



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday 15 March 2005

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 9.55pm

Legislation

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

The following bill was introduced in the Senate

- Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004

The following bills were considered

Second reading debate continued on the following bills

- Australian Communications and Media Authority Bill 2004
- Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004
- Datacasting Charge (Imposition) Amendment Bill 2004
- Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2004
- Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
- Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
- Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
- Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Amendment Bill 2004
- Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Amendment Bill 2004
- Television Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2004

The following bills were passed

Without amendments

[These bills will now be assented to]

- Appropriation (Tsunami Financial Assistance and Australia-Indonesia Partnership) Bill 2004-2005
- Appropriation (Tsunami Financial Assistance) Bill 2004-2005

With amendments

- Administrative Appeals Tribunal Amendment Bill 2004 [2005]—
4 Government and 4 Opposition [amendments agreed to](#), 1 item
negated [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill as amended]

The following message from the House of Representatives was considered

- Broadcasting Services Amendment (Anti-Siphoning) Bill 2004–The message reported that the House of Representatives had disagreed to the [amendments made by the Senate](#). The Senate did not insist on the amendments disagreed to by the House. [The bill will now be assented to]

Notices of motion given to introduce bills

The Minister for Justice and Customs gave notices of motion to introduce the following bills:

- Consular Privileges and Immunities Amendment Bill 2005
- Crimes Legislation Amendment (Telecommunications Interception and Other Measures) Bill 2005
- Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill 2005
- Family Law Amendment Bill 2005
- Statute Law Revision Bill 2005

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Notices of motion withdrawn

[Notices of motion](#) to disallow certain instruments were withdrawn

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

Reports tabled

- 2004-05 additional estimates–[Five legislation committees](#)

Reports tabled

- Possible unauthorised disclosure of draft reports of Community Affairs References Committee–121st report–Committee of Privileges [A motion to endorse the findings at paragraph 1.36 was debated. The debate will continue on a future sitting day. A notice of motion to refer a related matter to the Committee was also given–*see Notices of motion* below.]

Document tabled

- The invasive species challenge: Report on the regulation, control and management of invasive species and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee–Additional information

Membership

The Senate agreed to the following changes to committee membership:

- ❑ Economics References Committee–Senator Murray to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee’s inquiry into possible links between household debt, demand for imported goods and Australia’s current account deficit
- ❑ Library Committee–Senator Tierney discharged and Senator Brandis appointed

Public meeting

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

- ❑ Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–16 March 2005 from noon to 1.30pm–review of Auditor-General’s reports

Reporting dates

The Senate agreed to the following extensions of time for committees to report:

- ❑ Additional estimates 2004-05–Economics Legislation Committee–to report by 16 March 2005
- ❑ Effectiveness of the Australian military justice system–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–to report by 10 May 2005

Notices of motion given

To extend a reporting deadline

- ❑ Annual reports–Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee–to report by 10 May 2005

To refer matters to committees

- ❑ Salinity in the Australian environment, [and related matters](#)–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee–to report by 13 October 2005
- ❑ Wine-making–Operation of the industry, with particular reference to the supply and purchase of grapes–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by the last sitting day in March 2006
- ❑ Privileges–Whether, and if so what, acts of unauthorised disclosure of parliamentary committee proceedings, evidence or draft reports should continue to be included among prohibited acts which may be treated by the Senate as contempts–Committee of Privileges–to report by 15 June 2005

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:

- ❑ [Genetic privacy](#) and non-discrimination–moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- ❑ [Parliamentary zone](#)–to approve the proposal to extend the time for the temporary vehicle barriers to 30 June 2005

Motion defeated

The Senate *did not agree* to [a motion](#) moved by Senator Brown about China’s ‘anti-secession’ laws

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Notice of motion given

Senator Bartlett gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the tabling of certain documents from certain agencies relating to glyphosate, herbicide-tolerant genetically-engineered plants, Fusarium, and genetically-engineered canola trials (no later than the conclusion of question time on 11 May 2005)

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ Commonwealth Day 2005—Message from Her Majesty The Queen, Head of the Commonwealth
- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- ❑ [Government documents](#) [tabled [and considered](#)]
- ❑ Parliamentary zone—proposal and documentation relating to the extension of approval for the temporary location of a sculpture adjacent to Questacon. A [notice of motion](#) was given to extend the approval.
- ❑ [A petition](#) was received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- ❑ Adjournment debate [link to [first speaker](#)]

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