

Senate Daily Summary

Monday 11 November 2002

The Senate met from 9:30am until 11:17pm

Statement by the President

The President made a [statement](#) relating to Parliament House security. The Senate took note of the statement.

New senator sworn in

Senator Santo [Santoro](#) (Liberal Party, Queensland) was sworn in to fill the casual vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator the Hon John Herron

Sitting days 2003

A notice of [motion](#) was given to propose sitting days for 2003—moved by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- Health Care (Appropriation) Amendment Bill 2002
- Health Insurance Amendment (Professional Services Review and Other Matters) Bill 2002
- Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2002
- Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2002
- Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002
- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 5) 2002

The following bills were considered

- Prohibition of Human Cloning Bill 2002—second reading debate continued
- Research Involving Embryos Bill 2002—second reading debate continued [the Australian Democrats moved a [second reading amendment](#) to the bill expressing a view about the bill's policy]

No bills were passed



The following message from the House of Representatives was reported

- Torres Strait Fisheries Amendment Bill 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the bill without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]

Bills assented to

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

Proclamations

A [Proclamation](#) by the Governor-General was tabled announcing when particular provisions of the *Proceeds of Crime Act 2002* would commence

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

Delegated legislation

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

The following message from the House of Representatives was reported

The message reported that the House of Representatives had approved the Disability Discrimination Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002, made under subsection 31(1) of the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*, as approved by the Senate on 23 October 2002

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

Committees

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

For committee reports click here [▶](#)

Reports tabled

- Australian Crime Commission Establishment Bill 2002—National Crime Authority Joint Committee
- Integrity of the electoral roll: Review of ANAO report no. 42 of 2001-02—Electoral Matters Joint Committee
- Provisions of the Research Involving Embryos and Prohibition of Human Cloning Bill 2002—Community Affairs Legislation Committee
- A Certain Maritime Incident Select Committee—Erratum to the report

Government responses to committee reports tabled

- Prudential supervision and consumer protection for superannuation, banking and financial services, First report—Superannuation and Financial Services Select Committee
- Prudential supervision and consumer protection for superannuation, banking and financial services, Second report—Superannuation and Financial Services Select Committee
- Universities in crisis: Report into the capacity of public universities to meet Australia's higher education needs—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

Membership

The Senate agreed that Senator Stephens be appointed as a participating member of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation and References Committees

Reporting dates

The Senate agreed to the following extensions of time for committees to report:

- Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–next day of sitting
- Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Special Benefit Activity Test) Bill 2002–Community Affairs Legislation Committee–2 December 2002
- Statutory powers and functions of the Australian Law Reform Commission–Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee–last sitting day in 2002

Notices of motion given

To hold public meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee–15 November 2002 from 9.30am to 4.25pm–to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2002
- Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee–12 and 14 November 2002 from 4 pm–to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into banking and financial services in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–15 November 2002 from 9.30am to 4.25pm–to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into materiel acquisition and management in Defence
- Legal and Constitutional References Committee–to hold meetings on 12 to 14 November, at [various times](#), to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002

To hold a private meeting when the Senate is sitting

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee–at various times not specified

To extend reporting deadlines

- Australia’s relationship with Papua New Guinea and other Pacific island countries– Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–last sitting day in June 2003
- Materiel acquisition and management in Defence–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–last sitting day in March 2003
- Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–18 November 2002
- Workplace Relations Amendment (Improved Protection for Victorian Workers) Bill 2002–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee–15 November 2002

Motion agreed to

The Senate agreed to a motion without debate about the [Anglo-Boer War](#)—moved by Senator Hutchins

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Motions agreed to

The Senate ordered that the following documents be tabled:

- [Certain documents](#) relating to the proposed Nathan Dam on the Fitzroy River in Queensland (no later than 2pm on 19 November 2002)—moved by Senator Bartlett
- The October 2002 report of the Independent Reference Group on the options for improving the welfare record of Australia's live animal export trade (no later than 2pm on 18 November 2002)—moved by Senator Bartlett

Notices of motion given

- To require the Minister for Science to table all documents referred to on pages 3 and 4 of the 'communications strategy' section of the brief for the provision of 'Public relations services surrounding the announcement of the decision of where to establish the national repository for the disposal of Australia's low level radioactive waste' (no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on Tuesday, 18 November 2002)—by Senator Carr
- That the evaluation of the 'living in harmony' initiative and associated market research conducted between 1996 and 1998 be tabled (immediately after taking note of answers to questions without notice on 13 November 2002)—by Senator Sherry

Documents tabled

The Deputy President tabled copies of documents held by the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator relating to the risk assessment for the canola trial licence application (in response to a [motion](#) moved by Senator Stott Despoja on 17 October 2002)

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency contracts published on the internet

Statements of compliance for [various agencies](#) were tabled [Letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies required to be tabled twice yearly; Senate order [agreed to](#) and [amended](#)]

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ Auditor-General—[Reports Nos 14 to 17](#) of 2002-03
- ❑ Australian Democrats portfolio distribution—tabled by the Leader of the Australian Democrats
- ❑ Bali terrorist attacks—letters of condolence to the President from [various](#) governments and legislatures
- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ❑ Department of the Parliamentary Library—Report for 2001-02
- ❑ Department of the Parliamentary Reporting Staff—Report for 2001-02
- ❑ [Government documents](#)
- ❑ Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report No. 21—Report of an inquiry into a complaint by six asylum seekers concerning their transfer from immigration detention centres to state prisons and their detention in those prisons. The Senate debated a motion to take note of the report—moved by Senator Nettle
- ❑ Parliamentary Service Commissioner—Report for 2001-02, including a report of the Parliamentary Service Merit Protection Commissioner
- ❑ Productivity Commission—Report No. 20—Citrus growing and processing—Government response
- ❑ Responses to Senate resolutions about:
 - ❑ [Iraq military action](#) (agreed to [26 September 2002](#))
 - ❑ [Landcare Week](#) and the National Landcare Awards (agreed to [21 August 2002](#))
 - ❑ [Monash University tragedy](#) (agreed to [23 October 2002](#))

Petitions

4 [petitions](#) were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ Senators observed one minute's silence at 11am for Remembrance Day, 2002
- ❑ [Statement](#) by the President about unparliamentary language in committee reports
- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ Adjournment debate

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