



# Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 26 November 2008

The Senate met from 9.30am until 8.00pm

## 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

- ❑ Aged Care Amendment (2008 Measures No. 2) Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 26 November 2008]
- ❑ Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 26 November 2008]
- ❑ Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [new Senate bill]
- ❑ Guarantee Scheme for Large Deposits and Wholesale Funding Appropriation Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 25 November 2008] [see also bills passed]

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

- ❑ Guarantee Scheme for Large Deposits and Wholesale Funding Appropriation Bill 2008

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Migration Legislation Amendment (Worker Protection) Bill 2008—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Water Amendment Bill 2008—[committee of the whole](#) continued—1 Opposition, 1 Senator Xenophon, and 4 Australian Greens amendments agreed to, 1 Opposition amendment to be determined [further amendments remain to be considered]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Guarantee Scheme for Large Deposits and Wholesale Funding Appropriation Bill 2008 [This bill will now be assented to]

- Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—General Law Reform) Bill 2008—a message was reported advising that the House had made the amendments requested by the Senate—the third reading of the bill was agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate—see Journals entries [no. 28](#), 12 November 2008 and [no. 32](#), 24 November 2008]

### **Notice of motion to introduce a private senator's bill**

- Renewable Energy Amendment (Increased Mandatory Renewable Energy Target) Bill 2008—notice given by Senator Milne

### **Message from the House of Representatives**

- Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—Superannuation) Bill 2008—[informing the Senate](#) that the House has agreed to 3 amendments made by the Senate, disagreed to 1 amendment and made 4 amendments in its place—the Senate did not insist on its amendment and agreed to the amendments made by the House [This bill will now be assented to]

## **Committees**

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[For scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[For committee reports](#)

### **Document tabled**

- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 13](#) of 2008

### **New inquiries**

#### **Selection of Bills Committee report**

The Senate adopted [report no. 16](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008—Finance and Public Administration Committee—to report by 10 March 2009
- Tax Agent Services Bill 2008—Economics Committee—to report by 12 February 2009

### **Meetings during the sitting of the Senate**

The Senate authorised the following meetings to be held while the Senate is sitting:

- Economics Committee—
  - 26 November 2008 from 4.30pm—matters relating to the gas explosion at Varanus Island, Western Australia
  - 26 November 2008—in camera hearing

### **Notices of motion given to extend reporting deadlines**

- Academic freedom in school and higher education—Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee—to report by 4 December 2008

- Matters specified in part (2) of the inquiry into the management of the Murray-Darling Basin system—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee—to report by 19 March 2009

### **Membership**

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

## **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]

### **Documents tabled**

- Commonwealth Ombudsman—Report for 2007-08 on the Ombudsman's activities under Part V of the *Australian Federal Police Act 1979*
- [Government documents](#)

### **Ministerial statements tabled**

The Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (Senator Sherry) tabled ministerial statements about:

- Australia's response to the global financial crisis
- Promoting free trade in the Asia Pacific region, and a document outlining views that emerged in public consultations

## **Other business**

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

### **Motions agreed to**

- [Agricultural research](#) and development institutions—moved by Senator Payne
- [Cyprus](#)—moved by Senator Xenophon
- [Traveston Crossing Dam](#)—moved by Senator Macdonald

### **Motion negatived**

- [GROCERYchoice website](#)—moved by Senators Barnett and Fisher

### **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)

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