



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday 10 August 2005

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.31pm

Days of meeting

The Senate agreed that, to enable senators to fully participate in the 60th anniversary VP Day celebrations in their respective states and territories, it would not meet on 15 August 2005

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- ❑ Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Bill 2005
- ❑ Customs Amendment (Extension of Import Cut-over Time) Bill 2005
- ❑ Human Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2005
- ❑ Medical Indemnity (Competitive Advantage Payment) Bill 2005
- ❑ Medical Indemnity Legislation Amendment (Competitive Neutrality) Bill 2005

The following bills were considered

- ❑ Skilling Australia's Workforce Bill 2005 and Skilling Australia's Workforce (Repeal and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2005—second reading debate continued [The Australian Greens moved a [second reading amendment](#) to the bill expressing a view about the bill's policy]

The following bill was passed without amendments

- ❑ Superannuation Laws Amendment (Abolition of Surcharge) Bill 2005 [The bill will now be assented to]

The following messages from the House of Representatives were considered

- ❑ Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005—The message reported that the House of Representatives had agreed to [amendments](#) nos 3, 5 and 8 and disagreed to amendments nos 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 9. The Senate did not insist on the amendments. [The bill will now be assented to]

- Tax Laws Amendment (Personal Income Tax Reduction) Bill 2005–The message reported that the House of Representatives had insisted on disagreeing to the [amendments](#) made and insisted on by the Senate. The Senate did not further insist on the amendments. [The bill will now be assented to]

Notices of motion given

To exempt a bill from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- Customs Amendment (Extension of Import Cut-over Time) Bill 2005

To restore a bill to the Notice Paper

- Truth in Food Labelling Bill 2003–Notice of motion given by the Senator Brown

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to a number of laws was reported in the Senate

See **Committees** for details of reports relating to legislation

Delegated legislation

For a complete list of [notices of motion to disallow](#) (and outcomes)

Motion to disallow regulations debated

The Senate debated a motion by Senator Bartlett to disallow the Migration Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 6) as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 171 and made under the *Migration Act 1958*. The debate will continue on a future sitting day. [The regulations will be deemed to be disallowed if the notice is not agreed to or withdrawn within 15 sitting days after 9 August 2005–ie. by 5 October 2005]

Notice of motion given

A notice of motion was given by Senator Bartlett to disallow the Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (Export of Live-stock to Saudi Arabia) Order 2005 [F2005L01580], made under section 17 of the *Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997*. [The Order will be deemed to be disallowed if the notice is not agreed to or withdrawn within 15 sitting days after 10 August 2005–ie. by 6 October 2005]

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

Committees

For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

Estimates

Additional information tabled

- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee–Budget (Supplementary) and additional estimates 2004-05
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee–Additional estimates 2003-04, Budget, Budget (Supplementary) and additional estimates 2004-05

Reports tabled

- ❑ Copyright Amendment (Film Directors' Rights) Bill 2005—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
- ❑ Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Bill 2005—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee
- ❑ Performance of the Australian telecommunications regulatory regime—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee
- ❑ Regulatory framework under the *Maritime Transport Security Amendment Act 2005*—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
- ❑ Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 8](#) of 2005 and [7th report](#) of 2005 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- ❑ Selection of Bills Committee—[Report No. 7](#) of 2005 [report adopted] [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]

Document tabled

- ❑ Work of Committees—Financial year statistics: 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005; and half-year statistics: 1 January to 30 June 2005

New inquiries

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

Government response to committee report

- ❑ A Pacific engaged: Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea and island states of the south-west Pacific—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Membership

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

Public meetings

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

- ❑ Economics Legislation Committee—11 August 2005 from 4pm—Trade Practices Amendment (National Access Regime) Bill 2005
- ❑ Finance and Public Administration References Committee—11 August 2005 from 3.30pm—Regional Partnerships program
- ❑ Finance and Public Administration References Committee—18 August 2005 from 4pm to 7pm—government advertising

Reporting dates extended

- ❑ National Animal Welfare Bill 2005—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—to report by the last sitting day in June 2006
- ❑ Possible links between household debt, demand for imported goods and Australia's current account deficit—Economics References Committee—to report by 6 October 2005

Motion agreed to

The Senate agreed to a motion about Australian cyclist, [Amy Gillett](#)—moved by Senators Kemp, Lundy, Fielding, Australian Democrats and Australian Greens

Motions defeated

The Senate *did not agree* to motions about:

- ❑ [David Hicks](#)—moved by Senator Brown
- ❑ [Japanese whaling program](#)—moved by Senator Brown
- ❑ [Tasmania](#)—Tarkine wilderness—moved by Senator Brown
- ❑ [West Papua](#)—human rights—moved by Senator Stott Despoja

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Document tabled

The Acting Deputy President tabled the report of the inquiry by Mick Palmer AO APM into the circumstances of the immigration detention of Cornelia Rau [The report was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [23 June 2005](#) on the motion of Senator Nettle]. The Senate debated a motion (moved by [Senator Ludwig](#)) to take note of the report.

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ Auditor-General—[Audit reports](#) nos 56 to 59 of 2004-05 and nos 1 to 4 of 2005-06 presented since the last sitting of the Senate [[and considered](#)]
- ❑ Business of the Senate—1 January to 30 June 2005 [a digest of all business considered by the Senate in the calendar first half year 2005]
- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ❑ [Government document](#) [[and considered](#)]
- ❑ [Government documents](#) presented since the last sitting of the Senate [[and considered](#)]
- ❑ Odgers' Australian Senate Practice 11th edition—Supplement—Updates to 30 June 2005
- ❑ Parliamentary zone—proposal and documentation to approve capital works relating to the construction of a pathway on the southern foreshore of Lake Burley Griffin, including Australians of the Year Walk. A [notice of motion](#) was given to approve the capital works.
- ❑ Questions on notice summary—16 November 2004 to 30 June 2005

- Responses to Senate resolutions about:
 - [Earth Charter](#)—from the Premier of Queensland and the Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory [resolution agreed to [21 June 2005](#)]
 - [Tobacco policy](#)—Royal Australasian College of Physicians and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists—from the Deputy Premier of Tasmania, the South Australian Minister for Health, the Premier of New South Wales, and the Premier of Western Australia [resolution agreed to [15 June 2005](#)]
- [4 petitions](#) were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Matters of public interest debate [link to [first speaker](#)]
- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- Senators [Fielding](#) (Family First, Vic.SA), [Milne](#) (Australian Greens, Tas.) and [Ronaldson](#) (Lib, Vic.) made their first speeches [Senators Adams, Polley and Siewert will make their first speeches on 11 August 2005]
- [The Senate agreed](#) that the address-in-reply would be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General by the President of the Senate on 17 August 2005
- Adjournment debate [link to [first speaker](#)]

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