

PART ONE

COMMITTEES' ACTIVITIES

**Legislative and General Purpose
Standing Committees
administered by the
Senate Committee Office**

1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007

Community Affairs

Community Affairs

1 July 2007 - 31 December 2007

	Matters current as at 1 July 2007	Matters referred during period	Reports tabled that discharge a reference	Current inquiries as at 31 December 2007
Standing Committee	3	1	2	2

Number and Hours of Meeting							
Public	Hrs	Public Estimates	Hrs	Private	Hrs	Insp/Other	Total Meetings
Standing Committee	9	45:00	0	0:00	7	3:50	2
							9:05
							18
							57:55

Meetings By State					
ACT	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	QLD
Standing Committee	8	0	3	1	0
					2
					3
					1

Witnesses					
Televised Hearings	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General	Estimates	Other (Bills)
Standing Committee	3	0	4	129	0
					32
					647
					257
					2000
					1

Community Affairs (Standing)

1 July 2007 to 31 December 2007

Method of appointment

Pursuant to amended Senate Standing Order 25.

Current members

	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator Gary Humphries (ACT, LP) <i>(appointed Chair on 11.9.06)</i>	11.9.06
Senator Claire Moore (Qld, ALP) <i>(appointed Deputy Chair on 11.9.06)</i>	11.9.06
Senator Judith Adams (WA, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Lyn Allison (Vic, AD)	11.9.06
Senator Sue Boyce (Qld, LP)	9.5.07
Senator Carol Brown (Tas, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator the Hon Kay Patterson (Vic, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Helen Polley (Tas, ALP)	11.9.06

Participating members

	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator Guy Barnett (Tas, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Andrew Bartlett (Qld, AD)	11.9.06
Senator Cory Bernardi (SA, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Simon Birmingham (SA, LP)	20.6.07
Senator Mark Bishop (WA, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator the Hon Ron Boswell (Qld, NATS)	11.9.06
Senator Bob Brown (Tas, AG)	11.9.06
Senator George Campbell (NSW, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Kim Carr (Vic, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Grant Chapman (SA, LP)	11.9.06
Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck (Tas, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Helen Coonan (NSW, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Mathias Cormann (WA, LP)	20.6.07
Senator Trish Crossin (NT, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Alan Eggleston (WA, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Christopher Evans (WA, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator the Hon John Faulkner (NSW, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Steve Fielding (Vic, FFP)	11.9.06
Senator Mary Jo Fisher (SA, LP)	20.6.07
Senator Michael Forshaw (NSW, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan (NSW, LP)	11.9.06
Senator John Hogg (Qld, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Annette Hurley (SA, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Barnaby Joyce (Qld, NATS)	11.9.06

Senator the Hon Rod Kemp (Vic, LP)	8.2.07
Senator Linda Kirk (SA, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Ross Lightfoot (WA, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Joseph Ludwig (Qld, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Kate Lundy (ACT, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Gavin Marshall (Vic, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Julian McGauran (Vic, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Jan McLucas (Qld, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Christine Milne (Tas, AG)	11.9.06
Senator Fiona Nash (NSW, NATS)	11.9.06
Senator Kerry Nettle (NSW, AG)	11.9.06
Senator Kerry O'Brien (Tas, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Stephen Parry (Tas, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Marise Payne (NSW, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Robert Ray (Vic, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG)	11.9.06
Senator Ursula Stephens (NSW, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Natasha Stott Despoja (SA, AD)	11.9.06
Senator John Watson (Tas, LP)	11.9.06
Senator Ruth Webber (WA, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Penny Wong (SA, ALP)	11.9.06
Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP)	11.9.06

Former members

	<i>Term of appointment</i>
Senator Guy Barnett (Tas, LP)	11.9.06-12.9.06
Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells (NSW, LP)	12.9.06-9.5.07

Former substitute members

	<i>Term of appointment</i>
Senator Jeannie Ferris (SA, LP)*	12.10.06-24.10.06
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG)**	12.9.06-8.2.07
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG)***	29.3.07-9.5.07
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG)#	29.3.07-9.5.07
Senator Julian McGauran (VIC, LP)##	17.8.07-23.8.07

**replaced Senator Adams for inquiry into legislative responses to the Lockhart review on 24 October 2006*

***replaced Senator Allison for committee's inquiry into Funding and operation of the Commonwealth-State/Territory Disability Agreement*

****replaced Senator Allison for committee's inquiry into Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment Bill 2007*

#replaced Senator Allison for committee's inquiry into Provisions of the Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment (Child Support Reform Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill 2007

##replaced Senator Boyce for committee's inquiry into the cost of living pressures on older Australians, on 23 August 2007

Former participating members

	<i>Term of appointment</i>
Senator Brett Mason (Qld, LP)	11.9.06-23.3.07
Senator Jeannie Ferris (SA, LP)	11.9.06-2.4.07
Senator Lyn Allison (Vic, AD)	29.3.07-9.5.07
Senator Alan Ferguson (SA, LP)	11.9.06-14.8.07

Inquiries

As at 1 July 2007

- Operation and effectiveness of Patient Assisted Travel Schemes (referred 28 March 2007)
- Mental Health Services in Australia (referred 28 March 2007)
- Cost of Living Pressures on Older Australians (referred 14 June 2007)

Current inquiries

As at 31 December 2007

- Mental Health Services in Australia (referred 28 March 2007)
- Cost of Living Pressures on Older Australians (referred 14 June 2007)

New references

1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007

- Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Dental Services) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (referred 16 August 2007 – through the Selection of Bills Committee)

Public hearings

1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007

- Operation and effectiveness of Patient Assisted Travel Schemes – 5 July 2007, Alice Springs; 6 July 2007, Melbourne; 13 July 2007, Perth; 23 July 2007, Launceston; 6 August 2007, Brisbane
- Mental Health Services in Australia – 10 August 2007, Canberra
- Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Dental Services) Bill 2007 [Provisions] – 27 August 2007, Canberra
- Cost of Living Pressures on Older Australians – 23 August 2007, Melbourne; 20 September 2007, Canberra

Reports tabled

1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007

- Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Dental Services) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (presented out of session on 5 September 2007, tabled 10 September 2007)
- Highway to health: better access for rural, regional and remote patients (Patient assisted travel schemes) (tabled 20 September 2007)

Government responses

1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007

- Quality and equity in aged care (tabled 20 September 2007; report tabled 23 June 2005)

Estimates

2007-08 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings were not held in November 2007.