This week at a glance
4-7 September 2006

On the first day of each sitting week the Senate Daily Summary provides an overview of the business scheduled for consideration in the Senate that week. On subsequent days, SDS provides a convenient summary of the previous day’s proceedings in the Senate, with links to official Senate records.

Another document which is useful in tracking the Business of the Senate is the Dynamic Red, which records proceedings in the Senate as they happen each day.

Legislation
For full text of bills and other associated documents click here

Bills to be considered
The government has scheduled bills for debate this week, as follows:

4 September 2006
- Aviation Transport Security Amendment Bill 2006
- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005 [2006]
- OHS and SRC Legislation Amendment Bill 2006

5 September 2006
- Financial Transaction Reports Amendment Bill 2006
- Migration Amendment (Employer Sanctions) Bill 2006
- Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment Bill 2005

6 September 2006
- Health Insurance Amendment (Medical Specialists) Bill 2005
- Petroleum Retail Legislation Repeal Bill 2006
- Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Safety and Other Measures) Bill 2005

7 September 2006
- Customs Legislation Amendment (Modernising Import Controls and Other Measures) Bill 2006
- Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment Bill 2006
- Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill 2006
- International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2006
- Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Promoting Safer Workplaces) Bill 2005
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- Privacy Legislation Amendment Bill 2006
- Public Works Committee Amendment Bill 2006
- Tax Laws Amendment (Repeal of Inoperative Provisions) Bill 2006


Delegated legislation

See Disallowance Alert for a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

Motions to be considered

Motions to disallow or disapprove regulations are listed for consideration on the days indicated

4 September 2006

- Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Entitlements Amendment Regulations 2006 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 211 and made under the Parliamentary Entitlements Act 1990—notice given by Senators Murray and Evans

5 September 2006

- Clause 2.2 of Determination 2006/11: Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Public Office and Members of Parliament, made pursuant to subsection 5(2A), 7(1), 7(3), 7(3D) and 7(4) of the Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973—notice given by Senator Bob Brown
- Schedules 1 and 3 to the Parliamentary Entitlements Amendment Regulations 2006 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 211 and made under the Parliamentary Entitlements Act 1990—notice given by Senator Bob Brown

Committees

For scheduled public committee hearings click here

New committee system

Changes to the committee system will take effect from 11 September 2006. The changes include:

- establishing eight standing committees (combining the functions of the 16 legislation and references committees) with eight members each instead of six;
- a government senator to chair each standing committee, with a non-government senator as deputy chair;
- more flexible arrangements to appoint substitute members of committees.

It is expected that members will be appointed to the new committees this week.
Motions to refer matters to committees
Votes will be taken on the following motions to refer matters to committees:

4 September 2006
- Administration of quarantine—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—moved by Senator O’Brien
- Temporary business long stay visas—Legal and Constitutional References Committee—moved by Senator Ludwig

[See Journals of the Senate, 17 August 2006, entries nos 44 and 45]

Reports
The following reports were presented out of sitting and will be formally tabled on 4 September 2006

- Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006—Interim report—Economics Legislation Committee

Other reports due to be tabled this week include:

- Provisions of the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment Bill 2006—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
- Reports on annual reports tabled by 30 April 2006—Legislation Committees
- Women in sport and recreation in Australia—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Government response
A government response to the report of the Joint Committee on Electoral Matters on the conduct of the 2004 federal election was presented out of sitting and will be formally tabled on 4 September 2006.

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