



Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 16 June 2008

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 9.45pm

Legislation

Bills and related documents available on BillsNet <www.aph.gov.au/bills/index.htm>

Bills considered

The following bills, passed by the House of Representatives on the dates indicated, were introduced

- ❑ Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (1999 Montreal Convention and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [28 May 2008]
- ❑ Customs Amendment (Strengthening Border Controls) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Customs Legislation Amendment (Modernising) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Customs Tariff Amendment (Tobacco Content) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Defence Home Ownership Assistance Scheme Bill 2008 and a related bill [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Excise Legislation Amendment (Condensate) Bill 2008 and a related bill [2 June 2008]
- ❑ Export Market Development Grants Amendment Bill 2008 [28 May 2008]
- ❑ Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [5 June 2008]
- ❑ Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Farm Household Support Amendment (Additional Drought Assistance Measures) Bill 2008 [3 June 2008]
- ❑ First Home Saver Accounts Bill 2008 and 2 related bills [2 June 2008]
- ❑ Fisheries Legislation Amendment (New Governance Arrangements for the Australian Fisheries Management Authority and Other Matters) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Health Care (Appropriation) Amendment Bill 2008 [3 June 2008]
- ❑ Health Insurance Amendment (90 Day Pay Doctor Cheque Scheme) Bill 2008 [28 May 2008]
- ❑ Higher Education Support Amendment (2008 Budget Measures) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]

- ❑ Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [5 June 2008]
- ❑ Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment (2008 Budget Measures) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Law Officers Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [3 June 2008]
- ❑ National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008 and a related bill [5 June 2008]
- ❑ National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical and Other Benefits—Cost Recovery) Bill 2008 [5 June 2008]
- ❑ National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) Bill 2008 [5 June 2008]
- ❑ Passenger Movement Charge Amendment Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [3 June 2008]
- ❑ Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Bill 2008 and a related bill [26 May 2008]
- ❑ Quarantine Amendment (National Health Security) Bill 2008 [29 May 2008]
- ❑ Reserve Bank Amendment (Enhanced Independence) Bill 2008 [26 May 2008]
- ❑ Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—Superannuation) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Employment Entry Payment) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Sydney Airport Demand Management Amendment Bill 2008 [28 May 2008]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 2) Bill 2008 [14 May 2008]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 3) Bill 2008 [5 June 2008]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Budget Measures) Bill 2008 [28 May 2008]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Luxury Car Tax) Bill 2008 and 3 related bills [28 May 2008]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy and Medicare Levy Surcharge) Bill 2008 [28 May 2008]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill 2008 [29 May 2008]
- ❑ Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (International Agreements and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [4 June 2008]
- ❑ Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008 and a related bill [4 June 2008]

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008 and a related bill—Second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (Personal Income Tax Reduction) Bill 2008 [This bill will now be assented to]

Notices of motion

To introduce private senators' bills

- ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment (Enhanced Child Protection from Predatory Tourism Offences) Bill 2008—notice given by Senator Bernardi

- ❑ Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008—notice given by Senator Johnston

To discharge a bill from the Notice Paper

- ❑ Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Communications Fund) Bill 2008—notice given by the Minister for Human Services (Senator Ludwig)

To vary the days and hours of meeting

A [notice](#) was given by the Minister for Human Services (Senator Ludwig) to vary the days and hours of meeting for the remainder of the fortnight to enable the Government's legislative program to be considered.

Messages from the House of Representatives

- ❑ Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Trustee Board and Other Measures) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—returning the bill without amendment
- ❑ Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2008—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate

[These bills will now be assented to]

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to a number of laws was reported in the Senate

See **Committees** for details of reports relating to legislation

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- ❑ Reserve Bank Amendment (Enhanced Independence) Bill 2008—Economics Committee—[Interim report](#) and [final report](#)
- ❑ [National Market](#) Driven Energy Efficiency Target Bill 2007 [2008] and Renewable Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Power Percentage) Bill 2008—Economics Committee
- ❑ [Stolen Generation Compensation Bill](#) 2008—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

Other reports

- ❑ Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—Effectiveness of the broadcasting codes of practice—[Interim report](#) [Recommendation of the interim report adopted and reporting date for the final report extended to 19 June 2008]
- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—[Review](#) of the Defence annual report for 2005-06
- ❑ Housing Affordability in Australia Select Committee—[A good house is hard to find](#)

- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[4th report](#) of 2008 and [Alert Digest No. 4](#) of 2008 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]

Notices of motion given

To establish a reporting deadline

- Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—Waste management in Australia and the Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008—to report by 28 August 2008

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—18 June 2008 and 25 June 2008 from 11.00am to 1.30pm—review of Auditor-General's reports

To refer matters to committees:

- [Disclosure regimes for charities](#)—Economics Committee—to report by the last sitting day of November 2008
- [Excise Legislation Amendment](#) (Condensate) Bill 2008 and a related bill—Economics Committee—to report not before 26 August 2008
- [Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment](#) (2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008—Finance and Public Administration Committee—to report by 24 June 2008
- [National Fuelwatch](#) (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008 and a related bill—Economics Committee—to report not before 29 September 2008
- [National Health Amendment](#) (Pharmaceutical and Other Benefits—Cost Recovery) Bill 2008—Community Affairs Committee—to report not before 18 August 2008
- [Passenger Movement](#) Charge Amendment Bill 2008—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—to report by 24 June 2008
- [Same-Sex Relationships](#) (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—Superannuation) Bill 2008—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
- [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (2008 Measures No. 3) Bill 2008—Schedules 1 and 2—Economics Committee—to report not before 18 August 2008
- [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (Budget Measures) Bill 2008—Economics Committee—to report by 24 June 2008
- [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (Luxury Car Tax) Bill 2008 and 3 related bills—Economics Committee—to report not before 26 August 2008
- [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill 2008—Economics Committee—to report not before 26 August 2008

Membership

The Senate agreed to the following changes to committee membership:

- Community Affairs Committee—Senator Murray to replace Senator Allison for the committee's inquiry into ready-to-drink alcohol beverages
- National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee—Senator Stott Despoja discharged

Documents

Delegated legislation

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

- [Clerk's documents](#) were tabled [legislative instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled, including Governor-General's Proclamations]

Orders for the production of documents

Notice of motion given

Senator Bernardi gave a [notice of motion](#) requiring documents detailing commitments made by the government during the election period to provide grants for sports and recreation facilities to be tabled by 5.00pm on 23 June 2008.

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General–Audit reports nos 34 to 40 of 2007-08 [see Journals entries nos [31](#) and [34](#)]
- Government documents [see Journals entries nos [30](#) and [36](#)]
- National Schools Constitutional Convention–Old Parliament House–29 April to 1 May 2008–Communiqué
- Original certificate of the choice by the Victorian Parliament of Senator Collins
- [3 petitions](#)

Ministerial statements tabled

The Minister for Human Services (Senator Ludwig) tabled ministerial statements about:

- 60th anniversary of United Nations peacekeeping operations
- 110th birthday of Mrs Doreen Washington
- Australia-New Zealand Leadership Forum
- Centenary of the age pension
- Certainty and security for seniors and carers
- Cessation of Australian combat operations in Iraq
- Conclusion of negotiations on the Australia-Chile free trade agreement
- Financial stability
- Nomination of a new Director-General of the World Intellectual Property Organisation
- Towards a new car plan for Australia's future: More fuel efficient cars to help motorists and the environment
- Which way home?–Government's green paper on homelessness
- WA gas disruption

Other business

[Questions without notice and issues arising during question time—first question](#)

Question on notice—Failure to provide answer

[Senator Allison](#) asked the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts (Senator Wong) why an answer had not been provided to question on notice no. 373 asked on 17 March 2008 relating to water efficiency. [Senator Wong](#) indicated that an explanation would be provided. A [motion](#) to take note of the Minister's response was agreed to.

Death of former senator and former member

The President informed the Senate of the deaths of a former senator and former member:

- on 5 June 2008, Milivoj Emil (Misha) Lajovic, a senator for New South Wales from 1975 to 1985—[motion](#) moved by the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Evans) and supported;
- on 29 May 2008, Leonard Thomas Devine, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of East Sydney, New South Wales from 1963 to 1969.

Notices of motion

[Notices of motion](#) given today are available in the Senate Journals.

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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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