



# Senate Daily Summary

Monday 24 March 2003

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 10.29pm

## Legislation

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

**No bills were introduced in the Senate**

**The following bill was considered**

- Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002—second reading debate continued

**The following bill was passed**

*With amendments*

- Workplace Relations Amendment (Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—2 Democrat amendments agreed to and 4 items omitted [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendments made by the Senate](#)]

**The following bill was defeated at the third reading by a majority vote**

- Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002 [No. 2] [This bill meets the requirements for a simultaneous dissolution of both houses under [s.57](#) of the Constitution]

**The following message from the House of Representatives was considered**

- Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—The message reported that the House of Representatives had insisted on disagreeing to amendments made and insisted on by the Senate. The Senate resolved to further insist on the amendments made by the Senate to which the House had insisted on disagreeing [This bill meets the requirements for a simultaneous dissolution of both houses under [s.57](#) of the Constitution]

**Notices of motion given**

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

- [Various bills](#)

*To introduce a bill*

- Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003—Notice of motion given by Senator Murray [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](#)

### Notices of motion given

Notices of motion were given to disallow the following delegated legislation:

- Approval of Amendment 41 of the National Capital Plan (Gungahlin Drive Extension), made under section 19 of the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988*—on the next sitting day—by Senator Brown
- Customs (Prohibited Exports) Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 17 and made under the *Customs Act 1901*—on the next sitting day—by Senator Stott Despoja
- Space Activities Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 33 and made under the *Space Activities Act 1998*—5 sitting days after today—by Senator Brown

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

## Committees

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

For committee reports [click here](#)

### Report tabled

- Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme Bill 2003 and Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003—Economics Legislation Committee

### Membership

#### *Message from the House of Representatives reported*

A message from the House of Representatives was reported advising that Ms Gillard would replace Dr Lawrence on the Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund Joint Committee

### New inquiry

The Senate agreed to refer to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee the performance of the Foreign Affairs and Trade Department and other relevant agencies of the Commonwealth Government in the assessment and dissemination of threats to the security of Australians in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002, [and related matters](#)—to report by 26 June 2003

### Inquiry terminated

The Senate agreed to a recommendation by the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee that the committee's inquiry into the statutory powers and functions of the Australian Law Reform Commission not proceed further

### **Reporting date**

The Senate agreed to the following extension of time for a committee to report:

- Corporations (Fees) Amendment Bill 2002 and 2 related bills—Economics Legislation Committee—26 March 2003

### **Notices of motion given**

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

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—16 June 2003 from 7pm and on 23 June 2003 from 7pm—to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the Veterans' Entitlements Act and the Military Compensation Scheme
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—27 March 2003 from 4pm till 9pm—to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea and other Pacific island countries
- Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund Joint Committee—27 March 2003 from 7.30pm—to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the effectiveness of the National Native Title Tribunal

#### *To extend a reporting deadline*

- Environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—15 May 2003
- The Government's foreign and trade policy strategy—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—17 June 2003

### **Motion defeated**

A [motion](#) moved by Senator Crossin about public transport was defeated

### **Notices of motion**

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

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

#### *Notice of motion given*

The Leader of the Australian Democrats gave a notice of motion to require the tabling of the Memorandum of Understanding signed on or around 12 March 2003 between the Australian Government and the Islamic Republic of Iran, which includes measures to combat illegal migration (no later than 4pm on 26 March 2003)

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

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

Statements of compliance for the Department of Veterans' Affairs 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](#) 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 No. 34 of 2002-03—Performance audit—Pest and disease emergency management—Follow-up audit: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- Parliamentary delegation to the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, 18 to 29 November 2002—Report
- Parliamentary zone—proposal relating to the design and location of pedestrian and street lights in the parliamentary zone. A [notice of motion](#) was given seeking approval for the proposed works.

No government documents were tabled

## Petitions

[A petition](#) was received

## Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- The [President informed](#) the Senate of the death of Rupert Loof, CBE, former Clerk of the Senate, on 21 March 2003
- Adjournment debate

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