



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday 7 October 2003

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 6.51pm

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- Migration Legislation Amendment (Identification and Authentication) Bill 2003
- Statistics Legislation Amendment Bill 2003

The following bills were considered

- Crimes (Overseas) Amendment Bill 2003—second reading debate continued
- Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2003–1 Opposition amendment agreed to ([previous amendments](#) were agreed to 18 September 2003) [The House of Representatives will now consider the requests made by the Senate. The Senate will read the bill a third time when the requests are resolved.]

The following bills were passed

With amendments

- Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003–7 Democrat, 3 Greens and 2 Government [amendments agreed to](#) [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
- Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003–[amendments agreed](#) to 18 September 2003 [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]

The following message from the House of Representatives was considered

- Sex Discrimination Amendment (Pregnancy and Work) Bill 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives disagreed to the [amendments made](#) by the Senate. The Senate resolved not to insist on the amendments disagreed to by the House. [The bill will now be assented to]

The following message from the House of Representatives was reported

- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives agreed to the [amendments made by the Senate](#) [The bill will now be assented to]

The following bills were exempted from the cut-off order [to enable

consideration this period of sittings]

- Crimes (Overseas) Amendment Bill 2003
- Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Extension of Time Limits) Bill 2003
- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 8) 2003

Notices of motion given

To exempt bills from certain provisions of standing order 111 [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- [Various bills](#)

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to several 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](#)

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

Committees

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

[For committee reports click here](#)

Report tabled

- Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2003—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee

Government response to committee report tabled

- Taxation treatment of overseas superannuation transfers—Superannuation Select Committee

Membership

The Senate agreed to the following change to committee membership:

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—Senator Conroy appointed as a participating member

Reporting dates

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

- Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and a related bill—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 8 October 2003
- Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [No. 2] and a related bill—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee—to report by 30 October 2003

Notices of motion given

To hold public meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Economics Legislation Committee—28 October 2003 from 4.30pm—Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation Contributions Splitting) Bill 2003
- National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee—16 October 2003 from 6pm to 7pm—Role of the National Capital Authority

To vary an order to hold a public meeting when the Senate is sitting

- Economics Legislation Committee—13 October 2003 from 4pm—after consideration of the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003, to also take evidence on the International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill 2003

To extend reporting deadlines

- Forestry plantations—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—to report by the last sitting day in 2003
- Staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*—Finance and Public Administration References Committee—to report by 16 October 2003

Motion agreed to

[A motion to censure](#) the Prime Minister about the war on Iraq and an amendment moved by the Opposition were agreed to.

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Notices of motion given

Senator Allison gave [a notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing to table several documents about immunisation and related issues (no later than 8 October 2003)

Senator Allison gave a notice of motion to require the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing to table the most recent draft of the National Drug Research Strategy, as prepared by the National Drug Research Committee (no later than 8 October 2003)

Senator Brown gave [a notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Science to table certain documents relating to question on notice no. 1374 (no later than 5pm on 13 October 2003)

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the internet

Statements of compliance for [various agencies](#) were tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies required to be tabled twice yearly; [Senate order](#) agreed to]

Questions on notice–failure to provide answers

Senator Allison asked the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs for [an explanation](#) for an answer not being provided to a question relating to detention centres. The Minister [indicated](#) that an answer would be provided.

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Auditor-General–Report No. 7 of 2003-04–Business support process audit–Recordkeeping in large Commonwealth organisations
- Australian National Audit Office–Report for 2002-03
- [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- [Government document](#)
- [Government documents](#) presented since the last sitting of the Senate
- [6 petitions](#) were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- The Leader of the Government in the Senate informed the Senate of changes to the [third Howard Ministry](#)
- Senator O'Brien made [a personal explanation](#) about certain News Limited newspaper reports
- 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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