The Senate met from 9.30am until 6.45pm

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate
- Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2003
- Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration Charges) Amendment Bill 2003
- Quarantine Amendment (Health) Bill 2003
- Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003

The following bill was considered
- State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2002][Private senator’s bill]–second reading debate continued [together with debate on an Opposition amendment to refer the bill to the Legal and Constitutional References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 October 2003]

The following bills were passed
Without amendments
[These bills will now be assented to]
- National Transport Commission Bill 2003

With amendments
[The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
- Australian Heritage Council Bill 2002
- Australian Heritage Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002 (1 Progressive Alliance/Democrats amendment agreed to)
- Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002
- Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2003 (1 Government amendment agreed to)

The following message from the House of Representatives was reported
Civil Aviation 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]
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

Notices of motion given
A notice of motion was given to disallow the Iraq (Reconstruction and Repeal of Sanctions) Regulations 2003, as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 97 and made under the Customs Act 1901, the Air Navigation Act 1920, the Charter of the United Nations Act 1945 and the Migration Act 1958–15 sitting days after 21 August 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

Estimates
Additional information tabled
Additional information received by the following committee was tabled:
☐ Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee–Budget estimates 2003-04

Reports tabled
☐ Financial Services Reform Amendment Bill 2003–Economics Legislation Committee
☐ Procedure Committee–2nd Report of 2003
☐ Publications Committee–10th Report [report adopted]
☐ Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 5) 2003–Economics Legislation Committee

Government responses to committee reports tabled
☐ ASIO, ASIS and DSD Joint Committee–Annual Report 2001-02
☐ Small business employment–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

Membership
The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership [see Journals entries 35 and 39]

Reporting dates
The Senate agreed to the following extensions of time for committees to report:
☐ Draft Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2003 and draft Retirement Savings Accounts Amendment Regulations 2003–Superannuation Select Committee–to report by 10 September 2003
☐ Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003–Economics Legislation Committee–to report by 16 October 2003
☐ Medicare Select Committee report and Health Legislation Amendment (Medicare and Private Health Insurance) Bill 2003–to report by 30 October 2003
The Senate agreed to motions without debate about:
- Abolition of the death penalty—moved by Senator Bartlett
- Hearing Awareness Week—moved by Senator Stott Desopja
- Hong Kong—Human rights—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- Mine Ban Treaty—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- National Landcare Week—moved by Senator O’Brien

The Senate did not agree to motions about:
- Free trade agreement with the United States—moved by Senator Nettle
- Solomon Islands—Truth and Reconciliation Commission—moved by Senator Brown

For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere click here

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry tabled a document relating to action taken against fishers for the incidental capture of listed threatened species, listed migratory species and listed marine species [in response to a motion moved by Senator Bartlett on 20 August 2003]

Senator Harris asked the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer for an explanation for answers not being provided to 12 questions relating to taxation. The Minister indicated that answers would be provided. The Senate took note of the explanation.

The following documents were tabled:
- 34th Australian and Pacific Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference, Nuku’alofa, Tonga, 28 June to 5 July 2003–Report by the President of the Senate
- No Clerk’s documents were tabled
- No government documents were tabled
- No petitions were received
Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- Government documents, committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General’s reports were considered
- 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.