



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday 6 February 2003

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.45pm

Legislation

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

The following bill was introduced in the Senate

- Maritime Legislation Amendment Bill 2002

The following bill was considered

- Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—second reading debate continued

The following bills were passed without amendments

- Australian Capital Territory Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 [This bill will now be assented to]
- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2002 [2003] [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill]
- Commonwealth Volunteers Protection Bill 2002 [This bill will now be assented to]
- Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Advice Industry) Bill 2002 [This bill will now be assented to]
- National Gallery Amendment Bill 2002 [2003] [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill]

Bills assented to

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

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](#)

Committees

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

For committee reports [click here](#)

Estimates

Advance to the Minister for Finance

The Senate agreed to:

- Refer the Issues from the Advance to the Finance Minister as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 2002 to legislation committees for consideration and report as part of the additional estimates process. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer tabled the Issues.
- Consider the Advance to the Finance Minister as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 2002 in committee of the whole when legislation committees report on their examination of additional estimates

Reports tabled

- Privileges Committee–112th Report–Possible unauthorised disclosure of a report of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee [report adopted and findings at paragraph 1.48 endorsed by the Senate]
- Small business employment–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

Government responses to committee reports tabled and noted

- Electromagnetic radiation–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee
- Risky business: Inquiry into the tender process followed in the sale of the Christmas Island casino and resort–National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee

Membership

The Senate agreed to that [a number of senators](#) be discharged from and appointed to committees for the consideration of the 2002-03 additional estimates, and also to the following changes to committee membership:

- Economics References Committee–Senator Conroy appointed as a participating member
- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee–Senator Moore to replace Senator Wong for the committee's inquiry into the role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment

Motion defeated

A motion (moved by Senator Brown) to refer the Medical Indemnity (Prudential Supervision and Product Standards) Bill 2002 and a related bill to the Economics Legislation Committee was *defeated*

Reporting dates

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

- ❑ Australian telecommunications network–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee–24 June 2003
- ❑ Progress towards national reconciliation–Legal and Constitutional References Committee–17 June 2003
- ❑ Refusal of the Government to respond to the [order of the Senate](#) of 21 August 2002 for the production of documents relating to financial information concerning higher education institutions–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee–15 May 2003

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions (without debate) about:

- ❑ [Australian Broadcasting Corporation](#)–Director–moved by Senator Cherry
- ❑ [Iraq–Use of nuclear weapons](#)–moved by Senator Brown
- ❑ [Nauru detention centre](#)–moved by Senator Brown
- ❑ [Zimbabwe–World Cup matches](#)–moved by Senators Ferguson, Murray, Sandy Macdonald and O’Brien

Motion debated

The Senate debated a motion moved by Senator Carr about the location of a planned low-level radioactive waste repository in South Australia

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Statement by Minister

The Minister for Defence made a statement about the order for the tabling of submissions made by the Department of Defence to the Environment Impact Assessment for a National Radioactive Waste Repository in South Australia (order agreed to by the Senate on 5 February 2003). [The Minister indicated](#) that such a submission was not made by the Department of Defence.

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ Australian parliamentary delegation report–United States of America and the European Institutions, 1 to 13 September 2002
- ❑ Department of the Senate–Travelling allowance–Payments to senators and members, 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2002
- ❑ Department of the Senate–Travelling allowance–Payments to Senate senior officers, 1 July 2001 to 31 December 2002

- Parliamentary zone—proposal for works and supporting documentation relating to the design, siting and construction of public artwork celebrating the centenary of women's suffrage in Australia. A notice of motion was given seeking approval of the proposal works.
- Response to a Senate resolution about Swimming Australia's member protection policy (agreed to [11 December 2002](#))

Government documents and Clerk's documents were *not* tabled

Petitions

[A petition](#) was received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- The President made [a statement](#) concerning protocol and distinguished visitors in the chamber
- Valedictory statements relating to the retirement of Senator Reid
- Government documents, committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports were discussed
- Adjournment debate

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The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate
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