

Committees administered by the Senate Committee Office

Introduction

During the reporting period, the Senate Committee Office provided staffing and resources for the following committees:

- Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees;
- Specific Joint Statutory Committees; and
- Senate Select Committees

Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees

Following an order of the Senate on 13 May 2009, the Senate's eight legislative and general purpose standing committees each now comprise a pair of committees: A **Legislation Committee** whose purpose is to deal with bills referred by the Senate, the Estimates process and oversee the performance of departments, including their annual reports, and a **References Committee** whose purpose is to deal with all other matters referred by the Senate.

This reverts to a system that was in place between 1994 and 2006 when the eight legislative and general purpose standing committees of the Senate each had a legislation and a references committee. The committees will be governed by Senate Standing Order 25 which can be accessed at: http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/pubs/standing_orders/index.htm

The Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees and the relevant portfolio/subject areas allocated to them are as follows:

Community Affairs

- Legislation
- References

- Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- Health and Ageing

Economics

- Legislation
- References

- Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- Resources, Energy and Tourism
- Treasury

Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

- Legislation
- References

- Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

Environment, Communications and the Arts

- Legislation
- References
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- Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
- Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

Finance and Public Administration

- Legislation

- Parliament
- Prime Minister and Cabinet (including

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • References 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change) • Finance and Deregulation • Human Services
<u>Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation • References 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defence (including Veterans' Affairs) • Foreign Affairs and Trade
<u>Legal and Constitutional Affairs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation • References • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attorney-General • Immigration and Citizenship
<u>Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation • References 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry • Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Joint Statutory Committees

During the reporting period, the Senate Committee Office also administered three Joint Statutory Committees comprising members of the House of Representatives and Senators. These are:

- Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity
- Australian Crime Commission, and
- Corporations and Financial Services

Senate Select Committees

During the reporting period, the Senate Committee Office provided staffing and resources for the following Senate Select Committees:

- Agricultural and Related Industries (appointed 14 February 2008)
- Climate Policy (appointed 11 March 2009)
- Fuel and Energy (appointed 25 June 2008)
- Men's Health (appointed 13 November 2008)
- National Broadband Network (appointed 25 June 2008)
- Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities (appointed 19 March 2008)