

## **WORK OF COMMITTEES**

**Year Statistics: 1 January 2017–31 December 2017**  
**Half-Year Statistics: 1 July 2017–31 December 2017**

© Commonwealth of Australia 2018  
ISBN 978-1-76010-714-7

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Australia License.



The details of this licence are available on the Creative Commons website:  
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/au/>.

Printed by the Senate Printing Unit, Parliament House, Canberra

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Format of this report .....                                  | iii |
| Abbreviations .....  | iv  |
| General Information .....                                    | v   |
| Directory of Committees .....                                | vii |
| Committees administered by the Senate Committee Office ..... | ix  |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>PART ONE:</b> | At a Glance–Legislation and References Committee Activity |
|                  | 1 January 2017–31 December 2017 .....                     |
|                  | 3   |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>PART TWO:</b> | Consolidated Statistical Overview (Calendar Year) |
|                  | 1 January 2017–31 December 2017 .....             |
|                  | 7   |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>PART THREE:</b> | Matters Referred and Reports Tabled 2006–2017 (by Committee) ..... |
|                    | 11   |

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>PART FOUR:</b> | Consolidated Statistical Overview (Half Year) |
|                   | 1 July 2017–31 December 2017 .....            |
|                   | 21  |

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>PART FIVE:</b> | Statistics on 2017–18 Budget Estimates (August 2017) and |
|                   | 2017–18 Supplementary Budget Estimates                   |
|                   | (October, November and December 2017) .....              |
|                   | 25   |

|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>PART SIX:</b> | 1 July 2017–31 December 2017 |
|------------------|------------------------------|

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

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| • Community Affairs .....                      | 33  |
| Legislation                                    |     |
| References                                     |     |
| • Economics .....                              | 43  |
| Legislation                                    |     |
| References                                     |     |
| • Education and Employment .....               | 55  |
| Legislation                                    |     |
| References                                     |     |
| • Environment and Communications .....         | 65  |
| Legislation                                    |     |
| References                                     |     |
| • Finance and Public Administration .....      | 77  |
| Legislation                                    |     |
| References                                     |     |
| • Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade .....     | 85  |
| Legislation                                    |     |
| References                                     |     |
| • Legal and Constitutional Affairs .....       | 93  |
| Legislation                                    |     |
| References                                     |     |
| • Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport ..... | 101 |
| Legislation                                    |     |
| References                                     |     |

## **Joint Committees administered by the Senate Committee Office**

- Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (Statutory) ..... 111
- Corporations and Financial Services (Statutory) ..... 115
- Law Enforcement (Statutory)..... 119
- National Broadband Network (Standing) ..... 125
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (Standing) ..... 131
- Oversight of the implementation of redress related recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Select) ..... 137

## **Senate Select Committees administered by the Senate Committee Office**

- Funding for Research into Cancers with Low Survival Rates ..... 143
- Future of Public Interest Journalism ..... 147
- Future of Work and Workers ..... 151
- Lending to Primary Production Customers..... 155
- National Integrity Commission ..... 159
- Political Influence of Donations..... 163
- Red Tape Committee..... 167
- Strengthening Multiculturalism ..... 171

## **Other Committees on which Senators serve**

- Regulations and Ordinances..... 175
- Scrutiny of Bills ..... 176
- Appropriations, Staffing and Security ..... 177
- Chairs'..... 178
- House ..... 179
- Privileges..... 180
- Procedure..... 181
- Publications ..... 182
- Selection of Bills ..... 183
- Senators' Interests..... 184
- Electoral Matters (Joint Standing) ..... 185
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (Joint Standing)..... 186
- Migration (Joint Standing) ..... 188
- National Capital and External Territories (Joint Standing)..... 189
- Northern Australia (Joint Standing) ..... 190
- Parliamentary Library (Joint Standing)..... 191
- Trade and Investment Growth (Joint Standing) ..... 192
- Treaties (Joint Standing) ..... 193
- Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings (Joint Statutory) ..... 194
- Human Rights (Joint Statutory) ..... 195
- Intelligence and Security (Joint Statutory)..... 196
- Public Accounts and Audit (Joint Statutory) ..... 198
- Public Works (Joint Statutory)..... 200

## **Committee-related activity in the chamber**

- Matters Referred to Committees ..... 203
- Reports Tabled by Senate Committees ..... 209
- Government Responses to Committee Reports ..... 215
- Minority Reports and other chamber related activity ..... 219

## **FORMAT OF THIS REPORT**

This report is divided into several sections that provide statistics on committee work during the following periods:

- the half year (1 July 2017 to 31 December 2017); and
- the calendar year (1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017).

Statistics on these periods are kept in order to record information based on parliamentary terms as well as half, financial and full year periods.

This report is available online at:

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/woc/index](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/woc/index).

Additional hard copies may be obtained from the Office of the Senior Clerk of Committees, Senate Committee Office. Telephone: (02) 6277 3555.

## ABBREVIATIONS

### *Committees*

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| ACLEI                      | Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity       |
| CA                         | Community Affairs   |
| CFS                        | Corporations and Financial Services                       |
| ECO                        | Economics   |
| EE                         | Education and Employment                                  |
| EEWR                       | Education, Employment and Workplace Relations             |
| EC                         | Environment and Communications                            |
| FPA                        | Finance and Public Administration                         |
| FADT                       | Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade                        |
| Cancer Research Funding    | Funding for Research into Cancers with Low Survival Rates |
| Journalism                 | Future of Public Interest Journalism                      |
| Work and Workers           | Future of Work and Workers                                |
| LE                         | Law Enforcement   |
| LCA                        | Legal and Constitutional Affairs                          |
| Primary Production Lending | Lending to Primary Production Customers                   |
| NBN                        | National Broadband Network                                |
| NDIS                       | National Disability Insurance Scheme                      |
| Integrity Commission       | National Integrity Commission                             |
| Political Donations        | Political Influence of Donations                          |
| Red Tape                   | Red Tape Committee  |
| Multiculturalism           | Strengthening Multiculturalism                            |
| RRAT                       | Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport                  |

### *Political Affiliations*

|      |                              |
|------|------------------------------|
| AC   | Australian Conservatives     |
| AG   | Australian Greens            |
| ALP  | Australian Labor Party       |
| CLP  | Country Liberal Party        |
| DHJP | Derryn Hinch's Justice Party |
| IND  | Independent                  |
| JLN  | Jacqui Lambie Network        |
| LDP  | Liberal Democratic Party     |
| LP   | Liberal Party of Australia   |
| NATS | The Nationals                |
| NXT  | Nick Xenophon Team           |
| PHON | Pauline Hanson's One Nation  |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

|   | <i>Phone</i>   | <i>Fax</i>     |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Clerk Assistant (Committees)<br>Mr Tim Bryant   | (02) 6277 3371 | (02) 6277 3199 |
| Senior Clerk of Committees<br>Mr David Sullivan | (02) 6277 3506 | (02) 6277 3899 |

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>General Inquiries</b>      | (02) 6277 3555  |
| <b>E-Mail Address</b>         | <a href="mailto:seniorclerk.committees.sen@aph.gov.au">seniorclerk.committees.sen@aph.gov.au</a>  |
| <b>Senate Home Page</b>       | <a href="http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Senate">http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Senate</a>                                   |
| <b>Senate Committees Page</b> | <a href="http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate">http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate</a> |

**A public alert service** (RSS feed) is available. Members of the public can choose, at no charge, to be alerted automatically via the internet, to the tabling of committee reports, the commencement of new inquiries and schedules of hearing dates. Information on how to load the RSS reader is available on the Senate's committee web page.

Other publications available from the Committee Office\*:

Consolidated Register of Senate Committee Reports (1970–2018)  
[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/register](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/register)

Senate Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees: The First 20 Years 1970–1990  
[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Significant\\_Reports/first20years/contents](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Significant_Reports/first20years/contents)

Bills referred to Senate committees  
[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Bills\\_Legislation/Bills\\_and\\_Committees/Bills\\_referred\\_to\\_Senate\\_committees](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Bills_Legislation/Bills_and_Committees/Bills_referred_to_Senate_committees)

Today's Public Hearings (*daily list of committee public hearings held in Canberra or interstate*)  
[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Todays\\_Public\\_Hearings](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Todays_Public_Hearings)

Senate Committees: Upcoming Public Hearings (*list of all forthcoming committee public hearings*)  
[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Upcoming\\_Public\\_Hearings](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Upcoming_Public_Hearings)

*\*A selection of reports presented prior to June 1997 and all reports tabled thereafter are available online.*

## **Information on getting involved in Senate committee inquiries**

Making a Submission

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Making\\_a\\_submission](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Making_a_submission)

Attending a public hearing

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Attending\\_a\\_public\\_hearing](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Attending_a_public_hearing)

Protection of witnesses appearing before Senate Committees (Senate Privilege Resolution No. 1 on procedures to be observed by Senate committees for the protection of witnesses)

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Procedures\\_to\\_be\\_observed](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Procedures_to_be_observed)

Government Guidelines for official witnesses before Parliamentary Committees and related matters

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Senate\\_Estimates/Guidelines\\_for\\_official\\_witness](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Senate_Estimates/Guidelines_for_official_witness)



## DIRECTORY OF COMMITTEES

| <i>Committee</i>  | <i>Type</i>       | <i>Administered</i> | <i>Phone (02)</i> | <i>Fax (02)</i> |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Appropriations, Staffing and Security                     | Standing          | S                   | 6277 3015         | 6277 5784       |
| Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity       | Joint Statutory   | S                   | 6277 3598         | 6277 5809       |
| Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings                 | Joint Statutory   | H                   | 6277 4888         | 6277 4204       |
| Chairs'   | Standing          | S                   | 6277 3371         | 6277 3199       |
| Community Affairs*  | LGPS              | S                   | 6277 3515         | 6277 5829       |
| Corporations and Financial Services                       | Joint Statutory   | S                   | 6277 3583         | 6277 5719       |
| Economics*  | LGPS              | S                   | 6277 3540         | 6277 5719       |
| Electoral Matters   | Joint             | H                   | 6277 4579         | 6277 4773       |
| Education and Employment*                                 | LGPS              | S                   | 6277 3521         | 6277 5706       |
| Environment and Communications*                           | LGPS              | S                   | 6277 3526         | 6277 5818       |
| Finance and Public Administration*                        | LGPS              | S                   | 6277 3439         | 6277 5809       |
| Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade                        | Joint             | H                   | 6277 4629         | 6277 2221       |
| Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade*                       | LGPS              | S                   | 6277 3535         | 6277 5818       |
| Funding for Research into Cancers with Low Survival Rates | Select            | S                   | 6277 3555         | 6277 3899       |
| Future of Public Interest Journalism                      | Select            | S                   | 6277 3555         | 6277 3899       |
| Future of Work and Workers                                | Select            | S                   | 6277 3521         | 6277 5706       |
| House   | Standing          | S                   | 6277 3398         | 6277 3199       |
| Human Rights  | Joint Statutory   | S                   | 6277 3066         | 6277 5767       |
| Intelligence and Security                                 | Joint Statutory   | H                   | 6277 4588         | 6277 2067       |
| Law Enforcement   | Joint Statutory   | S                   | 6277 3598         | 6277 5809       |
| Legal and Constitutional Affairs*                         | LGPS              | S                   | 6277 3560         | 6277 5794       |
| Lending to Primary Production Customers                   | Select            | S                   | 6277 3555         | 6277 3899       |
| Migration   | Joint             | H                   | 6277 4560         | 6277 4844       |
| National Broadband Network                                | Joint Standing    | S                   | 6277 3439         | 6277 5594       |
| National Capital and External Territories                 | Joint             | H                   | 6277 2319         | 6277 4844       |
| National Disability Insurance Scheme                      | Joint Standing    | S                   | 6277 3083         | 6277 5829       |
| National Integrity Commission                             | Select            | S                   | 6277 3555         | 6277 3899       |
| Northern Australia  | Joint Standing    | H                   | 6277 4562         | 6277 4427       |
| Parliamentary Library                                     | Joint             | DPS                 | 6277 7102         | 6277 2403       |
| Political Influence of Donations                          | Select            | S                   | 6277 3561         | 6277 5829       |
| Privileges  | Standing          | S                   | 6277 3360         | 6277 3199       |
| Procedure   | Standing          | S                   | 6277 3364         | 6277 3199       |
| Public Accounts and Audit                                 | Joint Statutory   | H                   | 6277 4615         | 6277 2220       |
| Public Works  | Joint Statutory   | H                   | 6277 4636         | 6277 4844       |
| Publications  | Standing          | S                   | 6277 3037         | 6277 5784       |
| Regulations and Ordinances                                | Legislative       | S                   | 6277 3066         | 6277 5881       |
| Red Tape  | Scrutiny Standing | S                   | 6277 3228         | 6277 5829       |
| Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport*                   | Select            | S                   | 6277 3511         | 6277 5811       |
| Scrutiny of Bills   | Legislative       | S                   | 6277 3051         | 6277 5881       |
| Selection of Bills  | Scrutiny Standing | S                   | 6277 3020         | 6277 3098       |
| Senators' Interests                                       | Standing          | S                   | 6277 3396         | 6277 3199       |
| Trade and Investment Growth                               | Standing          | H                   | 6277 4562         | 6277 4427       |
| Treaties  | Joint Standing    | H                   | 6277 4642         | 6277 2219       |

**H** Department of the House of Representatives

**DPS** Department of Parliamentary Services

**LGPS** Legislative and General Purpose Standing

**S** Department of the Senate

**\*** Legislation and References Committees



## 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;
- Certain Joint Statutory, Joint Standing and Joint Select Committees; and
- Senate Select Committees.

### Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees

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

| <i>Committee</i>  | <i>Portfolio/subject area</i>  |
|---|--|
| Community Affairs<br>Legislation<br>References                      | Health<br>Human Services<br>Social Services  |
| Economics<br>Legislation<br>References                              | Industry, Innovation and Science<br>– part of Jobs and Innovation Portfolio<br>Treasury      |
| Education and Employment<br>Legislation<br>References               | Education and Training<br>Jobs and Small Business<br>– part of Jobs and Innovation Portfolio |
| Environment and Communications<br>Legislation<br>References         | Communications and the Arts<br>Environment and Energy  |
| Finance and Public Administration<br>Legislation<br>References      | Finance<br>Parliament<br>Prime Minister and Cabinet (including Indigenous Affairs)           |
| Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade<br>Legislation<br>References     | Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)<br>Foreign Affairs and Trade                           |
| Legal and Constitutional Affairs<br>Legislation<br>References       | Attorney-General's<br>Home Affairs   |
| Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport<br>Legislation<br>References | Agriculture and Water Resources<br>Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities           |

### **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
- Corporations and Financial Services, and
- Law Enforcement

### **Joint Standing Committees**

During the reporting period, the Senate Committee Office also administered the following Joint Standing Committees comprising members of the House of Representatives and Senators:

- National Broadband Network
- National Disability Insurance Scheme

### **Joint Select Committees**

During the reporting period, the Senate Committee Office also administered the following Joint Select Committee comprising members of the House of Representatives and Senators:

- Oversight of the implementation of redress related recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

### **Senate Select Committees**

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

- Funding for Research into Cancers with Low Survival Rates
- Future of Public Interest Journalism
- Future of Work and Workers
- Lending to Primary Production Customers
- National Integrity Commission
- Political Influence of Donations
- Red Tape Committee
- Strengthening Multiculturalism