



# Senate Daily Summary

**Tuesday 13 May 2003**

The Senate met from 2.00pm until 8.35pm

## **Budget 2003-04**

[For Budget Papers, Portfolio Budget Statements and related sites click here](#)

The Minister representing the Treasurer tabled the Budget documents for the year 2003-04 and [associated budget papers](#) and ministerial statements. The Opposition, minor parties and independent senators will make their responses to the Budget statement on Thursday 15 May 2003.

The Senate agreed to [a motion](#) by the Minister representing the Treasurer to refer documents to legislation committees to enable the committees to examine the proposed budget. This initiates the [estimates hearings process](#). Portfolio budget statements for [parliamentary](#) and [executive departments](#) were also tabled.

## **Change in sitting hours**

The Senate agreed to a variation in [sitting hours](#) and routine of business for 13 and 15 May 2003

## **Legislation**

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

### **The following bills were introduced in the Senate**

- Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 [No. 2]
- Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002
- Criminal Code Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002
- Terrorism Insurance Bill 2003
- Wheat Marketing Amendment Bill 2002

### **The following messages from the House of Representatives were reported**

- Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

- ❑ Copyright Amendment (Parallel Importation) Bill 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Dairy Industry Service Reform Bill 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the further amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Health Insurance Amendment (Diagnostic Imaging, Radiation Oncology and Other Measures) Bill 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Inspector-General of Taxation Bill 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the further amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ National Gallery Amendment Bill 2002 [2003]—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the bill without amendment [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives had disagreed to [the amendments](#) made by the Senate [The Senate will now reconsider the amendments disagreed to by the House]

### **Bills assented to**

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

### **Proclamations**

[Proclamations](#) by the Governor-General were tabled announcing when particular parts of two Acts 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](#)

### **Notice of intention given to withdraw a notice**

A notice of intention was given to withdraw a notice to disallow items [2356], [2357] and [2358] of Schedule 2 to the Migration Amendment Regulations 2002 (No. 10), as contained in Statutory Rules 2002 No. 348 and made under the *Migration Act 1958*

### **Notice of motion withdrawn**

A notice of motion to disallow the Customs (Prohibited Exports) Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 17 and made under the *Customs Act 1901* was withdrawn

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

## Committees

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

For committee reports [click here](#)

### Estimates

The particulars of proposed expenditure for 2003-04 (the amounts contained in the appropriation bills) [were referred](#) to Senate legislation committees—to report by 19 June 2003

### Additional information tabled

Additional information relating to the 2002-03 Budget and Additional Estimates was tabled by several committees [see *Journals* entries [30](#) and [31](#)]

### Reports tabled

- Committee reports tabled since the last sitting of the Senate:
  - Customs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
  - Recruitment and retention of ADF personnel—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee
  - 2003 Review of Migration Regulation 4.31B—Migration Joint Committee
  - Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003—Interim report—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee
- Procedure Committee—[First report of 2003](#)—Time of meeting on Tuesday; Senators breastfeeding infants; Deadline for receipt of bills; Presentation of the budget; Committee meetings during adjournment debate; Formal motions. The Senate agreed to the committee's recommendation that standing orders be amended to permit a senator to breastfeed an infant in the chamber. Notices of motion were given for the adoption of the committee's other recommendations.

### Government responses to committee reports tabled

- Recruitment and retention of ADF personnel—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee
- Review of the accrual budget documentation—Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee

### Meetings

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

- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—14 May 2003 from 11am to 1pm to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the Australian telecommunications network
- Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—14 May 2003 from 3.30pm to 4.30pm to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the Australian Human Rights Commission Legislation Bill 2003

### **Reporting dates**

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

- ❑ Designs Bill 2002 and a related bill—Economics Legislation Committee—28 May 2003
- ❑ Health Legislation Amendment (Private Health Insurance Reform) Bill 2003—Community Affairs Legislation Committee—16 June 2003
- ❑ Terrorism Insurance Bill 2003—Economics Legislation Committee—14 May 2003
- ❑ Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee—19 June 2003

### **Notices of motion given**

#### *To establish a new committee*

[Notice of motion](#) was given for the establishment of a Select Committee on Medicare—to report by 26 June 2003—Senator Allison

#### *To adopt a committee's recommendations*

The Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee gave [notice of a motion](#) requesting the Senate to agree to the recommendations in the committee's report on materiel acquisition and management in Defence, that:

- (a) the Auditor-General be requested to undertake a cultural audit of the Defence Materiel Organisation;
- (b) the Auditor-General report annually to the Senate on progress on major defence projects; and
- (c) that the Senate order the production, upon its completion, of the report by the Director of Trials of the Review of Test and Evaluation in Defence, and refer the document to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for examination and report

#### *To hold public meetings when the Senate is sitting*

- ❑ Community Affairs Legislation Committee—15 May 2003 from 3.30pm to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the Health Legislation Amendment (Private Health Insurance Reform) Bill 2003
- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—19 June 2003 from 7pm to 11pm to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the examination of the Government's foreign and trade policy strategy
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional References Committee—14 May 2003 from 4.30pm to 6pm and on 15 May 2003 from 9.30am to 11.30am to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into progress towards national reconciliation
- ❑ Superannuation Select Committee—15 May 2003 from 3.30pm to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into planning for retirement

#### *To extend reporting deadlines*

- ❑ Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and a related bill—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 24 June 2003
- ❑ Civil Aviation Amendment Bill 2003—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 24 June 2003
- ❑ Government foreign and trade policy strategy—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—to report by 20 August 2003

- ❑ Labour market skills requirements—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—to report by 28 October 2003
- ❑ Performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002—to report by 4 November 2003
- ❑ Progress towards national reconciliation—Legal and Constitutional References Committee—to report by 11 August 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—to report by 19 August 2003
- ❑ Wheat Marketing Amendment Bill 2002—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 16 June 2003

### **Motion agreed to**

The Senate agreed to a motion without debate about the [death of Mr Jim Anderson](#), former NSW State Member for Londonderry—moved by Senator Hutchins

### **Motion debated**

The Senate debated [a motion](#) moved by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate urging the Prime Minister to establish a Royal Commission into child sexual abuse in Australia, and the Governor-General to immediately resign or, if he does not do so, the Prime Minister to advise the Queen of Australia to terminate the Commission of the Governor-General

### **Notices of motion**

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

### **Orders for the production of documents**

#### *Notices of motion given*

Senators Allison and Stott Despoja gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Science to table the document containing the list of potential sites for the location of a national store for intermediate level radioactive waste that has been prepared by the National Store Advisory Committee, referred to in the media release prepared by the Minister for Science, ‘SA Ruled Out’, dated 9 May 2003 (no later than 1pm on 15 May 2003)

Senator Allison gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the tabling of the most recent application documents from the Australian Grand Prix Corporation to the Federal Government for exemption from the *Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act 1992* on the grounds of economic hardship, and the documents detailing the Government’s reasons for being satisfied that the case for economic hardship was met (no later than 4pm on 15 May 2003)



Senator Allison gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister for Defence to table the 'further information' CD-rom which is obtainable from Colliers International (Vic) Pty Ltd, regarding the expressions of interest in Defence land for sale at Point Nepean (no later than 5pm on 14 May 2003)

Senator Allison gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister for Health and Ageing to table the report of the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI), October 2002, and the National Health and Medical Research Council report on the new ATAGI recommended vaccines, March 2003 (no later than 3pm on 15 May 2003)

Senator Allison gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the tabling of the letters exchanged between the Victorian and Federal Governments since 1 July 2001 concerning the Basslink project, other than those letters relating to the planning process (no later than 4pm on 15 May 2003)

Senator Brown gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Minister for Science to table all documents dated 1 January 2001 or later relating to the hiring out and work undertaken by public relations company Hill and Knowlton, in relation to nuclear issues, including the nuclear waste dump (no later than 3.30pm on 17 June 2003)

#### **Orders with continuing effect**

##### *Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the internet*

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

##### *Departmental and agency contracts published on the internet*

Statements of compliance for [various agencies](#) presented since the last sitting of the Senate 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—Report [Nos. 36 to 43](#) of 2002-03—Presented since the last sitting of the Senate
- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ❑ [Government documents](#)
- ❑ [Government documents](#) presented since the last sitting of the Senate
- ❑ National Schools Constitutional Convention held at Old Parliament House, 26 to 28 March 2003—Communique
- ❑ Responses to Senate resolutions about:
  - ❑ [Iraq—Nuclear weapons](#)—from the Prime Minister (resolution agreed to [6 March 2003](#))
  - ❑ [Cancer deaths—nuclear testing](#)—from the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing (resolution agreed to [6 March 2003](#))

## Petitions

[4 petitions](#) were received

## Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ Senator Lees made a [statement](#) indicating that she now represents the Australian Progressive Alliance Party
- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ Adjournment debate

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