



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 6 February 2007

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 8.01pm

Privilege matter

The President made a [statement](#) relating to a matter of privilege raised by Senators Forshaw and Murray concerning an allegation that false or misleading evidence was given before the Finance and Public Administration References Committee in 2005 and the refusal to answer questions put by the committee when required to do so. Senator Forshaw gave a [notice of motion](#) to refer the matter to the Committee of Privileges.

Legislation

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

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Airspace Bill 2006 and a related bill
- Customs Tariff Amendment (Incorporation of Proposals) Bill 2006
- Energy Efficiency Opportunities Amendment Bill 2006
- Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2006
- Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 6) Bill 2006
[These bills were passed by the House of Representatives on 7 December 2006]

The following bill was debated

- Customs Legislation Amendment (Border Compliance and Other Measures) Bill 2006—second reading agreed to [[first speaker](#)] and committee of the whole [commenced](#)

Notice of motion

To introduce a bill

- The Australian Territories Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2007—notice given by Senator Bob Brown [private senator's bill]

Messages from the House of Representatives

- Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [This bill was assented to on 12 December 2006]
- Wheat Marketing Amendment Bill 2006—agreeing to the bill without amendment [This bill was assented to on 8 December 2006]

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)

Motion to disallow

The Senate debated a motion proposed by Senator Siewert to disallow an [instrument](#) that determines the Australian national catch allocation for southern bluefin tuna for the 2006/2007 season. [\[first speaker\]](#) The debate was interrupted at 6.50pm in order to consider government documents.

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

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)
[For committee reports](#)

Government response tabled

A government response to the report of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee into rural water resource usage was tabled and debated. [\[first speaker\]](#)

Documents tabled

- [Register of Senate committee reports](#)—1 January to 31 December 2006
- [Work of Committees](#)—1 July to 31 December 2006

Public meeting

The Senate authorised the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade to hold a public meeting while the Senate is sitting on 7 February 2007 from 11.00am to noon for the committee's inquiry into Australia's trade with Mexico and the region.

Notices of motion given

To extend a reporting deadline

- Finance and Public Administration Committee—Transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure—to report by 1 March 2007

To refer matters to a committee

- [Proposed takeover of Qantas](#)–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–to report by 20 March 2007

Other debates and motions

The Senate *did not agree* to motions about:

- [Mr David Hicks](#)–moved by Senator Nettle
- [Mr David Hicks](#)–moved by Senator Stott Despoja [debated as a matter of urgency–[first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion

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

Orders for the production of documents

Notice of motion given

Senator Stott Despoja gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the Minister representing the Attorney-General to table any legal advice received by the Government regarding the legality of the United States *Military Commission Act 2006*–no later than the end of question time on 8 February 2007.

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the internet

Statements of compliance for [2 agencies](#) were tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Auditor-General–Audit reports nos 15 to 23 of 2006-07 [see Journals entries nos [22](#) and [29](#)]
- [Business of the Senate](#)–1 January to 31 December 2006 [a digest of all business considered by the Senate during 2006]
- [Clerk's documents](#) [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled, including Governor-General's Proclamations]
- [Government documents \[and considered\]](#)
- [Government documents](#) presented since the last sitting of the Senate
- Odgers' Australian Senate Practice* 11th edition–[Supplement](#)–Updates to 31 December 2006
- Questions on notice summary–16 November 2004 to 31 December 2006

- Response to a Senate resolution about Foster Care Week from the New South Wales Minister for Community Services [resolution agreed to [13 September 2006](#)]
- [8 petitions](#)

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time [[first question](#)]
- The President informed the Senate of the death of two former Ministers: Senator the Honourable Sir Robert Carrington Cotton, a senator for the state of New South Wales from 1965 to 1978 and the Honourable Sir Denis James Killen, AC, KCMG, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Moreton, Queensland, from 1955 to 1983. The Senate agreed to a [condolence motion](#) moved by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- 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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