



# Senate Daily Summary

## Wednesday 25 June 2003

The Senate met from 9.30am until 10.08pm

### Legislation

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

#### The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2003 [Private senator's bill]
- Governor-General Amendment Bill 2003
- Migration Legislation Amendment (Sponsorship Measures) Bill 2003
- Trade Practices Amendment (Personal Injuries and Death) Bill 2003

#### The following bills were considered

- Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002—committee of the whole continued—([amendments agreed to](#): 10 Government (1 amended by Greens), 11 Australian Progressive Alliance, 2 One Nation, 1 Democrat and 3 Harradine. 1 Democrat amendment to be determined)

#### The following bill was passed with amendments

- Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(27 Government (1 amended by Opposition) and 3 Opposition amendments agreed to, and 1 clause omitted [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendments made by the Senate](#)])

#### The following messages from the House of Representatives were reported

- Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme Bill 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives agreed to the [amendments made](#) by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003—The message reported that the House of Representatives agreed to the [amendments made](#) and insisted on by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

#### The following bills were exempted from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- Governor-General Amendment Bill 2003
- HIH Royal Commission (Transfer of Records) Bill 2003

### Notices of motion given

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

- ❑ Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment Bill 2003
- ❑ Migration Amendment (Duration of Detention) Bill 2003
- ❑ Workplace Relations Amendment (Protection for Emergency Management Volunteers) Bill 2003

### *To introduce a bill*

- ❑ Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2003—Notice of motion given by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer

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

- ❑ Examination of annual reports for 2001-2002—Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund Joint Committee
- ❑ Privileges Committee—[113<sup>th</sup> Report](#)—Australian Press Council and Committee of Privileges: Exchange of correspondence. The Senate [took note](#) of the report.
- ❑ Proposed provision of facilities for the Australian Capital Territory multi user depot, HMAS Harman, ACT—Public Works Joint Committee
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 7](#) of 2003 and [6<sup>th</sup> report](#) of 2003 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- ❑ Selection of Bills Committee—[Report No. 7](#) of 2003 (tabled and adopted) [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]

### Government response to President's report tabled

Response to schedule of government responses outstanding to reports tabled by the President on 12 December 2002

### Membership

The Senate agreed to [various changes](#) to committee membership

### New inquiries

The Senate agreed to the following new inquiry:

- ❑ Whether the *Trade Practices Act 1974* adequately protects small businesses from anti-competitive or unfair conduct, and [related matters](#)—Economics References Committee—to report by 4 December 2003

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

## Meetings

### *Public meetings*

The Senate agreed that the following public meeting may be held while the Senate is sitting:

- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—26 June 2003 from 11am to 12.30pm—to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the management and integrity of electronic information in the Commonwealth

## Reporting dates

The Senate agreed to the following extensions of time for committees to report:

- Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea and other Pacific island countries—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—12 August 2003
- Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and a related bill—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—19 August 2003
- The administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J.*—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—last sitting day in 2003
- The administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—last sitting day in 2003
- The import risk assessment on New Zealand apples—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—last sitting day in 2003

## Notices of motion given

### *To hold a public meeting when the Senate is sitting*

- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—26 June 2003 from 7pm—to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the application and expenditure of funds by Australian Wool Innovation Ltd.

### *To extend a reporting deadline*

- Planning for retirement—Superannuation Select Committee—21 August 2003

### *To refer a matters to committees*

- The current and prospective levels of competition in broadband services, including interconnection and pricing in both the wholesale and retail markets, and [related matters](#)—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—to report by the last sitting day in March 2004
- The regulation, control and management of invasive species, being non-native flora and fauna that may threaten biodiversity, and [related matters](#), including the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—to report by the last sitting day in March 2004
- Parents as educators in the early childhood years, and [related matters](#)—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—to report by the last sitting day in June 2004

## Ministerial statement

The Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation made [a statement](#) relating to a review of Commonwealth fisheries policy and [tabled documents](#). The Senate debated a motion to take note of the minister's statement.

## Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions without debate about:

- Parliamentary zone—[The Senate agreed](#) to a proposal by the National Capital Authority for landscape and lighting works at the Treasury Building
- Parliamentary zone—[The Senate agreed](#) to a proposal by the National Capital Authority for the design for the Commonwealth Place Forecourt
- [Point Nepean](#) National Park and Point Nepean Living Museum—moved by Senator Allison

## Notices of motion

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

## Orders for the production of documents

### *Motion agreed to*

The Senate [ordered](#) the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources to table all documents produced since 1 January 1999 relating to work undertaken by the public relations company Turnbull Porter Novelli for Biotechnology Australia and the department—moved by Senator Brown

### **Orders with continuing effect**

#### *Departmental and agency contracts published on the internet*

The Chair of the Finance and Public Administration References Committee gave notice of [a motion](#) to amend the order relating to the requirement for letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies to be tabled twice yearly

## Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Auditor-General—Report No. 56 of 2002-03—Performance audit—Management of specialist information system skills: Department of Defence
- Auditor-General—Report No. 57 of 2002-03—Performance audit—Administration of the payment of tax by non-residents: Australian Taxation Office
- [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- [Government documents](#)
- Parliamentary zone—proposal relating to additional works connected with the reconstruction of the Old Parliament House gardens. [A notice of motion](#) was given seeking approval for the proposed works.

## Petitions

No petitions were received

## Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ Matters of public interest debate
- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ Adjournment debate

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