The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.38pm

**Proposed censure**

The normal routine of business for the Senate was interrupted from 3pm when the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans) was given leave to move a motion proposing to censure the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

After nearly 3 hours of debate, the motion was defeated in a division: 34 ayes and 37 noes.

**Legislation**

For full text of bills and other associated documents

**Consideration of legislation**

- Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill 2006
  - The bill was debated and read a second time.
  - Senator Evans, also on behalf of Senators Bartlett and Siewert, moved a motion to divide the bill into two separate bills.
  - The debate is listed for further consideration on the next day of sitting.

**The following bills were introduced in the Senate**

- Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia’s Skills Needs) Amendment Bill 2006 [passed by the House of Representatives on 8 August 2006]
- Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment (Antarctic Seals and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [a new Senate bill]

See Committees for details of reports relating to legislation
Delegated legislation
For a complete list of notices of motion to disallow (and outcomes)

Notice of motion given
A notice of motion was given by Senator Bob Brown to disapprove clause 2.2 of the Remuneration Tribunal Determination 2006/11, made under subsections 5(2A), 7(1), 7(3D) and 7(4) of the Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973.
- Usual disallowance provisions do not apply to this Determination. The Senate may pass a resolution to disapprove it within 15 sitting days of tabling. The Determination was tabled on 8 August 2006.

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

Committees
For scheduled public committee hearings
For committee reports

Estimates additional information tabled
- Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee–Additional estimates 2005-06

Reports tabled
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee–Alert Digest No. 7 of 2006 and 5th Report of 2006 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]
- Selection of Bills Committee–Report No. 7 of 2006 [report adopted] [contains recommendations to refer bills to legislation committees]

Reporting dates extended

Motion to refer a matter to a committee defeated
The Senate did not agree to a motion moved by Senator Bob Brown to refer the matter of the proposed security treaty or pact with Indonesia to the Treaties Joint Committee

Notice of motion given to refer a matter to a committee
- Temporary Business Long Stay (subclass 457) visa–Legal and Constitutional References Committee
Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions about:
- Abolition of the death penalty—moved by Senators Stott Despoja, Humphries, Nettle and Payne
- Australian Book Industry Awards—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- Australian literature—Ms Kate Grenville and Ms Meg Stewart—moved by Senator Allison
- Human rights in Burma—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- Support for football in Australia—moved by Senators Kemp and Lundy

Motions defeated

The Senate did not agree to motions about:
- Afghani asylum seekers—moved by Senator Nettle
- Guantanamo Bay—Mr David Hicks—moved by Senator Stott Despoja
- International Day of Peace—moved by Senator Allison
- Japanese ‘Comfort Women’—International day of action for justice—moved by Senator Stott Despoja

Notices of motion

For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere

Ministerial statement

The Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts tabled a ministerial statement about the Australian Defence Force commitment to Afghanistan. Senator Bartlett moved that the Senate take note of the statement, but there was no time for debate.

Documents

The following documents were tabled:
- Clerk’s documents [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- Government documents [and considered]
- 3 petitions were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Matters of public interest debate [first speaker]
- Questions without notice [first question]
- Adjournment debate [first speaker]

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### Online


It is issued by the Senate Table Office as a convenient summary of each day’s proceedings in the Senate. For a complete account see the official record, the *Journals of the Senate*, on the Internet at [http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm).

### Related resources

The *Order of Business* (or ‘Senate Red’) and the ‘Dynamic Red’ (which updates the *Order of Business* throughout the sitting day) are also available on the Internet at [www.aph.gov.au/senate](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate).

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