



Senate Daily Summary

Monday 8 September 2003

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 10.28pm

Legislation

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

No bills were introduced in the Senate

The following bills were considered

- Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002–second reading debate continued

The following bills were passed with amendments

[The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]

- Migration Amendment (Duration of Detention) Bill 2003–4
Government [amendments](#) agreed to
- Sex Discrimination Amendment (Pregnancy and Work) Bill 2002–31
Opposition and 4 Democrat [amendments](#) (2 amended by Opposition) agreed to

Bills assented to

Assent to the *Export Control Amendment Act 2003* 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](#)

Estimates

Additional information tabled

- Additional information relating to the 2003-04 Budget estimates received by the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee was tabled
- Additional information relating to the 2002-03 Additional estimates received by the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee was tabled

No reports were tabled

Report considered

The Senate considered the Procedure Committee's second report of 2003, and adopted its recommendation relating to the publication of questions on notice and answers. Standing order 74(3) was amended accordingly.

Statement by Committee Chair

The Chair of the Select Committee on Medicare, Senator McLucas, made a statement concerning a response by the Director of the Australian Institute for Primary Care to comments made during debate in the Senate on an extension of time for the committee to report

Reporting dates

The Senate agreed to the following extension of time for a committee to report:

- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 7) 2003–Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 10 September 2003

Notices of motion given

To hold public meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Economics Legislation Committee—13 October 2003 from 4pm–Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003
- Electoral Matters Joint Committee—18 September 2003 from 9.30am to 11am—increasing the minimum representation of the Territories in the House of Representatives
- Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—9 September 2003 from 6pm–Age Discrimination Bill 2003
- Regulations and Ordinances Committee—10 September 2003 from 3.30pm–Legislative Instruments Bill 2003 and Legislative Instruments (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003

To extend reporting deadlines

- Annual reports tabled by 30 April 2003—Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 10 September 2003
- Annual reports tabled by 30 April 2003—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 16 September 2003

- Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and a related bill—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 16 September 2003
- Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee—to report by 11 September 2003

To refer a bill to a committee

- State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2002] [Private senator's bill]—Legal and Constitutional References Committee—to report by 30 October 2003

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to [a motion](#) without debate about better protection for United Nations' personnel in Iraq—moved by Senator Brown

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Notice of motion given

Senator Carr gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training to table numerous documents and associated supporting research reports relating to the *National Report on Australia's Higher Education Sector*, 2001 (no later than 3.30pm on 15 September 2003)

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the internet

Statements of compliance for various agencies were tabled (see Journals entries [19](#) and [23](#)) [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies required to be tabled twice yearly; [Senate order](#) agreed to]

Departmental and agency contracts published on the internet

Statements of compliance for various agencies were tabled (see Journals entries [18](#) and [24](#)) [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]

Questions on notice—failure to provide answers

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing 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 he would take the matter up with the Minister for Immigration. The Senate [took note](#) of the Minister's failure to provide an answer or an explanation.

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Auditor-General—Report No. 3 of 2003-04—Business support process audit—Management of risk and insurance
- Auditor-General—Report No. 4 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Management of the extension option review—Plasma Fractionation Agreement: Department of Health and Ageing
- [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- [2 petitions](#) were received
- Response to a Senate resolution about West Papua—from the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia (resolution agreed to [12 August 2003](#))

No government documents were tabled

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- 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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