



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday 27 November 2003

The Senate met from 9.30am until 10.51pm

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- ❑ Social Security Amendment (Further Simplification) Bill 2003
- ❑ States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Amendment Bill 2003

The following bills were considered

Second reading debate continued

- ❑ Medical Indemnity Amendment Bill 2003
- ❑ Medical Indemnity (IBNR Indemnity) Contribution Amendment Bill 2003
- ❑ Reconciliation Bill 2001 [2002]

Committee of the whole

- ❑ Spam Bill 2003—committee of the whole completed (4 [Opposition amendments](#) agreed to)
- ❑ Spam (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003—committee of the whole continued (4 [Opposition](#) and 3 [Democrat](#) amendments agreed to)

The following bills were passed

Without amendments or requests

[These bills will now be assented to]

- ❑ International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill 2003
- ❑ Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Legislation Amendment Bill 2003
- ❑ Ozone Protection (Licence Fees—Imports) Amendment Bill 2003
- ❑ Ozone Protection (Licence Fees—Manufacture) Amendment Bill 2003

The following message from the House of Representatives was reported

- ❑ Customs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

Notice of motion given to introduce a bill

- ❑ Fisheries Legislation Amendment (High Seas Fishing Activities and Other Matters) Bill 2003–Notice of motion given by the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads

*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 intention given to withdraw a notice

A notice of intention was given by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances to withdraw a notice to disallow the Inclusion of Species in the List of Threatened Species, made under section 178 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and gazetted on 6 August 2003

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

Committees

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

For committee reports [click here](#)

Report tabled

- ❑ Maritime Transport Security Bill 2003–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
- ❑ Voting on trade: The General Agreement on Trade in Services and an Australia-US Free Trade Agreement–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Government responses to committee reports tabled

- ❑ A funding matter under the Dairy Regional Assistance Program–Finance and Public Administration References Committee
- ❑ Entry and search provisions in Commonwealth legislation–Scrutiny of Bills Committee
- ❑ The law enforcement implications of new technology–National Crime Authority Joint Committee

Membership

The Senate agreed that Senators Kirk and Collins replace Senators Cook and Hogg, respectively, on the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for the committee's inquiry into the performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002

Terms of inquiry varied

The Senate agreed to vary the terms of the inquiry into the Financial Services Reform Amendment Bill 2003 to include the Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 8), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 282, and Batch 6 of the

Corporations Amendment Regulations (draft regulations), and any amendments proposed to the bill—Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 3 December 2003 [The Senate [agreed to vary](#) the Senate order to adopt the [15th report](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee on 26 November 2003]

Public meetings

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

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—27 November 2003 from 6.30pm and 28 November 2003 from 9am to 4.25pm—Performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002

Reporting dates

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

- Australian telecommunications network—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—to report by 12 February 2004
- Children in institutional care—Community Affairs References Committee—to report by 30 April 2004
- Draft Aviation Transport Security Regulations 2003—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by 2 December 2003
- Hepatitis C in Australia—Community Affairs References Committee—to report by 17 June 2004
- Poverty and financial hardship—Community Affairs References Committee—to report by 4 March 2004

Notices of motion given

To hold a public meeting when the Senate is sitting

- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—1 December 2003 from 4pm to 9pm—administration of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau in relation to the crash of Whyalla Airlines aircraft VH-MZK on 31 May 2000

To refer bills to a committee

- ASIO Legislation Amendment Bill 2003—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—to report by 31 March 2004
- Criminal Code Amendment (Terrorist Organisations) Bill 2003—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—to report by 31 March 2004

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- [Filipino bananas](#)—Importation—moved by Senator Cherry
- [Labelling of genetically-modified produce](#)—moved by Senator Nettle
- [Medicare](#)—Bulk billing—moved by Senator Nettle
- Parliamentary zone—proposal by the National Capital Authority for security upgrade works for the Parliament House loading dock—moved by the Minister for Family and Community Services

- ❑ [Rugby World Cup](#)—Australian Wallabies—moved by the Minister for the Arts and Sport
- ❑ [World AIDS Day](#)—moved by Senators Nettle and Stott Despoja

Motions defeated

- ❑ [Public and community housing](#)—moved by Senator Nettle

Notices of motion

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

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ❑ [3 petitions](#) were received

No government documents were tabled

Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ The President made a [statement](#) relating to the appointment of a Secretary to the Department of Parliamentary Services. The [Senate debated](#) and agreed to take note of the statement.
- ❑ The Special Minister of State made a [statement](#) about Heath Lambert Australia Pty Ltd and the provision of reinsurance brokerage services to Comcover. The [Senate debated](#) and agreed to take note of the statement.
- ❑ 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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