

**Committee-related
activity in the chamber**

Details of Reports tabled in the Senate and other related matters

33 Individual/Packages of Bills referred through Selection of Bills Committee:

3 September 2008

Building and Construction Industry (Restoring Workplace Rights) Bill 2008 to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee for inquiry and report by 30 November 2008.

Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Schooling Requirements) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 13 November 2008.

Tax Laws Amendment (Political Contributions and Gifts) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 5 November 2008.

4 September 2008

ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008 to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 10 November 2008.

Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising (Broadcasting Amendment) Bill 2008 to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 25 November 2008.

Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—General Law Reform) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 30 September 2008.

18 September 2008

Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Further 2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Community Affairs Committee for report by 10 November 2008.

25 September 2008

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2008 to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee for inquiry and report by 13 October 2008.

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008 to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee for inquiry and report by 25 November 2008.

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008 to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee for inquiry and report by 10 November 2008.

National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008 [Provisions] and the National Rental Affordability Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 20 November 2008.

Social Security Legislation Amendment (Employment Services Reform) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee for inquiry and report by 24 November 2008.

Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 5) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 13 October 2008.

Tax Laws Amendment (Education Refund) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 13 October 2008.

Temporary Residents' Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] and the Superannuation (Departing Australia Superannuation Payments Tax) Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 20 November 2008.

15 October 2008

Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 [Provisions] and the Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 21 November 2008.

Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 19 November 2008.

Migration Legislation Amendment (Worker Protection) Bill 2008 to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 7 November 2008.

Schools Assistance Bill 2008 [Provisions] and the Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee for inquiry and report by 27 November 2008.

Nation-building Funds Bill 2008 [Provisions]; Nation-building Funds (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions] and the COAG Reform Fund Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee upon the introduction of the bills in the House of Representatives for inquiry and report by 10 November 2008.

16 October 2008

Aged Care Amendment (2008 Measures No. 2) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 20 November 2008.

13 November 2008

Corporations Amendment (Short Selling) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 27 November 2008.

Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008 to the Finance and Public Administration Committee for inquiry and report by 10 March 2009.

26 November 2008

Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008 to the Finance and Public Administration Committee for inquiry and report by 10 March 2009.

Tax Agent Services Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 12 February 2009.

4 December 2008

Defence Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee for inquiry and report by 20 February 2009.

Disability Discrimination and Other Human Rights Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 24 February 2009.

Federal Court of Australia Amendment (Criminal Jurisdiction) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 20 February 2009.

Federal Justice System Amendment (Efficiency Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2008 [Provisions] to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 17 February 2009.

Tax Laws Amendment (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 20 February 2009.

Trade Practices Amendment (Cartel Conduct and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 20 February 2009.

Uranium Royalty (Northern Territory) Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 30 April 2009.

Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008 to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee for inquiry and report by 27 March 2009.

6 Individual/Packages of Bills referred by the Senate

27 August 2008

Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008 to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 30 September 2008.

1 September 2008

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee for inquiry and report by 15 September 2008.

2 September 2008

Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Laws Bill 2008 [No. 2] to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 17 September 2008.

4 September 2008

Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008; Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008; and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 30 October 2008.

13 November 2008

Exposure draft of the Personal Property Securities Bill 2008 to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 24 February 2009.

25 November 2008

Fair Work Bill 2008 [Provisions] to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee for inquiry and report by 27 February 2009.

17 References referred by the Senate

27 August 2008

Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 30 September 2008.

Implications for the long-term sustainable management of the Murray-Darling Basin system to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 4 December 2008.

28 August 2008

Establishment of an Australian Football League team for Tasmania to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 30 June 2009.

Matters relating to the gas explosion at Varanus Island, Western Australia to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 14 October 2008.

4 September 2008

National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Charges) Regulations 2008—Draft regulations to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 2 October 2008.

15 September 2008

Levels of Federal and NT government expenditure on Indigenous affairs and social services in the Northern Territory to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 4 December 2008.

16 September 2008

Item 16525 in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2007 to the Finance and Public Administration Committee for inquiry and report on and not before 13 November 2008.

Definition of unconscionable conduct for the purposes of Part IVA of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 3 December 2008.

18 September 2008

Progress with the implementation of the recommendations in the reports by the Community Affairs References Committee, *Lost Innocents: Righting the Record*, and *Forgotten Australians* to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in March 2009.

25 September 2008

Funding, planning, allocation, capital and equity of residential and community aged care in Australia to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by the first sitting day in April 2009.

Joint marketing arrangements on the North West Shelf project and their impact on competition in the upstream gas market and on prices paid by consumers to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 10 November 2008.

11 November 2008

Impact of gene patents on the provision of healthcare in Australia to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day of 2009.

24 November 2008

Economic, social and employment impacts of the recent mergers among Australian banks to the Economics Committee for inquiry and report by 26 February 2009.

25 November 2008

Financial, social and industry impact of the ABC Learning collapse on the provision of child care in Australia to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee for inquiry and report by 12 March 2009.

27 November 2008

Issues relating to the import risk analysis (IRA) for the importation of Cavendish bananas from the Philippines to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 19 March 2009.

4 December 2008

Forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee for inquiry and report by 25 June 2009.

Public passenger transport infrastructure and services in Australia to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 18 June 2009.

Reports tabled

During the reporting period, Senate Standing Committees tabled 44 bills reports (plus 6 reports that did not discharge a reference) and 18 references reports (plus 7 reports that did not discharge a reference). The details are as follows:

Committee	Report	Tabled
RRAT	* Interim Report—Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and related matters (presented out of session on 9.07.08)	26.08.08
FADT	* Interim Report—Australia's involvement in peacekeeping operations (presented out of session on 31.07.08)	26.08.08
FADT	Final Report—Australia's involvement in peacekeeping operations (presented out of session on 01.08.08)	26.08.08
ECA	* Interim Report—Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2] (presented out of session on 15.08.08)	26.08.08
ECA	Final Report—Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2] (presented out of session on 25.08.08)	26.08.08
RRAT	* Interim Report—Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning carbon sink forests (presented out of session on 22.08.08)	26.08.08
CA	National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical and Other Benefits-Cost Recovery) Bill 2008 (presented out of session on 22.08.08)	26.08.08
ECO	Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 4) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	26.08.08
ECO	Trade Practices (Creeping Acquisitions) Amendment Bill 2007 [2008]	26.08.08
ECO	Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]	26.08.08

ECO	Excise Legislation Amendment (Condensate) Bill 2008 and Excise Tariff Amendment (Condensate) Bill 2008	27.08.08
ECO	Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill 2008	27.08.08
ECO	* Interim Report—National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008 and National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008	27.08.08
ECO	Tax Laws Amendment (Luxury Car Tax) Bill 2008, A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—General) Amendment Bill 2008, A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—Customs) Amendment Bill 2008 and A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—Excise) Amendment Bill 2008	28.08.08
ECO	Provisions of Schedules 1 and 2 of the Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 3) Bill 2008	28.08.08
LCA	Family Law Amendment (De Facto Financial Matters and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	28.08.08
ECO	Unit Pricing (Easy comparison of grocery prices) Bill 2008	01.09.08
ECA	Management of Australia's waste streams (including consideration of the Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008)	03.09.08
FPA	Knock, knock...who's there? The Lobbying Code of Conduct	03.09.08
RRAT	* Interim Report—Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector	04.09.08
RRAT	* Interim Report—Meat marketing	04.09.08
ECA	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008	15.09.08
ECO	Australian Securities and Investments Commission (Fair Bank and Credit Card Fees) Amendment Bill 2008	16.09.08

RRAT	Final Report—Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and related matters	18.09.08
ECO	Offshore Petroleum Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008 [Provisions]; Offshore Petroleum (Annual Fees) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008 [Provisions]; Offshore Petroleum (Registration Fees) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008 [Provisions]; and Offshore Petroleum (Safety Levies) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	23.09.08
RRAT	Final Report—Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning carbon sink forests	23.09.08
FADT	* Reforms to Australia's military justice system—Fourth progress report	24.09.08
LCA	Evidence Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]	25.09.08
CA	Towards recovery: mental health services in Australia	25.09.08
CA	Draft National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Charges) Regulations 2008 (presented out of session on 2.10.08)	13.10.08
RRAT	* Interim Report—Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008; Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008; and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 (presented out of session on 3.10.08)	13.10.08
RRAT	* Interim Report—Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (including consideration of the Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008) (presented out of session on 3.10.08)	13.10.08
RRAT	Final Report—Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (including consideration of the Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008) (presented out of session on 10.10.08)	13.10.08
ECO	* Interim Report—Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 5) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	13.10.08

ECO	Tax Laws Amendment (Education Refund) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	13.10.08
ECA	Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2008	13.10.08
ECO	Final Report—National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008 and the National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008	14.10.08
LCA	Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Laws Bill 2008 [No. 2]	14.10.08
LCA	Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—Superannuation) Bill 2008	14.10.08
LCA	Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—General Law Reform) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	14.10.08
CA	Building trust: Supporting families through Disability Trusts	16.10.08
ECO	Tax Laws Amendment (Political Contributions and Gifts) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (presented out of session on 20.10.08)	10.11.08
LCA	* Interim Report—Migration Legislation Amendment (Worker Protection) Bill 2008 (presented out of session on 7.11.08)	10.11.08
LCA	Final Report—Migration Legislation Amendment (Worker Protection) Bill 2008	10.11.08
CA	Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008; Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008; and ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008	10.11.08
CA	Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Further 2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	10.11.08
ECA	Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008	10.11.08

ECO	Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 5) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	10.11.08
ECO	Lost in Space? Setting a new direction for Australia's space science and industry sector	12.11.08
CA	Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Schooling Requirements) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	13.11.08
CA	National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008 [Provisions] and the National Rental Affordability Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	13.11.08
ECO	Australia's mandatory Last Resort Home Warranty Insurance scheme	13.11.08
FPA	Item 16525 in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2007	13.11.08
RRAT	Final Report—Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008; Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008; and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008	13.11.08
ECO	Temporary Residents' Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] and the Superannuation (Departing Australia Superannuation Payments Tax) Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (Presented out of session 18.11.08)	24.11.08
RRAT	* Interim Report—Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (presented out of session 19.11.08)	24.11.08
CA	Aged Care Amendment (2008 Measures No. 2) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (presented out of session 20.11.08)	24.11.08
RRAT	Final Report—Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (presented out of session 21.11.08)	24.11.08
RRAT	Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 [Provisions] and the Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (presented out of session 21.11.08)	24.11.08

EEWR	Social Security Legislation Amendment (Employment Services Reform) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	24.11.08
ECA	Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008	25.11.08
EEWR	Schools Assistance Bill 2008 [Provisions] and the Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]	27.11.08
ECO	Corporations Amendment (Short Selling) Bill 2008 [Provisions]	27.11.08
EEWR	Building and Construction Industry (Restoring Workplace Rights) Bill 2008 (Presented out of session 28.11.08)	1.12.08
ECO	Joint marketing arrangements on the North West Shelf project	2.12.08
ECO	Nation-building Funds Bills 2008 [Provisions]; Nation-building Funds (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions] and the COAG Reform Fund Bill 2008 [Provisions]	2.12.08
CA	Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising (Broadcasting Amendment) Bill 2008	2.12.08
ECO	The need, scope and content of a definition of unconscionable conduct for the purposes of Part IVA of the <i>Trade Practices Act 1974</i>	3.12.08
ECO	Matters relating to the gas explosion at Varanus Island, Western Australia	3.12.08
RRAT	Final Report—Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector	4.12.08
CA	Government expenditure on Indigenous affairs and social services in the Northern Territory	4.12.08
ECO	Disclosure regimes for charities and not-for-profit organisations	4.12.08
EEWR	Allegations of academic bias in universities and schools	4.12.08

LCA	Effectiveness of the <i>Sex Discrimination Act 1984</i> in eliminating discrimination and promoting gender equality (Presented out of session 12.12.08)	To be tabled in February 2009
ECA	Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008 (Presented out of session 18.12.08)	To be tabled in February 2009

**Reports that did not discharge a reference*

Estimates reports:

During the reporting period, Senate Standing Committees tabled no reports.

Reports on Annual Reports:

During the reporting period, Senate Standing Committees tabled 8 reports.

Joint Statutory/Select Committees:

During the reporting period, 3 reports (plus 4 reports that did not discharge a reference) were tabled by the Joint Statutory/Select Committees.

Committee	Report	Tabled
CFS (Joint)	* Statutory Oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (tabled in the House of Representatives 01.09.08)	02.09.08
ACC (Joint)	Inquiry into the <i>Australian Crime Commission Amendment Act 2007</i>	04.09.08
SGFM (Select)	Report	18.09.08
RRIC(Select)	* First Report 2008 (presented out of session 30.09.08)	13.10.08
NBN (Select)	* Interim Report	2.12.08
CFS (Joint)	Opportunity not opportunism: improving conduct in Australian franchising (tabled in the House of Representatives 01.12.08)	2.12.08

AGRIC (Select)	*Interim Report—Pricing and supply arrangements in the Australian and global fertiliser market	2.12.08
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* reports that did not discharge a reference

Government Responses to Committee Reports

The following table shows 8 Government responses to Senate Committee Reports:

Government Response	Date	Committee
Indigenous art: Securing the future—Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector (report tabled 20 June 2007)	08.08.08	ECA
Departmental and agency contracts: Second report on the operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (2003–06) (report tabled 27 February 2007)	21.08.08	FPA
A decent quality of life: Inquiry into the cost of living pressures on older Australians (report tabled 20 March 2008)	05.09.08	CA
Workplace exposure to toxic dust (report tabled 31 May 2006)	25.09.08	CA
An appropriate level of protection? The importation of salmon products: A case study of the administration of Australian Quarantine and the impact of international trade arrangements (report tabled 5 June 2000); Biosecurity Australia's import risk analysis for pig meat (report tabled 13 May 2004); Administration of Biosecurity Australia: Revised draft import risk analysis for bananas from the Philippines (report tabled 17 March 2005); Administration of Biosecurity Australia: Revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand (report tabled 17 March 2005); The administration by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry of the citrus canker outbreak (report tabled 20 June 2006)	25.09.08	RRAT

A matter relating to the PET review of 2000 (report tabled 26 June 2008)	13.11.08	CA
The removal, search for and discovery of Ms Vivian Solon—Final Report (report tabled 8 December 2005)	27.11.08	FADT
Options for additional water supplies for South East Queensland (report tabled 16 August 2007)	4.12.08	RRAT

Additional Comments; Dissenting Reports; Minority Reports; Report; Additional Remarks; Opposition Report; Comments; Supplementary Comments; Supplementary Report; Supplementary Remarks; Additional Comments & Points of Dissent

(Note: These statistics record the signatory to the reports)

<i>Legislation</i>	<i>LP/NAT</i>	<i>ALP</i>	<i>AG</i>	<i>FFP</i>	<i>IND</i>
Additional Comments	19		7	1	1
Dissenting Reports	24	1	9	5	
Minority Reports	4		9		5
Report	2				
Additional Remarks	1				
Critique of Report	1				

Extension of Time to present Reports

During the reporting period, 38 extensions of time: 8 one week or less; 18 over a week; and 12 over a month—were granted to Committees administered by the Senate Committee Office to present reports.

Leave to Meet while the Senate is in session

During the reporting period, Senate Committees were granted leave to meet while the Senate was in session on 31 occasions.

Membership of Committees

During the reporting period, there were 330 membership changes of Committees.

Appointment of Committees

The Select Committee on Men's Health was appointed on 13 November 2008.

Change of Committee Name

There were no changes to committee names during the reporting period.

