



# Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 10 March 2009

The Senate met from 12.30pm until 11.29pm

## 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

- Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2008-2009  
Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2008-2009  
[passed by the House of Representatives on 25 February 2009]
- Customs Amendment (Enhanced Border Controls and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 12 February 2009]
- Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Identity Crimes and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 23 February 2009]
- Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 6) Bill 2009 [passed by the House of Representatives on 25 February 2009]
- Uranium Royalty (Northern Territory) Bill 2008 [passed by the House of Representatives on 24 February 2009]

The following bill was debated

- Fair Work Bill 2008—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bill was introduced, debated and passed

[passed by the House of Representatives on 26 February 2009]

- Telecommunications Amendment (Integrated Public Number Database) Bill 2009—[3 Government amendments](#) agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the amendments made by the Senate]

### Messages from the House of Representatives

- Auditor-General Amendment Bill 2008 [2009]
- Corporations Amendment (No. 1) Bill 2008 [2009]
- Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 [2009]  
[Agreeing to the bills without amendment. These bills 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

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For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

## Reports tabled

### Reports on legislation

- [Defence Legislation](#) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2008–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee
- [Disability Discrimination](#) and Other Human Rights Legislation Amendment Bill 2008–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee [a motion was moved to take note of the report]
- [Fair Work Bill 2008](#)–Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee
- Federal Court of Australia Amendment (Criminal Jurisdiction) Bill 2008–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee–[Interim report](#) and [further interim report](#) [reporting date for the final report extended to 11 March 2009]
- [Federal Financial Relations](#) Bill 2009 and a related bill–Economics Committee
- Federal Justice System Amendment (Efficiency Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2008–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee–[Interim report](#) and [report](#)
- Foreign Evidence Amendment Bill 2008–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee–[Interim report](#) [reporting date for the final report extended to 11 March 2009]
- [Freedom of Information](#) (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [2009]–Finance and Public Administration Committee
- [Higher Education Legislation](#) Amendment (Student Services and Amenities, and Other Measures) Bill 2009–Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee
- Personal Property Securities Bill 2008 [Exposure draft]–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee–[Interim report](#) [reporting date for the final report extended to 11 March 2009]
- [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (2009 Measures No. 1) Bill 2009–Economics Committee
- [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill 2008–Economics Committee
- [Trade Practices Amendment](#) (Cartel Conduct and Other Measures) Bill 2008–Economics Committee

### Other reports

- Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Joint Committee–[Inquiry into law enforcement integrity models](#) [a motion to take note of the report was moved and agreed to]

- Corporations and Financial Services Joint Committee–[Statutory oversight](#) of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was moved and agreed to]
- Public Works Joint Committee–
  - [1st report of 2009](#)–Enhanced land force stage 1 facilities project
  - 72nd annual report[a [motion](#) to take note of the reports was moved and agreed to]

### Report considered

- Procedure Committee–[First report](#) of 2009 [A [motion](#) that the proposed amendments to the standing orders be adopted was agreed to]

### Document tabled

- Standing Order 37(3)–Access to committee documents–Report to the Senate

### [Interim government response](#) tabled

- Finance and Public Administration Committee–Transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure

### Meetings during Senate sittings

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

- Community Affairs Committee–10 and 11 March 2009–Excise Tariff Amendment (2009 Measures No. 1) Bill 2009 and a related bill
- Electoral Matters Joint Committee–10 March 2009–private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–11 March 2009 from 11.00am to 1.00pm–Auditor-General’s role in scrutinising government advertising campaigns

### Notices of motion given

To establish a select committee

- [Climate Policy Select Committee](#)–to report by 14 May 2009–notice given by Senators Milne and Abetz

To extend reporting deadlines

- Community Affairs Committee–Excise Tariff Amendment (2009 Measures No. 1) Bill 2009 and a related bill–to report by 16 March 2009
- Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee–Australia’s research and training capacity in the area of climate change–to report by 17 September 2009
- Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee–Effectiveness of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and other programs in protecting threatened species and ecological communities–First report–to report by 18 March 2009

#### To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

- Community Affairs Committee–
  - 12 March 2009–Petrol sniffing and substance abuse in central Australia
  - 19 March 2009–Impact of gene patents on the provision of healthcare in Australia
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee–12 March 2009 from 4.30pm–Economic and security challenges facing Papua New Guinea and the island states of the southwest Pacific
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee–Review of Auditor-General’s reports–
  - 18 March 2009 from 11.00am to 1.00pm
  - 19 March 2009 from 9.30am to 11.30am

#### To discontinue an inquiry

- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee–Establishment of an Australian Football League team for Tasmania–[notice](#) given by Senators Abetz, Colbeck, Parry, Bushby and Barnett

#### To refer a matter to a committee

- Exposure draft of the legislation to implement the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme–Economics Committee–to report by 14 April 2009–notice given by the Minister for Climate Change and Water (Senator Wong)

#### Membership

The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership [see Journals entries nos [51](#) and [61](#)].

## 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]

#### Notice of motion withdrawn

The Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances withdrew a [motion](#) to disallow [Accounting Standard AASB 2008-10](#).

#### Orders for the production of documents

##### Notices of motion given

The following notices of motion were given requiring Ministers to table documents:

- Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Ludwig) to table [documents](#) relating to private health insurance–no later than 12.00pm on 16 March 2009–moved by Senator Cormann

- [Documents](#) relating to the Department of the Treasury report, *Australia's Low Pollution Future: The economics of climate change mitigation* to be provided to the Fuel and Energy Select Committee—no later than noon on 13 March 2009—notice given by the Chair of the Select Committee on Fuel and Energy (Senator Cormann)

### Orders with continuing effect

#### *Departmental and agency appointments*

A statement of compliance for the Immigration and Citizenship portfolio was tabled [Lists of appointments made and existing vacancies are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

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

Statements of compliance for [various agencies](#) were 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]

#### *Departmental and agency grants*

A statement of compliance for the Immigration and Citizenship portfolio was tabled [Lists of all grants approved are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

#### *Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet*

Statements of compliance for various agencies were tabled [see Journals entries nos [37](#) and [50](#)] [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

### Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—Audit reports nos 22 to 24 of 2008-09 [see Journals entries nos [36](#) and [45](#)]
- Government documents [see Journals entries nos [2](#) and [35](#)]
- Messages of condolence from [overseas legislatures](#) relating to the Victorian bushfires
- Responses to Senate resolutions about:
  - Agricultural research—from the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr Burke) [resolution agreed to [26 November 2008](#)]
  - Japan's whaling program—from the Ambassador of Japan (His Excellency Mr Takaaki Kojima) [resolution agreed to [5 February 2009](#)] [a [statement](#) was made in relation to the response]
- [A petition](#)

### Ministerial statements tabled

The Minister for Human Services (Senator Ludwig) tabled ministerial statements about:

- Additional employment services and training to respond to the global financial crisis
- Australia-Korea Free Trade Agreement

- ❑ Closing the gap on Indigenous disadvantage: The challenge for Australia [and report]
- ❑ Discussions in Poland on progress in Afghanistan
- ❑ Enhanced Australian engagement with Pakistan
- ❑ International Women's Day

## Other business

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

### Death of former member

The Deputy President informed the Senate of the death on 25 January 2009 of John Murray, MBE, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Herbert from 1958 to 1961.

### Ministerial arrangements

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Evans) and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin) informed the Senate of changes to [ministerial](#) and [shadow ministerial](#) arrangements.

### Manager of Opposition Business

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin) informed the Senate of the appointment of Senator Parry as Manager of Opposition Business.

### Temporary chair of committees

A warrant was tabled nominating Senator McGauran as a temporary chair of committees.

### 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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