



Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 9 October 2006

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 10.18pm

Legislation

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

Bill tabled

The Prohibition of Human Cloning for Reproduction and the Regulation of Human Embryo Research Amendment Bill 2006, which was presented to the President by Senator Patterson on 26 September 2006, was tabled.

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Customs Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006
- Customs Tariff Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006
- Schools Assistance (Learning Together—Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2006

[These bills were passed by the House of Representatives on 14 September 2006]

The following bill was debated

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Amendment Bill 2006—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)] [The Opposition moved a [second reading amendment](#) to the bill expressing a view about the bill's policy]

The following bills were passed

- Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment Bill 2005 [The bill will now be assented to]
- Public Works Committee Amendment Bill 2006 [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill]
- Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 5) Bill 2006 [The bill will now be assented to]

Notice of motion

A [notice of motion](#) was given by Senators Bartlett and McLucas to restore the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Protecting the Great Barrier Reef from Oil Drilling and Exploration) Amendment Bill 2003 to the Notice Paper.

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

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

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

Committees

For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation were tabled as follows:

- [Aged Care](#) Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2006–Community Affairs Committee
- [Broadcasting Services](#) Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2006, 3 related bills and a background paper by the Minister on new services on digital spectrum–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee
- [Corporations](#) (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005 and 2 related bills–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
- [Higher Education](#) Legislation Amendment (2006 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006–Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee
- [Tax Laws](#) Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006–Economics Committee

Other reports were tabled as follows:

- Economics Committee–Petrol pricing in Australia–[Interim report](#) [Final reporting date extended to 30 November 2006]
- National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee–[Visit to Norfolk Island](#), 2 to 5 August 2006
- Treaties Joint Committee–[Report no. 77](#)–Treaties tabled on 20 June and 8 August 2006
- Treaties Joint Committee–[Report no. 78](#)–Treaty scrutiny: A ten year review

Public meetings

The Senate authorised the following public meetings to be held while the Senate is sitting:

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee–9 October 2006 from 4.30pm–Defence Legislation Amendment Bill 2006
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–
 - Review of Auditor-General's reports–from 11.30 am to 1.30pm on 11 and 18 October, 29 November and 6 December 2006

- Financial reporting and equipment acquisition at the Department of Defence and DMO—from 10am to 1.30pm on 12 and 19 October and 30 November 2006
- Certain taxation matters—9 November 2006 from 9.30am to 2pm

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Customs Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006 and a related bill—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee—to report by 11 October 2006
- Petrol pricing in Australia—Economics Committee—to report by 30 November 2006

Notices of motion given

To extend a reporting deadline:

- Defence Legislation Amendment Bill 2006—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee—to report by 12 October 2006

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting:

- Finance and Public Administration Committee—11 October 2006 from 4pm to 6pm—Operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts
- Finance and Public Administration Committee—12 October 2006 from 3.30pm to 7pm—Transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure

Questions on notice—Statements

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage made a [statement](#) clarifying an [explanation](#) he gave of an answer not being provided to a question on notice relating to solar energy. Senator Milne made a [statement](#) in response.

Other debates and motions

The Senate agreed to a motion moved by Senator Nettle about the death of [Ms Doris Owens](#).

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Notices of motion given

The following notices of motion were given requiring Ministers to table documents:

- ❑ Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services to table submissions by the Transurban Group supporting a claim for taxation deductions under the Infrastructure Borrowings Tax Offset Scheme—no later than 4.30pm on 16 October 2006—moved by Senator Allison
- ❑ Minister representing the Attorney-General to table the review of the Community Partner program conducted by Deloitte Touche Tomatsu—no later than 3.30pm on 12 October 2006—moved by Senator Siewert

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the internet

A statement of compliance for Comcare was tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Departmental and agency contracts published on the internet

A statement of compliance for the Education, Science and Training portfolio was tabled [Letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- ❑ Auditor-General—[Audit report](#) no. 5 of 2006-07
- ❑ [Clerk's documents](#) [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled, including Governor-General's Proclamations]
- ❑ [Government documents](#)
- ❑ Response from the Northern Territory Minister for Family and Community Services to a Senate [resolution](#) about Foster Care Week [resolution agreed to on 13 September 2006]
- ❑ 4 [petitions](#) were presented

Also in the Senate yesterday

- ❑ The President informed the Senate of the death, on 30 September 2006, of Albert William James, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Hunter from 1960 to 1980
- ❑ Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time [[first question](#)]
- ❑ Adjournment debate [[first speaker](#)]

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Online

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate

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>

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

Contact details

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