



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>

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

[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

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

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

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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