



Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 22 November 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

- ❑ Criminal Code Amendment (Cluster Munitions Prohibition) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 18 November 2010]
- ❑ Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 18 November 2010]
- ❑ Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities) Bill 2010 [passed by the House of Representatives on 18 November 2010]
- ❑ Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2010 [private senator's bill]

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2010—second reading commenced [[first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Territories Law Reform Bill 2010—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) Bill 2010—2 second reading [amendments](#) were agreed to [1 Australian Greens, 1 Senator Xenophon/Family First] [The bill will now be assented to] [For an explanation of second reading amendments, [click here](#)]
- ❑ Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No. 4) Bill 2010—1 amendment moved by Senator Xenophon to the [motion](#) that the report from the committee be adopted was agreed to [Opposition amendments to the bill that were moved and negated during the committee of the whole stage have been referred to the Economics References Committee for inquiry and report by 31 March 2011] [The bill will now be assented to] [For an explanation of an amendment to the motion that the report be adopted, [click here](#)]

Notices of motion

To introduce private senators' bills

- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Anti-Siphoning) Bill 2010—notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- National Broadband Network Financial Transparency Bill 2010—notice given by Senator Birmingham

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

- Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2010 [the notice also allows for the bill to be proceeded with before the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee reports on Schedule 4]
- Family Law Amendment (Validation of Certain Parenting Orders and Other Measures) Bill 2010
- Health Insurance Amendment (Pathology Requests) Bill 2010
- Income Tax Rates Amendment (Research and Development) Bill 2010
- Tax Laws Amendment (Confidentiality of Taxpayer Information) Bill 2010
- Tax Laws Amendment (Research and Development) Bill 2010

—notices given by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Senator Ludwig)

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to a number of laws 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

- Education Services for Overseas Students Legislation Amendment Bill 2010—Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
- Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2010—Schedules 2 and 3—Community Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
- National Health and Hospitals Network Bill 2010—Community Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]

Report considered

- Procedure Committee—[Fourth Report](#) of 2010 [a motion that the proposed amendments to the standing orders be adopted as a temporary order was debated and agreed to — [first speaker](#)]

New committee

A message from the House of Representatives was reported, requesting that the Senate concur with a [resolution](#) to establish a Joint Select Committee on the Parliamentary Budget Office. The Senate concurred with the resolution.

New inquiry

The Senate agreed to an [amendment](#) moved by Senator Xenophon during consideration of the Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No. 4) Bill 2010, referring proposed Opposition amendments to the bill to the Economics References Committee to report by 31 March 2011 [see also **Bills passed**].

Private meeting

The Senate authorised the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee to hold a private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during the sitting of the Senate on 23 November 2010 from 1.50 pm.

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–Civil Dispute Resolution Bill 2010–to report by 2 December 2010
- ❑ Rural Affairs and Transport References Committee–Biosecurity and quarantine arrangements–to report by 28 April 2011

[Notices of motion given](#)

To hold a meeting when the Senate is sitting

- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–25 November 2010 from 4.00 pm–Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Bill 2010 and a related bill

To refer matters to committees

- ❑ Australian Competition and Consumer Commission decision to oppose the proposed acquisition of the Franklins Supermarket business–Economics References Committee–to report by 17 December 2010–[notice given](#) by Senator Boswell
- ❑ Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Prohibition of Support for Whaling) Bill 2010–Environment and Communications Legislation Committee–to report by the end of the Autumn sittings, 2011–notice given by Senator Siewert
- ❑ National Broadband Network–Environment and Communications References Committee–notice given by Senators Fisher and Ludlam
- ❑ Reserve Bank of Australia’s subsidiaries–Economics References Committee–to report by the last sitting day in March 2011–notice given by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
- ❑ The Australian Law Reform Commission–Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–to report by 31 March 2011–notice given by Senator Barnett

Membership

The Senate appointed Senators Cameron and Faulkner as members of the Parliamentary Budget Office Joint Select Committee.

A message from the House of Representatives was reported advising of the appointment of Mr Byrne, Mr Melham, Mr Danby, Mr Wilkie and Mr Ruddock to the Intelligence and Security Joint 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

Related motion agreed to

The Senate agreed to a [motion](#) moved by Senator Cormann which related to orders previously agreed to on 26 October 2010 [see Journals of the Senate, 26 October 2010 – entries nos [11](#), [12](#) and [13](#)].

Notice of motion given

Senator Cormann gave a [notice of motion](#) to require documents relating to a proposed variation to the GST Agreement to be tabled by 5.00 pm on 25 November 2010.

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies

A letter of advice for the Foreign Affairs and Trade 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 grants

Letters of advice for the Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolios were tabled [Lists of all grants approved are [required to be tabled](#) 7 days before the commencement of budget, supplementary budget and additional estimates hearings]

Documents tabled

- Parliamentary zone–proposal and documentation relating to an external expansion to the Abacus childcare centre at the Treasury building. A [notice of motion](#) was given to approve the proposal.

