



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 29 March 2007

The Senate met from 9.30am until 6.36pm

The Senate has now completed the Autumn sittings and will commence the Budget sittings on [8 May 2007](#)

Legislation

[Bills and related documents available on BillsNet <www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm>](http://www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Governance Review Implementation (Treasury Portfolio Agencies) Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 28 March 2007]
- ❑ Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Amendment Bill 2007 [passed by the House of Representatives on 28 March 2007]
- ❑ Repatriation of Citizens Bill 2007 [private senators' bill]
- ❑ Workplace Relations (Restoring Family Work Balance) Amendment Bill 2007 [private senator's bill]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2006-2007 and Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2006-2007 [These bills will now be assented to]
- ❑ Corporations Amendment (Takeovers) Bill 2007 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Vocational Rehabilitation Services) Bill 2006 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Health Insurance Amendment (Provider Number Review) Bill 2007 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Migration Amendment (Border Integrity) Bill 2007 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Migration Amendment (Review Provisions) Bill 2006 [2007] [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill]

Messages from the House of Representatives

Agreeing to amendments made by the Senate

- Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Bill 2007
- AusCheck Bill 2006
- Native Title Amendment Bill 2006

[These bills will now be assented to]

Agreeing to a bill without amendment

- Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Contributions) Bill 2006 [2007] [The bill will now be assented to]

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)

Notice of intention to withdraw notices

The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances gave notice of his intention to withdraw a [notice of motion](#) to disallow an [instrument](#) that nominates an agreement for the purposes of Special Disability Trusts.

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

Committees

For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

Estimates

The following additional information arising from estimates hearings was tabled:

- Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee—Supplementary budget and additional estimates 2006-07
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee—Supplementary budget estimates 2006-07
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee—Additional estimates 2005-06; Supplementary budget and additional estimates 2006-07

Reports tabled

- Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee—[Exposure drafts](#) of the Corporations Amendment (Insolvency) Bill 2007 and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission Amendment Regulations 2007. This report was debated [[first speaker](#)]
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee—Reforms to Australia's military justice system—Second progress report
- Publications Committee—[20th Report](#) [report adopted]

Government responses tabled

[Government responses](#) to committee reports were tabled

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—Australia’s free trade agreements with Singapore, Thailand and the United States: Progress to date and lessons for the future
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—Australia’s relationship with the Republic of Korea; and developments on the Korean peninsula
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—3rd report of 2004—The quality of explanatory memoranda accompanying bills

Documents tabled

- Community Affairs References Committee—Beyond petrol sniffing: Renewing hope for Indigenous communities—Additional information. This document was debated [[first speaker](#)]

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee reports

The Senate adopted reports [5](#) and [6](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, which recommended the following references:

- Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2007—Community Affairs Committee—to report by 17 May 2007
- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2007 and a related bill—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee—to report by 30 April 2007
- Corporations (NZ Closer Economic Relations) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2007—Economics Committee—to report by 4 May 2007
- Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment (Child Support Reform Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill 2007—Community Affairs Committee—to report by 8 May 2007
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment Bill 2007—Community Affairs Committee—to report by 1 May 2007
- Gene Technology Amendment Bill 2007—Community Affairs Committee—to report by 1 May 2007
- Liquid Fuel Emergency Amendment Bill 2007—Economics Committee—to report by 8 May 2007
- Native Title Amendment (Technical Amendments) Bill 2007—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—to report by 8 May 2007
- Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 2) Bill 2007—Economics Committee—to report by 30 April 2007

Other references

The Senate referred matters relating to [private equity markets](#) to the Economics Committee for report by 20 June 2007.

Proposed reference

The Senate did not agree to refer matters relating to [sea-level rises](#) and climate change to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee.

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Australia's national parks–Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee–to report by 12 April 2007
- Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee–to report by 10 May 2007

Membership

The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership [*see* Journals entries [22](#), [35](#) and [44](#)]

Documents

Orders for the production of documents–Order with continuing effect

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

A statement of compliance for the Australian Institute of Family Studies 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 tabled

- Auditor-General–[Audit report](#) no. 31 of 2006-07
- Australian parliamentary delegation–United Kingdom and Poland, 25 June to 8 July 2006–Report
- [Clerk's documents](#) [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- Department of the Senate–Preparing Private Senators' bills, explanatory memoranda and second reading speeches–Guidelines
- Department of the Senate–Training programs provided by Senate staff for overseas legislatures–Reports

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Brandis) tabled a [ministerial statement](#) on global initiatives on forests and climate. This statement was debated [[first speaker](#)]

Other business

[Questions without notice and issues arising during question time–first question](#)
[Adjournment debate–first speaker](#)

Motions agreed to

- [Macquarie Island](#)–moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

- [Slavery and trafficking of humans](#)—moved by Senator Joyce
- [Treaty of Rome](#)—moved by Senator Watson

Motions negatived

- [Interrogation and torture](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- [Mr David Hicks](#)—moved by Senator Nettle

Advance to the Finance Minister

The [Advance to the Finance Minister](#) for 2005-2006 was approved

Notices of motion

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals—see entries nos [2](#) and [30](#).

Statistics

Statistics on the work of the Senate this week will be available in the [Statistical Summary](#), which forms part of [StatsNet](#)—the Department of the Senate’s online statistical collection.

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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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