



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday 17 September 2003

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.22pm

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Extension of Time Limits) Bill 2003
- International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill 2003

The following bills were considered

- Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2003—committee of the whole continued
- Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003—committee of the whole continued
- Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003—committee of the whole completed (31 Government [amendments](#) and 1 Opposition [amendment](#) agreed to)

No bills were passed

The following message from the House of Representatives was reported

Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Termination) Bill 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives agreed to the [amendments](#) made and insisted on by the Senate and agreed to the further [amendments](#) made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

Notices of motion given

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

- Crimes (Overseas) Amendment Bill 2003
- Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme Bill 2003
- Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003
- Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Extension of Time Limits) Bill 2003
- International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill 2003

- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 8) 2003
- Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation Contributions Splitting) Bill 2003

To introduce a bill

- Financial Management and Accountability (Anti-Restrictive Software Practices) Amendment Bill 2003—Notice of motion given by Senator Greig [Private senator's bill]

*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 by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances to disallow the Medical Indemnity Subsidy Scheme 2003, made under subsection 43(1) of the *Medical Indemnity Act 2002–15* sitting days after 17 September 2003

*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 estimates 2002-03—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
- Budget estimates 2003-04—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee

Reports tabled

- Public Works Joint Committee—9th report—Construction of a new chancery, New Delhi, India
- Public Works Joint Committee—10th report—Refurbishment of staff apartments, Australian embassy complex, Paris, France
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—Alert Digest [No. 11](#) of 2003 and [10th report](#) of 2003 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- Selection of Bills Committee—[Report No. 11](#) of 2003 (tabled and adopted) [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]
- Treaties tabled in June and August 2003—54th report—Treaties Joint Committee

*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

- Proposed budget changes to higher education—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—to report by 7 November 2003

Ministerial statement

The Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation tabled a ministerial statement by the Minister for Education, Science and Training about the National Safe Schools Framework

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#)—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- [Indigenous children](#)—moved by Senator Ridgeway

Motions defeated

A [motion](#) moved by Senator Ridgeway about reference pricing on the PBS and the US free trade negotiations was defeated

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

The Senate agreed to [a motion](#) about the live sheep export trade. The motion included a requirement for certain details to be provided to the Senate about a shipment of sheep on the *Cormo Express* (by 3pm on 18 September 2003)—moved by Senator Bartlett

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Cambodian National Assembly Elections 2003—Election observation report of the Australian parliamentary delegation, 24 to 29 July 2003
- [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- [Government documents](#)
- Response to a resolution about genetically-modified material—from the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (resolution agreed to [11 August 2003](#))
- [3 petitions](#) were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Matters of public interest debate
- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- Matter of public importance discussion about World Trade Organization negotiations—[proposed by Senator Cook](#)
- Government documents were discussed
- Adjournment debate

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