The Senate met from 9.30am until 8.03pm

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

No bills were introduced in the Senate

No bills were passed

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 motion given**
A notice of motion was given to disallow the Civil Aviation Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 6), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 232 and made under the Civil Aviation Act 1988–15 sitting days after 16 October 2003–by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances

See the Documents section for details of instruments tabled

**Committees**
For scheduled public committee hearings click here
For committee reports click here

**Reports tabled**
- Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme Bill 2003 and the Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003–Economics Legislation Committee
- Legislative Instruments Bill 2003 and a related bill–Regulations and Ordinances Committee
- Libraries in the online environment–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee
- Publications Committee–12th Report [report adopted]
Staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*–Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Treaties Joint Committee–55th report–Treaties tabled on 9 September 2003

**Government responses to committee reports tabled**

- 2001 federal election: Inquiry into the conduct of the 2001 federal election and matters related thereto–Electoral Matters Joint Committee
- 2003 New Zealand Parliamentary Committee exchange 6-11 April 2003–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee
- Integrity of the electoral roll: Review of ANAO report no. 42 of 2001-02–Electoral Matters Joint Committee

**Document tabled**

- Senators’ Interests Standing Committee–Resolutions, explanatory notes and related information

**Membership**

The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership

**New inquiries**

The Senate agreed to the following new inquiries:

- Draft Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 and related matters–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee–to report by the second sitting week of 2004
- Expatriate Australians–Legal and Constitutional References Committee–to report by 1 September 2004
- Management of the quarantine risks associated with the return of the sheep stranded aboard the MV *Cormo Express* and related matters–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–to report by the last sitting day in November 2003

**Notices of motion given**

**To extend reporting deadlines**

- Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation Contributions Splitting) Bill 2003 and the associated regulations–Economics Legislation Committee–to report by the first sitting day in February 2004

**To refer matters to a committee**

- Various taxation and superannuation draft regulations–Economics Legislation Committee

**Orders for the production of documents**

*Motions agreed to*

The Senate ordered the Minister representing the Minister for Environment and Heritage to table any assessment made since 1996 in preparation for, or consideration of, a world heritage nomination for the Sydney Opera House (no later than 3pm on 27 October 2003)–moved by Senator Brown
The Senate ordered the Minister representing the Minister for Trade to table certain documents relating to the Sepon Mine project in Laos (no later than 30 October 2003)—moved by Senator Nettle

**Statement by Minister and document tabled**
- The Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer made a statement and tabled a document relating the management of detention centres [in response to a motion moved by Senator Allison on 13 October 2003]

**Questions on notice—failure to provide answers**
Senator Collins asked the Minister for Justice and Customs for an explanation for an answer not being provided to a question relating to the vessel identified as SIEV X. The Minister provided an answer to the question.

**Motions agreed to**
- Education—Backing Australia’s Future—Moved by Senators Nettle, Crossin and Stott Despoja
- Parliamentary zone—the Senate agreed to a proposal for the restoration of the Parliament House Forecourt scoria—moved by the Special Minister of State
- SIEV X—People Smuggling Disruption Program—moved by Senator Bartlett
- World Rural Women’s Day—moved by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

**Motions defeated**
- David Hicks and Mamdouh Habib—moved by Senator Nettle
- Human rights in the People’s Republic of China—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- Lake Cowal—moved by Senator Nettle

**Documents**
The following documents were tabled:
- Clerk’s documents [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- 4 petitions were received

No government documents were tabled
Also in the Senate yesterday

- The President made a statement about arrangements for the joint meetings of the Houses of the Parliament during the visits of the President of the United States and the President of the People’s Republic of China on 23 and 24 October 2003
- The President made a statement about security arrangements for Parliament House during the visits of the President of the United States and the President of the People’s Republic of China on 23 and 24 October 2003
- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- Matter of public importance discussion about poverty [proposed by Senator Hutchins]
- Committee reports and government responses were discussed
- Senator Carr made a personal explanation about comments concerning the reputation of commonwealth officers
- 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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This publication is issued by the Senate Procedure Office as a convenient summary of each day’s proceedings in the Senate. For a complete account see the official record, the Journals of the Senate, copies of which may be obtained from the Senate Table Office (phone: 6277 3010) or on the Internet at http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm.