



Senate Daily Summary

Tuesday, 16 March 2010

The Senate met from 12.30 pm until 10.20 pm

Legislation

[For bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Recreational Fishing for Mako and Porbeagle Sharks) Bill 2010
- ❑ Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care) Bill 2010
- ❑ Higher Education Support Amendment (FEE-HELP Loan Fee) Bill 2010
- ❑ Trans-Tasman Proceedings Bill 2009 and a related bill
[passed by the House of Representatives on 15 March 2010]

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Trade Practices Amendment (Australian Consumer Law) Bill 2009—second reading agreed to [[first speaker](#)] and committee of the whole commenced—22 Government [amendments](#) agreed to and 1 Division; 1 section and 28 items negatived and 6 Government amendments to be determined [further amendments remain to be considered]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009—4 Government amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendments](#) made by the Senate]
- ❑ Midwife Professional Indemnity (Commonwealth Contribution) Scheme Bill 2009 and the Midwife Professional Indemnity (Run-off Cover Support Payment) Bill 2009 [These bills will now be assented to]

Notice of motion to introduce a private senator's bill

- ❑ Water (Crisis Powers and Floodwater Diversion) Bill 2010—notice given by Senator Xenophon

Bill assented to

[Assent](#) to a law was reported in the Senate

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

Committees

For scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

For [committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

Report on legislation

- ❑ [Freedom of Information](#) Amendment (Reform) Bill 2009 and the Information Commissioner Bill 2009—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

Other reports

- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee—[110th Report](#)—Treaties tabled 18, 25 [2] and 26 November 2009 and 2 [2] February 2010 [a [motion](#) to take note of the statement was agreed to]

Documents tabled

- ❑ Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of Racial Discrimination Act) Bill 2009 and other bills—Community Affairs Legislation Committee—Additional information and correction to the report
- ❑ Treaties Joint Committee—106th report—Nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament—Presiding Officers' response [a [motion](#) to take note of the response was agreed to]

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

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

- ❑ Australian Crime Commission Joint Committee—16 March 2010 from 4.30 pm—Private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1)
- ❑ Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee—17 March 2010—In camera hearing

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- ❑ Community Affairs Legislation Committee—
 - Health Practitioner Regulation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010—to report by 11 May 2010
 - Poker Machine (Reduced Losses—Interim Measures) Bill 2009 and a related bill—to report by 30 June 2010

- ❑ Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee—
 - Australia Post's treatment of injured and ill workers—to report by 12 May 2010
 - Energy Efficient Homes Package—to report by 6 May 2010

Notices of motion given

To establish a select committee

- ❑ Reform of the Australian Federation Select Committee—to report by 24 August 2010—notice given by Senator Payne

To refer matters to a committee

- ❑ Matters relating to the Church of Scientology—Economics References Committee—to report by 24 June 2010—notice given by Senator Xenophon

Membership

The Senate agreed to various changes to committee membership [see Journals entries nos [25](#) and [31](#)].

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported:

- ❑ advising that Mr Melham was appointed to the Parliamentary Library Joint Committee
- ❑ agreeing to the amendment made by the Senate relating to the appointment of the Cyber-Safety Joint Select Committee

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]

Orders for the production of documents

Notices of motion given

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

- ❑ Documents relating to the home insulation program—by 12.00 pm on 18 March 2010—moved by Senators Cormann and Birmingham
- ❑ Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) to table the interim report of the National Broadband Network Implementation Study by 9.30 am on 18 March 2010—notice given by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin)
- ❑ Minister representing the Attorney-General (Senator Wong) to table the Government's response to the National Human Rights Consultation report by 4.00 pm on 11 May 2010—notice given by Senator Hanson-Young

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

A statement of compliance for the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations was tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Documents tabled

- ❑ [Government documents](#)
- ❑ Parliamentary zone—proposal and documentation to construct a vehicle storage facility near the loading dock in the Parliament House precinct. A [notice of motion](#) was given to approve the proposal.

Ministerial statement tabled

The Minister for Immigration and Citizenship (Senator Evans) tabled a ministerial statement on the Asia-Pacific conference on aviation security in Tokyo, Japan [a [motion](#) to take note of the statement was agreed to].

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- ❑ [Paid parental leave](#) and retirement incomes—moved by Senator Hanson-Young [debated as a matter of urgency – [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ [Representation of women](#) in the Indian Parliament—moved by Senator Hanson-Young
- ❑ [Renewable energy target legislation](#)—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

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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