The Senate met from 10.30am until 6.01pm. The Senate agreed to meet on Wednesday 17 November 2004.

### Opening of 41st Parliament

The Deputy of the Governor-General opened the first session of the 41st Parliament in the Senate chamber. Following a suspension of sitting until 3pm, the Governor-General addressed the members of both houses assembled in the Senate chamber, outlining the government’s proposed legislation for the session. The Governor-General’s speech will be debated and this debate will provide the Senate’s formal response (the Address-in-reply) to the opening speech.

### New senators sworn in

Senators for the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory, Senator Crossin (Australian Labor Party), Senator Humphries (Liberal Party), Senator Lundy (Australian Labor Party) and Senator Scullion (Country Liberal Party), were sworn in.

### Ministry and ministerial arrangements

The Leader of the Government in the Senate advised the Senate of the Fourth Howard Ministry and ministerial arrangements in the Senate.

### Other party arrangements

The Leaders in the Senate of the Opposition, Australian Democrats and The Nationals advised the Senate of various party appointments.

### Days of meeting for 2005

A notice of motion was given to establish the days of meeting of the Senate for 2005.
No bills were introduced, considered or passed in the Senate

Notices of motion given

To introduce bills
The Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) gave notices of motion to introduce the following bills on the next day of sitting:

- Administrative Appeals Tribunal Amendment Bill 2004
- Aviation Security Amendment Bill 2004
- Bankruptcy and Family Law Legislation Amendment Bill 2004
- Disability Discrimination Amendment (Education Standards) Bill 2004
- Family Law Amendment (Annuities) Bill 2004
- Fisheries (Validation of Plans of Management) Bill 2004
- National Security Information (Criminal Proceedings) Bill 2004
- National Security Information (Criminal Proceedings) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2004
- Postal Industry Ombudsman Bill 2004
- Surveillance Devices Bill 2004
- Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment (Stored Communications) Bill 2004
- Workplace Relations Amendment (Agreement Validation) Bill 2004

To restore bills
Senator Allison gave notice of a motion to restore various bills to the Notice Paper [to enable consideration to be resumed at the stage reached in the last session of Parliament]

To exempt bills from the cut-off order
Notices of motion were given to exempt a number of bills from the cut-off order, to enable consideration this period of sittings

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

Proclamations
A proclamation by the Governor-General was tabled, notifying that Schedule 1 of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment (Export Control) Act 2004 would come into operation on 1 December 2004 (Gazette No. GN 36, 8 September 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

Notices of motion given
Notices of motion were given to disallow the following delegated legislation:
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 176 and made under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984–by Senator Ridgeway
- Customs (Prohibited Imports) Amendment Regulation 2004 (No. 3), as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 121 and made under the Customs Act 1901–by Senator Bartlett

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

Reports and documents tabled
- Committee reports and documents (see Journals entries 15 to 41) presented since the last sitting of the Senate

Notices of motion given
To schedule estimates hearings
Budget estimates supplementary hearings 2004-05

To re-appoint committees
- Administration of Indigenous Affairs Select Committee–to report by 8 March 2005
- Scrafton Evidence Select Committee–to report by 2 December 2004

To allocate departments and agencies to legislative and general purpose standing committees
Various departments and agencies–legislative and general purpose standing committees

Notices of motion
For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere click here

Orders for the production of documents

Orders with continuing effect
Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the internet Statements of compliance for various agencies were tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies required to be tabled twice yearly; Senate order agreed to]
Departmental and agency contracts published on the internet

Departmental and agency contracts for 2003-04–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]

Documents

The following documents were tabled:
- Auditor-General–
  - Report 2003-04
  - Reports Nos 10 to 14 of 2004-2005–Presented since the last sitting of the Senate
- Business of the Senate for the third Parliament–1906 to 1910
- Clerk’s documents [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- Department of the Senate–Report for 2003-04
- Government documents presented since the last sitting of the Senate
- Parliamentary Service Commissioner–Report for 2003-04
- Questions on notice summary–12 February 2002 to 31 August 2004
- Responses to Senate resolutions about:
  - Cigarette vending machines (agreed to 10 August 2004)
  - Elgin Marbles (agreed to 12 August 2004)
  - James Hardie Industries (agreed to 12 August 2004)

Also in the Senate yesterday

- The President advised the chamber of the death of Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester
- Adjointment debate