



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday 11 May 2005

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.55pm

Privilege [and declaration of interest by a senator]

Senator Lightfoot made [a statement](#) relating to sponsorship of his visit to Iraq in July 2004 and his failure to register that interest with the Registrar of Senators' Interests. The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans) withdrew his notice of motion [the notice was given on [10 May 2005](#)] to refer the matter to the Committee of Privileges. The Senate debated and agreed to [a motion](#) moved by Senator Evans to take note of Senator Lightfoot's statement [link to [first speaker](#)].

Legislation

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

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

- ❑ Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005
- ❑ Migration Litigation Reform Bill 2005
- ❑ Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Regular Reviews and Other Measures) Bill 2005

The following bill was considered

- ❑ Family Law Amendment Bill 2005—second reading agreed to and committee of the whole commenced

No bills were passed

Notices of motion given

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

- ❑ Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005
- ❑ Social Security Amendment (Extension of Youth Allowance and Austudy Eligibility to New Apprentices) Bill 2005
- ❑ Social Security Legislation Amendment (One-off Payments for Carers) Bill 2005

To introduce a bill

- Spyware Bill 2005–Notice of motion given by Senator Greig [Private senator's bill]

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

Delegated legislation

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

See **Documents** 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

- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee–Budget estimates 2004-05
- Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee–Budget estimates 2004-05 and Budget estimates 2004-05 (Supplementary)

Notice of motion given

- [Budget estimates 2005-06](#)–For certain ACCC officers to appear before the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee considering Budget estimates 2005-06

Reports tabled

- Appropriations and Staffing Committee–42nd report–Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2005-06
- Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's energy white paper–Interim report–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee
- Selection of Bills Committee–[Report No. 4](#) of 2005 [report adopted] [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]
- Treaties Joint Committee–64th report–Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004

Document tabled

- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–Statement on the budget estimates for the Australian National Audit Office 2005-06

Government responses to committee reports

- Hepatitis C and the blood supply in Australia–Community Affairs References Committee
- The structure and distributive effects of the Australian taxation system–Economics References Committee

New inquiries

- [Anzac Cove](#)–construction activity, and related matters–Finance and Public Administration References Committee–to report by 30 June 2005

- ❑ [Indian Ocean Territories](#)—current and future governance arrangements, and related matters—National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee—to report by the last sitting day in June 2006

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

Membership

The Senate agreed to an appointment and various changes to committee membership [see Journals entries [4](#) and [54](#)]

Public meeting

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

- ❑ Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—12 May 2005 from 9.30am to 11.30am—to take evidence relating to the review of Auditor General's reports

Reporting dates extended

- ❑ Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) Bill 2005—Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—to report by 12 May 2005
- ❑ Effectiveness of the Australian military justice system—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—to report by 16 June 2005
- ❑ Indigenous education—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—to report by 15 June 2005
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005—Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 15 June 2005

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- ❑ [Great ape populations](#)—moved by Senator Bartlett
- ❑ [Helicopter accident](#)—Nias, Indonesia—moved by the Leader of the Government in the Senate
- ❑ [Minister for Education, Science and Training](#)—compulsory student fees—moved by Senator Brown
- ❑ [Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs](#)—censure—moved by Senator Nettle

Motion defeated

The Senate *did not agree* to [a motion](#) moved by Senator Brown about a possible bird flu pandemic

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Motions agreed to

- [The Senate ordered](#) the Minister for Defence to table all briefings to the Minister and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, on the matter of road works at Gallipoli over the past four years, and all internal minutes and file notes, including records of meetings between the Office of Australian War Graves and officials of the Government of Turkey on the same subject—no later than 12 May 2005—moved by Senator Bishop
- [The Senate ordered](#) the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations to table all submissions received by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations in response to the Building on Success Community Development Employment Project Discussion Paper 2005—no later than 3.30pm on 12 May 2005—moved by Senator Carr
- [The Senate ordered](#) the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations to table the final report of the Breaching Review Taskforce, presented to the Minister in December 2004—no later than 5.00pm on 12 May 2005—moved by Senator Greig

Document tabled

A report to the Senate on the decision not to take further enforcement action in relation to the Part A competition notice issued to Telstra Corporation Ltd on 19 March 2004 [was tabled](#) [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [10 March 2005](#) on the motion of Senator Conroy]

Notices of motion given

- Senator Carr gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the tabling of all correspondence between the Minister for Education, Science and Training and certain office-holders and members of the Board, Council or Executive of the former Melbourne University Student Union from 2002—no later than 5.00pm on 12 May 2005
- Senator Allison gave a notice of motion to require the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing to table copies of all reports provided by the Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services to the Department of Health and Ageing as part of their reporting requirements, including financial statements—no later than 4.30pm on 12 May 2005
- Senator Bartlett gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the tabling of all reports provided by the states and territories to the Commonwealth under Housing Assistance (Form of Agreement) Determination 2003, Schedule 1, subsections 4(33) and 4(36) for the financial year 2003-04—no later than 3.30pm on 12 May 2005. The notice of motion also requires the continued tabling of such reports and for the Minister for Family and Community Services to be notified if reports are not provided within a specified time.
- Senator Brown gave a notice of motion to require the Minister for the Environment and Heritage to table all correspondence from January 2002 to the present between the Minister, his staff and department and Gunns Pty Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill in Tasmania—no later than 3.30pm on 16 June 2005

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

A statement of compliance for the Transport and Regional Services portfolio agencies was 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—[Audit reports](#) nos 39 to 42 of 2004-05 presented since the last sitting of the Senate
- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ❑ [Government documents](#) [and considered]
- ❑ [Government documents](#) presented since the last sitting of the Senate [and considered]
- ❑ National Schools Constitutional Convention 2005, Old Parliament House, 16 to 18 March 2005—Communiqué
- ❑ Responses to Senate resolutions about:
 - ❑ [Australian Defence Force](#)—deaths during peacetime—from the Chief of the Defence Force [resolution agreed to [10 February 2005](#)]
 - ❑ ['Blackout Violence' campaign](#)—from the Premier of New South Wales [resolution agreed to [9 March 2005](#)]
 - ❑ [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty](#) review conference—from the Director, Office of External Relations and Policy Coordination, International Atomic Energy Agency and the High Commissioner of India [resolution agreed to [10 March 2005](#)]
- ❑ [5 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
- ❑ The Senate was informed of the deaths of—
 - ❑ Donald William Maisey, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Moore from 1963 to 1974.
 - ❑ The Honourable Albert (Al) Jaime Grassby AM, former federal minister and member for Riverina, on 23 April 2005. The Senate agreed to a [condolence motion](#) moved by the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- ❑ The Leader of The Nationals in the Senate moved a condolence motion relating to the death of the Honourable Sir Johannes Bjelke-Petersen, former Premier for the state of Queensland, on 23 April 2005. The Senate agreed to [the motion](#).
- ❑ Adjournment debate

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