



# Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 24 June 2009

The Senate met from 9.30am until 7.30pm

## 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 private senators' bills were introduced

- Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009
- Trade Practices Amendment (Guaranteed Lowest Prices—Blacktown Amendment) Bill 2009

The following bill was debated

- Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Pension Reform and Other 2009 Budget Measures) Bill 2009—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bill was introduced, debated and passed

- Rural Adjustment Amendment Bill 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]

The following bills were passed

- Health Workforce Australia Bill 2009—1 Opposition amendment agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendment](#) made by the Senate]
- Tax Laws Amendment (2009 Budget Measures No. 1) Bill 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]

### Notices of motion

To introduce bills

- Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Test Review and Other Measures) Bill 2009—notice given by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship (Senator Evans)
- Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling Laws) Bill 2009—notice given by Senator Xenophon
- Migration Amendment (Immigration Detention Reform) Bill 2009—notice given by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship (Senator Evans)

- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network Measures No. 1) Bill 2009—notice given by the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy)

To exempt bills from the cut-off order [to enable consideration this period of sittings]

- Coordinator-General for Remote Indigenous Services Bill 2009
  - Migration Amendment (Abolishing Detention Debt) Bill 2009
  - National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Amendment Bill 2009
  - Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment Bill 2009
- notice given by the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig)

To vary the hours of meeting

A [notice](#) was given by Senator Xenophon to vary the hours of meeting for 13 August 2009 to enable the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Bill 2009 and 10 related bills to be considered.

See **Committees** for details of reports relating to legislation

## Committees

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For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

### Reports tabled

Report on legislation

- [Social Security](#) and Other Legislation Amendment (Pension Reform and Other 2009 Budget Measures) Bill 2009—Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Other reports

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—[Inquiry](#) into Australia's relationship with ASEAN [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- Public Accounts and Audit Joint Committee—[Report No. 414](#)—Review of Auditor-General's reports tabled between August 2007 and August 2008 [a [motion](#) to take note of the report was agreed to]
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—[Alert Digest No. 8](#) of 2009 and [7th report](#) of 2009 [contain assessments of bills on civil liberties and related grounds]

### Documents tabled

- Senators' Interests Committee—Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 2 December 2008 and 22 June 2009 [a motion to take note of the document was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]
- Standing order 37(3)—Access to committee documents—Report to the Senate

### [Government response](#) tabled

- President's report of 4 December 2008 on outstanding government responses to parliamentary committee reports

### **New inquiry**

- [Alleged intimidation of a witness](#) before the Economics Legislation Committee–Privileges Committee

### **Reporting dates extended**

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee–Higher Education Support Amendment (2009 Budget Measures) Bill 2009—to report by 5 August 2009
- Finance and Public Administration References Committee–Relationship between the Central Land Council and Centrecorp Aboriginal Investment Corporation Pty Ltd—to report by 30 October 2009

### **Notices of motion given**

To vary the order establishing a committee

- [Privileges Committee](#)—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

To refer matters to a committee

- Privileges Committee—[Matters](#) relating to evidence given to the Economics Legislation Committee at its hearing on 19 June 2009—notice given by the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig) [the President made a [statement](#)]

### **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]

Notice of motion to disallow given

Senator Abetz gave a [notice of motion](#) to disallow the [Directions](#) in Relation to Coercive Powers, made on 17 June 2009 under section 11 of the *Building and Construction Industry Improvement Act 2005*.

### **Orders for the production of documents**

Documents tabled

The Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) tabled documents relating to the Australian Building and Construction Commissioner [The documents were tabled in response to the order of the Senate agreed to on [23 June 2009](#) on the motion of Senator Fisher]

### Notice of motion given

Senator Milne gave a [notice of motion](#) to require the tabling of documents relating to illegal timber imports—no later than 4.00pm on 11 August 2009.

### Orders with continuing effect

#### *Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies*

Statements of compliance for the Climate Change and Water and the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations portfolios were 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]

### Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit report](#) no. 45 of 2008-09
- Australian Parliamentary Delegation—Report—120th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia—4 to 10 April 2009—Bilateral visit to Switzerland—11 to 18 April 2009 [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the report]
- Australian Parliamentary Delegation—Report—Canada, the United States, Italy, Austria, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands—12 April to 3 May 2009 [a motion to take note of the document was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]
- Department of the Senate—Register of Senate Senior Executive Officers' Interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of Senate senior executive officers lodged between 2 December 2008 and 22 June 2009
- [Government document](#)
- [A petition](#)

### Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Employment Participation (Senator Arbib) tabled a ministerial statement on preparing our forest industries for the future [a motion to take note of the statement was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]

### 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

- [Digital broadcasting](#) for community television—moved by Senator Ludlam
- [Parthenon Marbles](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- [Sudan](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- [Treasury modelling](#) of a certain greenhouse gas emission cuts—moved by Senator Milne

### **Motion debated**

The Senate discussed [issues](#) relating to spending and debt, raised by Senator Williams as a matter of public importance. [[first speaker](#)]

### **Statements by President**

The President made a [statement](#) relating to matters raised during question time on 23 June 2009, and a further [statement](#) in response to a matter raised by [Senator Macdonald](#).

### **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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