Senate Daily Summary
Monday, 23 June 2008

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 10.10pm

Legislation

Bills considered
The following bills were introduced

- Australian Energy Market Amendment (Minor Amendments) Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 19 June 2008]
- Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Laws Bill 2008 [No. 2] [private senators’ bill]

The following bills were debated

- Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2008-2009
  Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2008-2009
  Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2008-2009
  –second reading debate commenced [first speaker]

The following bills were passed

- Commonwealth Securities and Investment Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [This bill will now be assented to]
- Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [This bill will now be assented to]
- Reserve Bank Amendment (Enhanced Independence) Bill 2008–1 Australian Democrat and 2 Opposition amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]
- Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Employment Entry Payment) Bill 2008 [This bill will now be assented to]
Committees
For scheduled public committee hearings
For committee reports

Report tabled
- Economics Committee–Australia’s space science and industry sector–Interim report [A motion to take note of the report was debated and agreed to–first speaker]

Government response tabled
A government response to the report of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee on workplace agreements was tabled.

Reporting dates extended
The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:
- Mental health services in Australia–Community Affairs Committee–to report by 25 September 2008
- Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee–to report by 25 June 2008

Notices of motion given
To extend a reporting deadline:
- Australia’s involvement in peacekeeping operations–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee–to report by 31 July 2008

To refer matters to committees:
- Academic freedom in school and higher education–Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee–to report by 11 November 2008
- Challenges facing Papua New Guinea–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee–to report by 30 May 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]

Notice of motion to disallow given
The Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley) gave a notice of motion to the Torres Strait Regional Authority Section 142S Declaration 2008.

Notices of intention to withdraw notices
Notices of intention to withdraw notices to disallow 5 instruments were given.
Orders for the production of documents–Document tabled
The Special Minister of State (Senator Faulkner) tabled a statement relating to sports and recreation facilities [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on 17 June 2008 on the motion of Senator Bernardi]

Documents tabled
- Auditor-General–Audit report no. 42 of 2007-08
- Parliamentary Zone–proposal and documentation relating to the construction of a childcare centre within Parliament House. A notice of motion was given to extend the approval. [A motion to take note of the documents was agreed to]
- A petition

Ministerial statements tabled
The Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) tabled ministerial statements about:
- Australian participation in OECD Working Group on Bribery
- Commonwealth chief nursing and midwifery and other health reforms
- East Timor

Other business
Questions without notice and issues arising during question time–first question
Adjournment debate–first speaker

Motions agreed to
- Human rights–moved by Senators Stott Despoja and Bartlett
- Daw Aung San Suu Kyi–moved by Senator Stott Despoja

Statement by President
The President made a statement relating to the rules for questions and a matter raised by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) during question time on 19 June 2008.

Notices of motion
Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals.

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Online

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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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