



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 26 June 2008

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.44pm

The Senate has now completed the Winter sittings and will commence the Spring sittings on [26 August 2008](#) with the swearing in of senators elected on 24 November 2007 and the election of a new President.

Legislation

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

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- Governance Review Implementation (AASB and AUASB) Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 24 June 2008]
- Protection of the Sea Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 25 June 2008]

The following bill was defeated by a majority vote

- Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 1) Bill 2008—defeated at the third reading

The following bills were passed

- Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2008-2009
Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2008-2009
Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2008-2009
- Australian Energy Market Amendment (Minor Amendments) Bill 2008
- Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (1999 Montreal Convention and Other Measures) Bill 2008
- Customs Amendment (Strengthening Border Controls) Bill 2008
- Customs Legislation Amendment (Modernising) Bill 2008
- Governance Review Implementation (AASB and AUASB) Bill 2008
- Governor-General Amendment (Salary and Superannuation) Bill 2008
- Lands Acquisition Legislation Amendment Bill 2008
- Military Memorials of National Significance Bill 2008
- Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Bill 2008 and a related bill

- ❑ Sydney Airport Demand Management Amendment Bill 2008
 - ❑ Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (International Agreements and Other Measures) Bill 2008
- [These bills will now be assented to]

Messages from the House of Representatives

Reported

Agreeing to the following bills without amendments:

- ❑ Communications Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2008
- ❑ Statute Law Revision Bill 2008

[These bills will now be assented to]

Considered

- ❑ Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008—The House agreed to 5 amendments and [disagreed](#) to 2 amendments made by the Senate. The Senate did not insist on the amendments disagreed to by the House [The bill 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](#)

Estimates

[Additional information](#) arising from estimates hearings was tabled.

Reports tabled

Reports on legislation

- ❑ [Rights of the Terminally Ill](#) (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee [A [motion](#) to take note of the report was debated]

Other reports

- ❑ Community Affairs Committee—[A matter](#) relating to the Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Review of 2000 [A [motion](#) to take note of the report was debated]
- ❑ Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee—[Sexualisation of children](#) in the contemporary media [A [motion](#) to take note of the report was debated]
- ❑ Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—[410th Report](#)—Tax administration [A [motion](#) to take note of the report was debated and agreed to]
- ❑ Publications Committee—[3rd Report](#) [report adopted]
- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee—[91st report](#)—Treaties tabled on 12 March 2008

Documents tabled

- Privileges Committee–133rd report–Possible false or misleading evidence before the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee–Additional information

Government responses tabled

[Government responses](#) to the following reports were tabled:

- Intelligence and Security Joint Committee–
 - Review of the re-listing of Hizballah’s External Security Organisation (ESO) as a terrorist organisation
 - Review of the re-listing of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), Lashkar-e-Tayibba (LeT) and the Hamas’ Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades as a terrorist organisation
 - Review of the re-listing of Tanzim Qa’idat al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (the al-Zarqawi network) as a terrorist organisation
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee–12th report of 2006–Entry, search and seizure provisions in Commonwealth legislation

President’s report on government responses tabled

The President tabled a [report](#) on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports as at 26 June 2008.

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 7](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references for inquiry and report by 27 August 2008:

- Family Law Amendment (De Facto Financial Matters and Other Measures) Bill 2008–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
- Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 4) Bill 2008–Economics Committee
- Trade Practices (Creeping Acquisitions) Amendment Bill 2007 [2008]–Economics Committee
- Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill 2008–Economics Committee

Other references

- [Carbon sink forests](#)–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–to report by 22 August 2008 [see also Journals entry no. [46](#)]
- [Developing](#) Australia’s capacity in the area of climate change–Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee–to report by 20 March 2009
- [Effectiveness](#) of the *Commonwealth Sex Discrimination Act 1984*–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
- [Resource management](#)–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–to report by 27 November 2008

Reporting date extended

The Senate agreed to extend the reporting date for the inquiry of the Community Affairs Committee into the Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008 to 10 November 2008, in tandem with its new inquiry into the Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008.

Access to committee records

A message from the House of Representatives was reported, informing the Senate that the House had [resolved](#) to allow access to records of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade inquiry into the loss of *HMAS Sydney*. The Senate concurred with the resolution of the House.

Notices of motion given

To refer matters to a committee:

- [Matters](#) relating to Australian Rules football—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee—to report by 30 March 2009

To endorse a recommendation:

- Community Affairs Committee—to endorse a [recommendation](#) in the report on the 2008-09 Budget estimates

Membership

The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership, including the appointment of new senators to committees from 1 July 2008 [*see* Journals entries [7](#) and [70](#)]

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 intention to withdraw notices

Notice of intention was given to withdraw notices to disallow [4 instruments](#).

Orders for the production of documents

Documents tabled

The Special Minister of State (Senator Faulkner) made [a statement](#) relating to the order of the Senate [agreed to on [25 June 2008](#)] requiring the tabling of documents concerning defence procurement projects, and tabled a letter from the Minister for Defence to the President of the Senate.

Consideration

Senator Bernardi [moved](#) to take note of a document tabled by the Special Minister of State (Senator Faulkner) on [23 June 2008](#) relating to an order for production of documents agreed to on [17 June 2008](#) concerning grants for sports and recreation facilities. The motion was debated and agreed to.

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit report](#) no. 45 of 2007-08
- Australian Parliamentary Delegation—Report—European Parliaments and Institutions in the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Austria—4 to 20 April 2008
- Department of Defence—Special purpose flights—1 July to 31 December 2007, plus an election 2007 supplement
- Department of Finance and Deregulation—Former parliamentarians' travel—1 July to 31 December 2007
- Department of Finance and Deregulation—Parliamentarians' travel—1 July to 31 December 2007
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet—Expenditure on travel by former Governors-General—1 July to 31 December 2007
- Parliamentarians' overseas study travel reports—1 July to 31 December 2007
- President of the Senate—Report—Official visit to the United Kingdom and Portugal—April 2008
- [3 petitions](#) and 1 petitioning document

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (Senator Sherry) tabled a ministerial statement about the report of the equine influenza inquiry and the government response.

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- [Anti-whaling activists](#)—moved by Senator Siewert
- [Climate change](#) and ocean pollution—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- [Parliamentary zone](#)—to approve a proposal relating to the construction of a childcare centre
- [World Youth Day 2008](#)—moved by Senator Stephens

Motion negatived

- [GT Leste Biotech](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Statement by President

The President made a [statement](#) relating to his term in the office of President of the Senate. Various senators made statements in response. [\[first speaker\]](#)

Valedictory speeches

[Senator Webber](#) gave her valedictory speech, and a series of speeches were given recognising the contribution of those senators whose terms expire on 30 June. [\[first speaker\]](#)

Appointment to statutory authority

Senator Ferguson was appointed as a trustee to serve on the Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust on and from 1 July 2008.

Temporary chairs of committees

A [warrant](#) was tabled nominating senators to act as additional temporary chairs of committees.

Notices of motion

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

Statistics

Statistics on the work of the Senate this week will be available in the [Statistical Summary](#), which forms part of [StatsNet](#)—the Department of the Senate's online statistical collection.

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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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