



Senate Daily Summary

Monday 6 August 2001

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 10.29pm

New senator sworn in

[Senator John Cherry](#) (Australian Democrats, Queensland) was sworn in to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Woodley

Privilege

The President made a statement about a matter of privilege raised by Senator Tambling concerning his vote on the Interactive Gambling Bill 2001. Senator Tambling gave a [notice of motion](#) for tomorrow (7 August) to refer the matter to the Committee of Privileges for inquiry and report. The President advised that the motion relating to the matter would be given priority consideration.

Legislation

[For full text of bills and other associated documents click here](#)

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

Patents Amendment Bill 2001

Workplace Relations Amendment (Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2001

The following bill was considered

Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2000—second reading debate continued

The following bills were passed

Without amendments

[These bills will now be assented to]

Migration Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Bill 2001

Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Post-retirement Commutations) Bill 2000

With amendments

Environmental Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2001–(2 Democrat [amendments agreed to](#)) [The House of Representatives will now consider the bill as amended]

The following messages from the House of Representatives were reported

Child Support Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2000–[The message](#) reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to amendments nos 1 and 3 to 5 made and insisted on by the Senate, not insisted on amendments nos 2 to 5 and 7 made by the House and disagreed to by the Senate, agreed to amendments made by the Senate to amendments nos 1 and 8 made by the House in place of certain Senate amendments and agreed to the further amendment made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

Health Legislation Amendment (Medical Practitioners' Qualifications and Other Measures) Bill 2001–The message reported that the House of Representatives agreed to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 5) 1999–The message reported that the House of Representatives agreed to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to 46 bills was reported in the Senate

Proclamations

[Proclamations](#) by the Governor-General were tabled announcing when particular Acts would commence

See the **Committees** section for details of reports relating to legislation

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings click here](#)

[For committee reports click here](#)

Estimates

Additional information tabled

Additional information received by the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee relating to additional estimates for 2000-2001 (volume 3)

Reports tabled

- Extradition: A review of Australia's law and policy*–40th Report–Treaties Joint Committee
- In the pink or in the red?: Health services on Norfolk Island*–National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee
- Proposed importation of fresh apple fruit from New Zealand*–Interim report–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
- The incidence of Ovine Johne's disease in the Australian sheep flock*–Second Report–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Government response to a committee report tabled

- Second Australian Government loan to Papua New Guinea: Variation to loan agreement*–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee

Membership

The Senate agreed to the following changes to committee membership:

- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–Senator Ridgeway appointed
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–Senator Ridgeway appointed

Meetings

Public meetings

The Senate agreed that the following public meeting may be held while the Senate is sitting:

- Legal and Constitutional References Committee–6 August 2001 from 7.30pm

Notices of motion given

To hold a public meeting when the Senate is sitting

- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–9 August 2001 from 4pm

To extend reporting deadlines

- Patents Amendment Bill 2001–Economics Legislation Committee–9 August 2001
- Sale of the Christmas Island resort–National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee–27 September 2001

To refer matters to a committee

- Trade Practices Act 1974*–proposed amendments–Legal and Constitutional References Committee–to report by 3 December 2001

To establish a new select committee

- [Australian Tax System](#) Senate Select Committee–to report by 30 June 2002

To hold a private meeting with people other than members in attendance

- Scrutiny of Bills Committee–8 August 2001 from 8 to 10am

Delegated legislation

[For a complete list of notices of motion to disallow \(and outcomes\) click here](#) 

See the **Documents** section for details of instruments tabled

Motion agreed to

The Senate agreed to a motion without debate about the [pension level benchmark](#)–moved by Senator Faulkner

Notices of motion

[For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere click here](#) 

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Auditor-General—Report No. 54 of 2000-2001—Compliance assessment audit—Engagement of consultants
- Auditor-General—Report No. 1 of 2001-2002—Financial statement audit—Control structures as part of the audits of the financial statements of major Commonwealth entities for the year ended 30 June 2001
- Auditor-General—Report No. 2 of 2001-2002—Examination of allegations relating to sales tax fraud: Australian Taxation Office
- Auditor-General—Report No. 3 of 2001-2002—Performance audit—The Australian Taxation Office’s administration of taxation rulings: Australian Taxation Office
- Auditor-General—Report No. 4 of 2001-2002—Performance audit—Commonwealth estate property sales: Department of Finance and Administration
- Business of the Senate—1 January to 30 June 2001 [a digest of all business considered by the Senate in the first six months of 2001]
- [Clerk’s documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- [Government documents](#) presented since the last sitting of the Senate
- Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference, 32nd, Wellington, New Zealand, from 2 to 6 July 2001—Report
- Questions on notice—Summary for the period 10 November 1998 to 30 June 2001
- Responses to Senate resolutions about:
 - [Departmental and agency contracts](#)—Order for production of documents (agreed to 20 June 2001)
 - [Northern Territory legislation](#) (agreed to 27 June 2001)
 - [South Pacific whale sanctuary](#) (agreed to 25 June 2001)

Petitions

[4 petitions](#) were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- Government documents were discussed
- Adjournment debate

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