



# Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 18 March 2008

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 10.34pm

## 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

- ❑ Infrastructure Australia Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 17 March 2008]
- ❑ National Commissioner for Children Bill 2008 [private senator's bill]

The following private senator's bill was restored to the Notice Paper

- ❑ Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2003

The following bill was debated

- ❑ Infrastructure Australia Bill 2008—second reading agreed to [[first speaker](#)] [details of the bill will be considered on a future sitting day]

The following bill was passed

- ❑ Workplace Relations Amendment (Transition to Forward with Fairness) Bill 2008—37 Government amendments agreed to [the House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate—see Journals entries nos [4](#) and [25](#)]

### Notices of motion

To introduce bills

- ❑ Statute Law Revision Bill 2008—notice given by the Minister for Human Services (Senator Ludwig)
- ❑ Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network) Bill 2008—notice given by the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy)

To exempt bills from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- ❑ Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008

- Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2008 and a related bill
  - Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Communications Fund) Bill 2008
  - Tradex Scheme Amendment Bill 2008
- notice given by the Minister for Human Services (Senator Ludwig)

## Committees

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[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

### Estimates reports tabled

[Eight committees](#) tabled reports into the 2007-08 additional estimates.

### Private meetings

The Senate authorised the Migration Joint Committee to hold private meetings otherwise than in accordance with standing order [33\(1\)](#) during the sittings of the Senate.

### Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008–Community Affairs Committee–to report by 12 August 2008
- Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee–to report by 23 June 2008

### Notices of motion given

To refer matters to committees:

- [Australia's capabilities](#) in space science, industry and education–Economics Committee–to report by 23 June 2008
- [Australia's space science](#) and industry sector–Economics Committee–to report by October 2008
- [Meat marketing](#)–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–to report by 4 September 2008
- Schedule 1 of the Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 1) Bill 2008–Electoral Matters Joint Committee–to report by June 2009

## Documents

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### 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]

## **Orders for the production of documents—Orders with continuing effect**

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

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

## **Documents tabled**

- [Government documents](#)

## **Ministerial statement tabled**

The Minister for Human Services (Senator Ludwig) tabled a [ministerial statement](#) about global market turbulence and the Australian economy. A [motion](#) to take note of the statement was agreed to.

## **Other business**

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

## **Motions agreed to**

- [China](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- [Death of Professor Peter Cullen](#)—moved by Senator Siewert
- [HMAS Sydney II](#)—moved by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin)
- [Queensland local government](#)—moved by Senator Boyce

## **Motions negatived**

- [Donations to political parties](#)—moved by Senator Murray
- [Tarkine wilderness bushfire](#)—moved by Senator Milne

## **Statement by President**

The President made a [statement](#) relating to unparliamentary language and a [matter](#) raised by the Minister for Climate Change and Water (Senator Wong) on 17 March 2008.

## **Notices of motion**

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals [see Journals entries nos [7](#) and [26](#)].

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**Online**

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at [www.aph.gov.au/senate](http://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](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate)

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