



THE SENATE
CANBERRA ACT 2600

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 3 of 2003

19 March 2003

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Senator Jeannie Ferris (Government Whip, Chair)

Senator Sue Mackay (Opposition Whip)

Senator Lyn Allison (Australian Democrats Whip)

Senator Julian McGauran (National Party of Australia Whip)

Senator Geoffrey Buckland

Senator the Hon. Ian Campbell

Senator Alan Eggleston

Senator Joseph Ludwig

Secretary: Rosemary Laing
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SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 3 OF 2003

1. The committee met on Tuesday, 18 March 2003.
2. The committee resolved to recommend—That the—
 - (a) Health Legislation Amendment (Private Health Insurance Reform) Bill 2003 be *referred immediately* to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report on 13 May 2003 (see appendix 1 for statement of reasons for referral);
 - (b) Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report on 11 August 2003 (see appendix 2 for statement of reasons for referral);
 - (c) *provisions* of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 4) 2003 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report on 16 June 2003 (see appendix 3 for statement of reasons for referral);
 - (d) *provisions* of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 8) 2002 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report on 16 June 2003 (see appendix 4 for statement of reasons for referral);
 - (e) *provisions* of the Terrorism Insurance Bill 2002 be *referred immediately* to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report on 30 April 2003 (see appendix 5 for statement of reasons for referral);
 - (f) Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003 be *referred immediately* to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee for inquiry and report on 5 May 2003 (see appendices 6 and 7 for statements of reasons for referral);
 - (g) order of the Senate of 5 March 2003 adopting the committee's 2nd report of 2003 be varied to provide that the *provisions* of the Dairy Industry Service Reform Bill 2003 and the Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Amendment (Dairy) Bill 2003 be *referred immediately* to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for inquiry and report on 26 March 2003 (see appendices 8 and 9 for statements of reasons for referral); and
 - (h) following bills *not* be referred to committees:
 - Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Disability Reform) Bill (No. 2) 2002 [No. 2]
 - Workplace Relations Amendment (Protection for Emergency Management Volunteers) Bill 2003.

The committee recommends accordingly.

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

Bill deferred from meeting of 20 August 2002

- Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Employee Involvement and Compliance) Bill 2002.

Bills deferred from meeting of 19 November 2002

- Workplace Relations Amendment (Award Simplification) Bill 2002
- Workplace Relations Amendment (Choice in Award Coverage) Bill 2002.

Bill deferred from meeting of 3 December 2002

- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002.

Bills deferred from meeting of 4 March 2003

- Family Law Amendment Bill 2003
- Workplace Relations Amendment (Compliance with Court and Tribunal Orders) Bill 2003.

(Jeannie Ferris)

Chair

19 March 2003



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

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

Name of Bill: Health Legislation Amendment (Private Health Insurance Reform) Bill 2003

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

To examine the provisions of the Bill which provide wide discretion to the Minister on the operation of the industry; to determine the fiscal implications of the proposed legislation of Lifetime Health Cover as a vehicle for industry advertising; to determine the fiscal implications of the community rating amendments.

Possible submission or evidence from:

Institute of Actuaries Australia Association

Deloitte Trowbridge Consulting

KPMG

Health Insurance Restricted Membership Association Australia

Individual large health funds

Australian Consumers Association

Institute of Governance, University of Canberra

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

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date: As soon as practicable


Whip/Selection of Bills Committee member



THE SENATE
CANBERRA ACT 2600
SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Intent)
Bill 2003

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

To explore:

- cash-flow problems for small business resulting from big business failure to pay on time;
- small business concerns about difficulty in being paid on time; and
- community expectations of the bill.

Possible submissions or evidence from:

- VACC
- ACCI
- CPA Australia
- MTAA
- COSBOA
- N.A.R.G.A.
- Gerry Raleigh Fax: (03) 9872-4628
- OSB

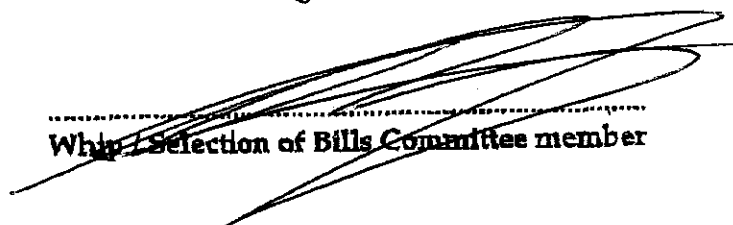
Committee to which bill is to be referred:

Economics Leg. Committee

Possible hearing date(s): June 03

Possible reporting date: July 03

(signed)


Whip/Selection of Bills Committee member



THE SENATE

CANBERRA ACT 2600
SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL NO. 4

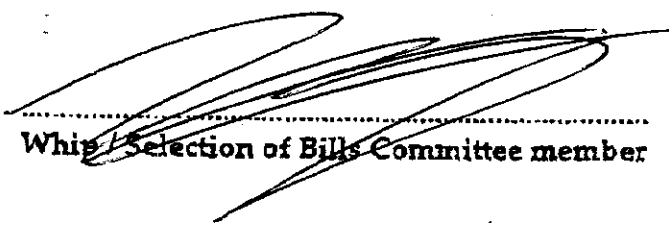
Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

SCHEDULE 7 - WORKER ENTITLEMENT FUNDS

- TREASURER'S POWER TO DECLARE A FUND NOT TO BE AN APPROVED FUND
- RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF AN APPROVED FUND'S SURPLUS FOR TRAINING AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT RELATED FUNCTIONS

Possible submissions or evidence from: WORKER ENTITLEMENT FUNDS, EMPLOYERS, UNIONS, TREASURY, AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONSCommittee to which bill is to be referred: ECONOMICSPossible hearing date(s): BUDGET WEEKPossible reporting date: 16 JUNE 2003

(signed)


Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member



THE SENATE
CANBERRA ACT 2600
SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL No. 8

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

SCHEDULE 5 - PETROLEUM RESOURCE RENT TAX

- (1) THE VALIDITY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ARGUMENT FOR EFFECTIVELY BRINGING FORWARD DEDUCTIONS AGAINST PRRT FOR CLOSING A FACILITY WHEN IT IS NOT GOING TO BE CLOSED BUT INSTEAD CONVERTED FOR USE AS AN INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITY.
- (2) THE EQUITY OF APPORTIONMENT OF PRRT LIABILITY WHERE A FACILITY HAS JOINT USE WITH OTHER FIELDS.

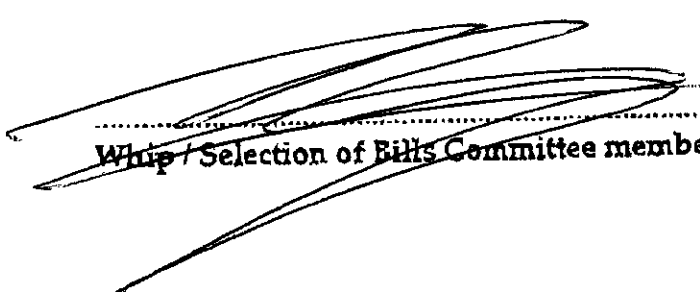
Possible submissions or evidence from: AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION ASSOCIATION, OFFSHORE OIL PRODUCING COMPANIES, TREASURY, DEPT OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESOURCES.

Committee to which bill is to be referred: ECONOMICS

Possible hearing date(s): BUDGET WEEK

Possible reporting date: 16 JUNE 2003

(signed)


Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member



THE SENATE
CANBERRA ACT 2600
SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill TERRORISM INSURANCE BILL 2002

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

To examine the operation of the proposed scheme including coverage, premium levels, impact on the insurance industry and property owners.

Possible submissions or evidence from: LOSBA, INSURANCE COUNCIL, ASSOCIATION OF RISK AND INSURANCE MANAGERS OF AUSTRALIA, TREASURY

Committee to which bill is to be referred: ECONOMICS

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date: 30 April

(signed)


Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member



THE SENATE

CANBERRA ACT 2600
SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE

Proposal to refer a bill to a committee

Name of bill Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Path) Bill.

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

1. Who in the Australian community depends on the Safety Net Review
2. the effect of the Bill on the ~~material~~ material needs of those people
3. Previous consideration by the AIRC in Safety Net Review decisions of the issues raised by the Bill.
4. the probable effect of the legislation on the AIRC's consideration of the Safety Net Review.

Possible submissions or evidence from: Unions and employer groups, legal groups, Academics, government departments.

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s): Week 14-17 April.

Possible reporting date: 5-9 May.

(signed)

[Signature]
Whip / Selection of Bills Committee member

NOTE: as to ^{hearing and} reporting dates, you could point out that the AIRC will be hearing the Safety Net Review in the week March 31 - April 4, so relevant parties would be free to participate in the Committee hearing after that



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

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

Name of Bill: Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

Examine the provisions of the bill in the context of the debate about whether current AIRC living wage processes are adequate and whether cost of living wage increases to employers is high and the disposable income benefits to low-income workers is low, and examine whether the adequacy of the bill without making the welfare/tax intersection less onerous.

Possible submission or evidence from:

ACTU

ACCI

AIG

BCA

NATSEM

ACOSS

Federal departments of Treasury; Family & Community Services; and Employment
and Workplace Relations

Specialist academics in the tax and welfare field

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Employment, Workplace Relations and
Education Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date: As soon as practicable

Whip/Selection of Bills Committee member



AUSTRALIAN SENATE
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRATS WHIP

18 March 2002

Senator Jeannie Ferris
Chair
Selection of Bills Committee

Attention: Dr Rosemary Laing

Dear Senator Ferris,

I ask that the Committee reconsider the Dairy Industry Services Reform Bill and related bill at this afternoon's meeting so that a possible referral of the bills to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee can be considered.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lyn Allison', written over a horizontal line.

Lyn Allison
Australian Democrats Whip



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

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

Name of Bill: Dairy Industry Services Reform Bill 2003
Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Amendment (Dairy) Bill 2003

Reasons for referral/principal issues for consideration:

Examine the provisions of the bill proposing the establishment of the Dairy Australia Company and whether it is in the best interests of the dairy industry; the level of support within the industry for the new arrangements, in particular accountability provisions; and whether alternative models/provisions may be more appropriate to the industry in the context of restructuring.

Possible submission or evidence from:

President, Australian Dairy Farmers Federation,
President, Australian Milk Producers Association
Dr M McGovern, Faculty of Business, Qld University of Technology
Australian Dairy Corporation
Dairy Research and Development Corporation

Committee to which bill is to be referred: Rural and Regional Affairs and
Transport Legislation Committee

Possible hearing date(s):

Possible reporting date: As soon as practicable



Whip/Selection of Bills Committee member