resolved to recommend—That the Migration Amendment (Health Care for Asylum Seekers) Bill 2012 be *referred immediately* to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 20 November 2012 (see appendix 1 for a statement of reasons for referral).
3. The committee resolved to recommend—That the following bills *not* be referred to committees:
  - Aviation Legislation Amendment (Liability and Insurance) Bill 2012
  - Marriage Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2012
  - National Portrait Gallery of Australia Bill 2012
  - National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2012.

*The committee recommends accordingly.*

4. The committee deferred consideration of the following bills to its next meeting:
  - Broadcasting Services Amendment (Public Interest Test) Bill 2012
  - Corporations Legislation Amendment (Derivative Transactions) Bill 2012
  - Dental Benefits Amendment Bill 2012
  - Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Declared Fishing Activities) Bill 2012
  - Higher Education Support Amendment (Maximum Payment Amounts and Other Measures) Bill 2012
  - Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Amendment Bill 2012
  - Minerals Resource Rent Tax Amendment (Protecting Revenue) Bill 2012
  - Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising (Broadcasting and Telecommunications Amendment) Bill 2011
  - Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Further 2012 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2012
  - Special Broadcasting Service Amendment (Natural Program Breaks and Disruptive Advertising) Bill 2012.

(Carol Brown)

**Acting Chair**

13 September 2012

**SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE**

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

**Name of bill:** Migration Amendment (Health Care for Asylum Seekers) Bill 2012

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

To hear from medical, psychiatric and psychological experts about the proposal for an independent Health Care Panel to monitor and evaluate the health and wellbeing of asylum seekers who have been sent offshore to Nauru. There are a number of experts who were familiar with issues arising from the last Pacific Solution, and who are familiar with issues arising within the current Immigration Detention Network, who will be able to provide valuable feedback into the proposal for a Panel and its functions.

**Possible submissions or evidence from:**

Professor Louise Newman  
Professor Patrick McGorry  
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre  
Hotham Mission Asylum Seeker Project  
Refugee Advice and Casework Service Australia  
Amnesty International  
Refugee Council of Australia  
Australian Children's Commissioners  
Chilout  
Headspace  
Immigration Health Advisory Group (formerly DHAG)  
Foundation House  
Australian Medical Association (AMA)  
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)  
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP)  
Royal Australian College of Physicians (RACP)  
Australian Psychological Society (APS)  
DIAC  
IHMS  
Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma  
Salvation Army  
Save the Children  
United Voice  
Brigidine Nuns  
Victorian Refugee Health Network

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

**Possible hearing date(s):** week beginning 22 October

**Possible reporting date:** 20 Nov 2012

(signed)

... Senator Siewert

Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member