



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday 9 December 2004

The Senate met from 9.30am until 5.01pm

The Senate has now completed the 2004 Spring sittings and will commence the autumn sittings on [8 February 2005](#)

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax Imposition (Recipients)–Customs) Bill 2004
- A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax Imposition (Recipients)–Excise) Bill 2004
- A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax Imposition (Recipients)–General) Bill 2004
- Australian Passports Bill 2004
- Australian Passports (Application Fees) Bill 2004
- Australian Passports (Transitional and Consequential) Bill 2004
- Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2004
- Senate Voters' Choice (Preference Allocation) Bill 2004 [Private senator's bill]
- Tax Laws Amendment (Long-term Non-reviewable Contracts) Bill 2004

The following bill was restored to the *Notice Paper*

- Flags Amendment (Eureka Flag) Bill 2004 [Private senator's bill. Consideration of the bill may be resumed at the stage reached in the previous Parliament.]

The following bills were passed without amendments

[These bills will now be assented to]

- Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2004
- Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2004
- James Hardie (Investigations and Proceedings) Bill 2004

The following message from the House of Representatives was considered

- Tax Laws Amendment (Retirement Villages) Bill 2004—The message reported that the House of Representatives had disagreed to the [amendments](#) made by the Senate. The Senate agreed not to insist on its amendments. [The bill will now be assented to]

The following messages from the House of Representatives were reported [These bills will now be assented to]

A message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the following bills without amendment:

- Aviation Security Amendment Bill 2004
- Surveillance Devices Bill 2004
- Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment (Stored Communications) Bill 2004

National Water Commission Bill 2004—A message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to the [amendment](#) made by the Senate [This bill will now be assented to]

The following bill was exempted from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2004

*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](#)

Motion to disallow regulations defeated

The Senate agreed *not to disallow* the new Divisions 9.2A and 9.2B in item [10] of Schedule 1 to the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 2), as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 84 and made under the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*

Notice of motion given

Senator Greig gave notice of a motion to oppose the proposed accreditation of the Southern Bluefin Tuna Fisheries Management Plan (as amended), dated 10 November 2004 and made under subsection 33(3) of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

Notice of intention given to withdraw notices

A notice of intention was given by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances to withdraw notices to disallow the following delegated legislation:

- National Health Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 2), as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 186 and made under the *National Health Act 1953*
- National Health (Private Health Insurance Levies) Regulations 2004, as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 187 and made under the *National Health Act 1953*

*See the **Documents** section for details of instruments [Clerk's documents] tabled*

Committees

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

Estimates

Additional information tabled

- Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee—Additional estimates 2002-03 and Budget estimates 2003-04
- Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—Budget estimates 2003-04

Reports tabled

- Publications Committee—[1st Report](#) [report adopted]
- Scranton Evidence—Select Committee—Report

Documents tabled

- Government response to President's report on government responses to parliamentary committee reports outstanding tabled on 24 June 2004
- Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—Marriage Legislation Amendment Bill 2004—submissions
- President's report on government responses to parliamentary committee reports outstanding as at 9 December 2004

Membership

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

New inquiries

The Senate agreed to the following new inquiries:

- [Effectiveness and appropriateness](#) of the *Privacy Act 1988*—Legal and Constitutional References Committee—to report by 30 June 2005 [a notice of motion was given to [vary the terms](#) of the inquiry]
- Possible links between household debt, demand for imported goods and Australia's current account deficit and [related matters](#)—Economics References Committee—to report by the first sitting day in September 2005
- [Workplace Relations](#) Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2004—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee—to report by 14 March 2005

Meetings

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

- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—9 February 2005 from 4pm to 6pm—administration of Biosecurity Australia concerning the revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- [Tarkine wilderness](#), Tasmania—moved by Senator Brown
- [Tasmanian old-growth forests](#)—moved by Senator Brown
- [University funding](#)—moved by Senator Stott Despoja

Motions defeated

The Senate *did not agree* to motions about:

- [East Timor](#)—moved by Senator Nettle
- [Human cloning](#)—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- [International Human Rights Day](#)—moved by Senator Brown
- [International Human Rights Day](#)—moved by Senator Nettle
- [West Papua](#)—moved by Senator Stott Despoja

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]
- Department of Defence—Special purposes flights—Schedule for the period January to June 2004
- Former parliamentarians' travel paid by the Department of Finance and Administration—January to June 2004
- Parliamentarians' travel paid by the Department of Finance and Administration—January to June 2004
- [2 petitions](#) were received

No government documents were tabled

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 discussed
- Address-in-reply [debate continued](#) (with [an amendment](#) moved by the Australian Democrats)
- Adjournment debate [link to [first speaker](#)]

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The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate
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