The Senate met from 12.30pm until 8.23pm

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

No bills were introduced in the Senate

The following bills were considered
- Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2003–committee of the whole commenced (4 items omitted, 3 Democrat amendments agreed to and 4 Democrat amendments to be determined)

The following bill was passed
With amendment
- Workplace Relations Amendment (Improved Remedies for Unprotected Action) Bill 2002–1 Democrat amendment agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendment made by the Senate]

Notices of motion given
To exempt bills from certain provisions of standing order 111 [to enable consideration this period of sittings]
- Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Amendment Bill 2004
- Extension of Sunset of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title Bill 2004
- Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Amendment (Rotterdam Convention) Bill 2004

To introduce a bill
- Euthanasia Laws (Repeal) Bill 2004–Notice of motion given by Senator Allison [Private senator’s bill]

Assent to laws
Assent to several laws was reported in the Senate

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

Disallowance motion

See the Documents section for details of instruments tabled

Committees
For scheduled public committee hearings click here
For committee reports click here

Report tabled
- Possible improper interference with a witness before the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–Privileges Committee–116th Report [report adopted and Senator Ray moved a motion to endorse the finding at paragraph 28 of the report]

Meetings
Public meetings
The Senate agreed that the following public meetings may be held while the Senate is sitting:
- Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee–3 March 2004 from 3.30pm–Corporations Amendment Regulations
- Legal and Constitutional References Committee–10 March 2004 from 4pm–Capacity of current legal aid and access to justice arrangements to meet the community need for legal assistance

Reporting dates
The Senate agreed that the Economics Legislation Committee’s inquiry into the Treasury Legislation Amendment (Professional Standards) Bill 2003 report by 1 April 2004

The Senate agreed to the following extensions of time for committees to report:
- Capacity of current legal aid and access to justice arrangements to meet the community need for legal assistance–Legal and Constitutional References Committee–to report by 31 March 2004
- Disability Discrimination Amendment Bill 2003–Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee–to report by 7 April 2004
- Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Bill 2003 and a related bill–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee–to report by 22 March 2004
- Poverty and financial hardship–Community Affairs References Committee–to report by 11 March 2004

Notices of motion given
To hold a public meeting when the Senate is sitting
- Community Affairs Legislation Committee–4 March 2004 from 4pm–Truth in Food Labelling Bill 2003
To extend a reporting deadline


Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:
- Children’s rights in conflict situations–moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation–moved by Senator Allison

Notices of motion

For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere click here

Documents

The following documents were tabled:
- Auditor-General–Audit report no. 32 of 2003-04–‘Wedgetail’ airborne early warning and control aircraft: Project management: Department of Defence
- Clerk’s documents [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- Defence Act 1903–Statutory review of Part IIIAAA (Aid to civilian authorities)
- Government documents
- 6 petitions were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- Adjournment debate

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Enquiries, comments and suggestions: phone 6277 3209
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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](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm).