Senate Daily Summary
Wednesday 13 August 2003

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.33pm

Legislation
For full text of bills and other associated documents click here

The following bill was introduced in the Senate
- Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2003

The following bills were considered
Second reading agreed to and committee of the whole commenced on the following bills:
- Australian Heritage Council Bill 2002
- Australian Heritage Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002
- Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002

The following bill was passed with amendments
- Workplace Relations Amendment (Transmission of Business) Bill 2002–2 Democrat and 4 Opposition (2 amended by Government) amendments agreed to, and 3 items omitted [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by 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

Reports tabled
- Family Law Amendment Bill 2003–Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee–Alert Digest No. 8 of 2003 and 7th report of 2003 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- Selection of Bills Committee–Report No. 8 of 2003 (tabled and adopted) [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]

Membership
The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership:

New inquiries–bills referred

See the Reports tabled section (Selection of Bills Committee Report) for details of bills referred to committees

Notice of motion given
To extend a reporting deadline

Motions agreed to

An urgency motion moved by Senator Cherry about the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s complaints handling process was agreed to by the Senate

The Senate agreed to motions without debate about:
- Global warming–moved by Senator Brown
- Hands-free mobile phones–moved by Senator Allison

Notices of motion
For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere click here

Orders for the production of documents

Orders with continuing effect
Departmental and agency contracts published on the internet
A letter from the Executive Director, Assurance Audit Services Group, Australian National Audit Office to the Clerk of the Senate relating to audits of compliance by agencies with the order was tabled
Documents

The following documents were tabled:
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act—Statement under subsection 40(3)—Suspension of a commissioner from office, dated 13 August 2003
- Clerk’s documents [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- Government documents

Petitions

A petition was received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Matters of public interest debate
- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- Personal explanation—Senator Bolkus made personal explanations relating to certain newspaper articles concerning alleged incidents during his tenure as Minister for Immigration
- Government documents were discussed
- Adjournment debate

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The Senate Daily Summary is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate
Enquiries, comments and suggestions: phone 6277 3209
  e-mail: sue.blunden@aph.gov.au

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