



# Senate Daily Summary

**Wednesday, 19 March 2008**

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.55pm

## **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

- Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 19 March 2008]
- Road Transport Charges (Australian Capital Territory) Repeal Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 19 March 2008]
- Statute Law Revision Bill 2008 [new Senate bill]
- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network) Bill 2008 [new Senate bill]

The following bills were exempted from the cut-off order [to enable consideration in this period of sittings]

- Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2008
- Road Transport Charges (Australian Capital Territory) Repeal Bill 2008
- Tradex Scheme Amendment Bill 2008

The following bills were debated

- Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2007-2008  
Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2007-2008  
–second reading debate continued [The Australian Democrats moved a second reading amendment]

The following bills were passed

- Infrastructure Australia Bill 2008–1 Australian Democrats and 5 Opposition amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate—see Journals entries nos [5](#) and [26](#)]

The following bills were defeated by a majority vote

- Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2008 and a related bill—defeated at the second reading

## Notice of motion

To introduce a bill

- A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Improved access to baby bonus) Amendment Bill 2008—notice given by Senator Stott Despoja [private senator's bill]

## Committees

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[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

## Reports tabled

- Public Works Joint Committee—
  - [1st report](#) of 2008–71st annual report
  - [2nd report](#) of 2008–HMAS *Creswell* redevelopment, Jervis Bay Territory
  - [3rd report](#) of 2008–Land Engineering Agency test services relocation, Monegeetta, Victoria
  - [4th report](#) of 2008–Refurbishment of staff apartments, Australian Embassy complex, Tokyo, Japan
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 2](#) of 2008 and [2nd report](#) of 2008 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]

## New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 3](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- Australian Securities and Investments Commission (Fair Bank and Credit Card Fees) Amendment Bill 2008—Economics Committee—to report by 16 September 2008
- Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008—Community Affairs Committee—to report by 7 May 2008
- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Communications Fund) Bill 2008—Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—to report by 30 April 2008
- Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2008—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—to report by 1 May 2008

## Other references

- Australia's mandatory [Last Resort Home Warranty Insurance scheme](#)—Economics Committee—to report by May 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

- Provisions of Schedule 1 of the Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 1) Bill 2008–Electoral Matters Joint Committee—to report by June 2009

### **Establishment of select committee**

The Senate established the Select Committee on [Remote Indigenous Communities](#).

### **Notices of motion given**

To extend a reporting deadline

- State Government Financial Management Select Committee—to report by 27 August 2008

To refer matters to committees

- [Broadcasting Code of Conduct](#)—Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—to report by 9 June 2008
- [Management of Australia's waste streams](#)—Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—to report by August 2008
- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network) Bill 2008—Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—to report by 7 May 2008

To enable a committee to use earlier records

- Economics Committee to have power to consider and use records from the previous Parliament relating to its consideration of an earlier version of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (Fair Bank and Credit Card Fees) Amendment Bill 2008

### **Membership**

The Senate agreed to [various changes](#) to committee membership

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## **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

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

### **Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet**

A statement of compliance for the Veterans' Affairs portfolio 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

- ❑ Australian parliamentary delegation–ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly 28th General Assembly, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 18 to 24 August 2007 and bilateral visit to Indonesia, 24 to 27 August 2007
- ❑ [Government documents](#)

## Other business

## Questions without notice and issues arising during question time—first question

## Matters of public interest debate—first speaker

## Adjournment debate—first speaker

## Motion agreed to

- Death of Mr William Alfred (Bill) Brown, OAM—moved by Senator Bernardi

## Motion negated

- ❑ [Tibet](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

## Statement by President

The President made a [statement](#) relating to the appointment of Mr Alan Thompson as Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services.

## 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](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)

## Contact details

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