



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 18 March 2010

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.52 pm

The Senate has now completed the Autumn sittings and will commence the Budget sittings on [11 May 2010](#).

Legislation

For [bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Anti-People Smuggling and Other Measures Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 17 March 2010]
- ❑ Australian Research Council Amendment Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 17 March 2010]
- ❑ Therapeutic Goods Amendment (2009 Measures No. 3) Bill 2009 [passed by the House of Representatives on 17 March 2010]
- ❑ Therapeutic Goods (Charges) Amendment Bill 2009 [passed by the House of Representatives on 17 March 2010]
- ❑ Water (Crisis Powers and Floodwater Diversion) Bill 2010 [private senators' bill]

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

- ❑ Trans-Tasman Proceedings Bill 2009 and a related bill

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Antarctic Treaty (Environment Protection) Amendment Bill 2010 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2009-2010
Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2009-2010
[These bills will now be assented to]
- ❑ Aviation Transport Security Amendment (2009 Measures No. 1) Bill 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Crimes Legislation Amendment (Sexual Offences Against Children) Bill 2010–2 Government amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendments](#) made by the Senate]

- ❑ Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2008 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care) Bill 2010 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Fisheries Legislation Amendment Bill 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Health Insurance Amendment (Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation) Bill 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2009 [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Social Security and Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Weekly Payments) Bill 2010—a message was reported advising that the House had made the amendments requested by the Senate and the third reading of the bill was agreed to [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Income Support for Students) Bill 2009 [No. 2]—a message was reported advising that the House had made the amendments requested by the Senate and the third reading of the bill was agreed to [See also Messages from the House of Representatives]
- ❑ Textile, Clothing and Footwear Strategic Investment Program Amendment (Building Innovative Capability) Bill 2009—2 Opposition amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider the [amendments](#) made by the Senate]
- ❑ Trans-Tasman Proceedings Bill 2009 and a related bill [These bills will now be assented to]

Messages from the House of Representatives

- ❑ Independent National Security Legislation Monitor Bill 2010—agreeing to the bill without amendments [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Income Support for Students) Bill 2009 [No. 2]—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Trade Practices Amendment (Australian Consumer Law) Bill 2009—agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate [The bill will now be assented to]

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

Report on legislation

- ❑ [Crimes Legislation Amendment](#) (Sexual Offences Against Children) Bill 2010—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Other reports

- Electoral Matters Joint Committee—[Report on the 2007 federal election](#)—Events in the division of Lindsay—Review of penalty provisions in the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* [a motion to take note of the report was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Equity and diversity health check in the Royal Australian Navy—HMAS Success—
 - [Interim report](#) [a motion to establish a final reporting date of 2 September 2010 was agreed to]
 - [Report on parliamentary privilege](#)—Possible interference in the work of the committee
[a [motion](#) to take note of the reports was agreed to]
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—The possible impacts and consequences for public health, trade and agriculture of the Government’s decision to relax import restrictions on beef—[First report](#) [a motion to take note of the report was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]
- Publications Committee—[17th Report](#) [report adopted]

[Government responses](#) tabled

- Economics References Committee—Government’s economic stimulus initiatives
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee—Inquiry into Australia’s relationship with ASEAN
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee—Stolen Generation Compensation Bill 2008
- Treaties Joint Committee—94th report—Treaties tabled on 14 May 2008 [a [statement by leave](#) was made in relation to the response]

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [reports nos 5 and 6](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television) Bill 2010—Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee—to report by 12 May 2010
- Building Energy Efficiency Disclosure Bill 2010—Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee—to report by 11 May 2010
- National Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2010 and the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement Bill 2010—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 15 June 2010
- Personal Property Securities (Corporations and Other Amendments) Bill 2010—Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—to report by 12 May 2010
- Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No. 2) Bill 2010—Economics Legislation Committee—to report by 11 May 2010

- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Fibre Deployment) Bill 2009–Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee–to report by 12 May 2010
- Trade Practices Amendment (Australian Consumer Law) Bill (No. 2) 2010–Economics Legislation Committee–to report by 21 May 2010

Other references

- [Exposure draft of legislation](#) implementing the Government’s announced paid parental leave scheme–Community Affairs Legislation Committee–to report by 3 June 2010
- [Tax Laws Amendment](#) (Confidentiality of Taxpayer Information) Bill 2009–Privileges Committee–to report by 12 May 2010
- [Territories Law Reform Bill 2010](#)–National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee–to report by 11 May 2010

Proposed reference

The Senate did not agree to refer matters relating to the Church of Scientology and possible protection mechanisms to the Economics References Committee. [[first speaker](#)]

Variation to terms of reference

The Senate [varied](#) the terms of reference of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee on the review of government compensation schemes.

Private meeting

The Senate authorised the National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee to hold a private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during the sitting of the Senate on 18 March 2010 from 4.30 pm.

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended the reporting date for the inquiry of the Economics References Committee into the Australian dairy industry to 13 May 2010.

The Senate varied the resolution of the Senate appointing the National Broadband Network Select Committee by omitting the reporting date of “30 April 2010” and substituting “12 May 2010”.

Membership

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

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

Documents tabled

[Documents](#) were tabled in response to an order of the Senate agreed to on [15 March 2010](#), relating to Australian forest cover.

Notice of motion given

Senator Fierravanti-Wells gave a [notice of motion](#) to require documents relating to determination and establishment of new therapeutic groups under the *National Health Act 1953* to be tabled by 12.00 pm on 12 May 2010.

Documents tabled

- [2 petitions](#)

Documents discussed

Government documents and committee reports were discussed.

Ministerial statements tabled

The Minister for Defence (Senator Faulkner) tabled ministerial statements about:

- Report on the conduct of the 2007 federal election, together with the government's response to the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters on the same matter
- Sri Lanka; and

made a [statement](#) about Afghanistan [a motion to take note of the statement was debated and agreed to – [first speaker](#)]

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- [Aboriginal incarceration](#) and deaths in custody–moved by Senator Siewert
- [Allocation of water](#) within the Murray-Darling Basin–moved by Senator Farrell
- [Death of disability advocate](#), Dr Paul Collier–moved by Senators Fifield and Bernardi
- [Parliamentary zone](#)–to approve a proposal for the construction of a vehicle storage facility near the Parliament House loading dock–moved by the Minister for Defence (Senator Faulkner)
- [World Tuberculosis Day](#)–moved by Senators Barnett and Crossin
- [World Water Day](#) and water sanitation programs–moved by Senator Siewert

Motions negated

- [Monitoring and regulation](#) of political advertising–moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- [Nuclear non-proliferation](#)–moved by Senator Ludlam

Motion debated

- [Implementation of Government programs](#)—moved by Senator Parry [[first speaker](#)]

Address by the President of the United States of America

A message from the House of Representatives was reported, inviting senators to attend an address to the House by the Honourable Barack Obama, President of the United States of America on 26 March 2010.

Advances under the annual Appropriations Acts

The [statement of Issues](#) from the advances under the annual Appropriations Acts as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 2009 was approved.

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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