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1 MEETING OF SENATE

The Senate met at 12.30 pm. The President (Senator the Honourable John Hogg) took the chair and read prayers.

2 NOTICE OF MOTION WITHDRAWN

The Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig) withdrew government business notice of motion no. 1 standing in his name for today, proposing a variation to the days of meeting.

3 CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

The Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig), pursuant to notice, moved government business notice of motion no. 2—That the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111 not apply to the following bills, allowing them to be considered during this period of sittings:

Antarctic Treaty (Environment Protection) Amendment Bill 2010
Crimes Legislation Amendment (Sexual Offences Against Children) Bill 2010
Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Close of Rolls and Other Measures) Bill 2010
Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care) Bill 2010
Social Security and Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Weekly Payments) Bill 2010
Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No. 1) Bill 2010.

Question put and passed.

4 TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (COMPETITION AND CONSUMER SAFEGUARDS) BILL 2009

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water (Senator Wong)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

At 2 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Boyce was speaking.

5 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were answered.

Document: The Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (Senator Carr) tabled the following document:

Environment—Commonwealth radioactive waste dump—Statement responding to the order of the Senate of 25 February 2010 and attachments [2].

Further questions without notice were answered.

6 MOTIONS TO TAKE NOTE OF ANSWERS

Senator Birmingham moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water (Senator Wong) to questions without notice asked by Senators Birmingham and Troeth today relating to the home insulation program.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Senator Ludlam moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (Senator Carr) to a question without notice asked by Senator Ludlam today relating to radioactive waste sites.

Question put and passed.

7 NOTICES

Senators Barnett and Fisher: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) major flaws in the design of the Federal Government's renewable energy target legislation have led to a dramatic drop in the price of renewable energy certificates and stalled investment in the renewable energy sector,
- (ii) the Federal Government has now acknowledged these concerns and foreshadowed legislation to remedy these flaws and advised that the bill will be introduced mid-2010 with a start date of 1 January 2011,
- (iii) delays have already caused a loss of jobs, including at the Musselroe Wind Farm development in north-east Tasmania, and have threatened the proposed expansion of the Hallett Wind Farm in South Australia, and
- (iv) any further delay will cause a further loss of jobs; and

(b) calls on the Government to:

- (i) work cooperatively with industry, the community and the opposition parties to ensure the bill is properly designed and introduced without delay,
- (ii) without delay, release any modelling or other analysis on which this proposal is based, and
- (iii) provide assurances that the legislation will not result in unreasonable additional costs in power prices to end users. (*general business notice of motion no. 740*)

Senator Hanson-Young: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes some of the systematic gender disparities in India where women suffer disproportionately from illiteracy, poverty and low social status;
- (b) recognises that only 10 per cent of seats in India's 795 strong parliament, are held by women, lagging well behind its regional neighbours such as Bangladesh, where the proportion is 15 per cent and Pakistan, where it is 30 per cent; and
- (c) congratulates the Indian Parliament's upper house on passing the first stage of the historic legislation seeking to impose a 33 per cent quota for women in the nation's federal and state assemblies. (*general business notice of motion no. 741*)

The Deputy Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Barnett): To move on the next day of sitting—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee on the provisions of the Anti-People Smuggling and Other Measures Bill 2010 be extended to 15 June 2010. (*general business notice of motion no. 742*)

The Chair of the Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee (Senator Fisher): To move on the next day of sitting—That the time for the presentation of reports of the Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee be extended as follows:

- (a) Australia Post's treatment of injured and ill workers—to 12 May 2010; and
- (b) Energy Efficient Homes Package—to 6 May 2010. (*general business notice of motion no. 743*)

The Chair of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Moore): To move on the next day of sitting—That the time for the presentation of reports of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee be extended as follows:

- (a) provisions of the Health Practitioner Regulation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010—to 11 May 2010; and
- (b) Poker Machine (Reduced Losses—Interim Measures) Bill 2009 and Protecting Problem Gamblers Bill 2009—to 30 June 2010. (*general business notice of motion no. 744*)

The Chair of the Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee (Senator Fisher): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Environment, Communications and the Arts References Committee be authorised to hold an in camera hearing during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 17 March 2010. (*general business notice of motion no. 745*)

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown): To move on 13 May 2010—

- (1) That the Senate—
 - (a) notes that:
 - (i) global population is expected to grow from 6.8 billion people now to 9.2 billion in 2050,
 - (ii) Australia's population size and capacity to sustain population growth at the current rate is an issue of national significance that requires a national population policy and strategic plan as a matter of urgency,
 - (iii) as a wealthy nation, Australia is disproportionately able to influence and slow global population growth, and
 - (iv) there is growing public debate about the question of population size; and
 - (b) calls on the Prime Minister (Mr Rudd) to establish an independent national inquiry into Australia's population to 2050, which is to report by 1 July 2011.
- (2) That, in establishing the inquiry:
 - (a) the chair and panel of the inquiry be appointed with cross-party support to ensure independence;
 - (b) sufficient funds are allocated to ensure that the inquiry holds public hearings in all capital cities and major regional centres across Australia; and

- (c) the terms of reference for the inquiry include:
- (i) the impact on Australia of the growing global population and how best Australia may affect it,
 - (ii) the development of a plan for a population that can be best supported in Australia within and then beyond the next 40 years, taking into account technology options, infrastructure, patterns of resource use and quality of life considerations,
 - (iii) the environmental, social and economic sustainability of Australia's population in the short-, medium- and long-term,
 - (iv) the value of a whole-of-government approach to population incorporating consideration of immigration and family policies,
 - (v) making recommendations of national policy options in relation to population, including taking into account regional and local perspectives, and
 - (vi) any related matters. (*general business notice of motion no. 746*)

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown): To move on 17 March 2010—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the courage of Pete Bethune, the captain of the Sea Shepherd boat the *Ady Gil*, which was sunk in the Southern Ocean while trying to protect whales from illegal poaching; and
- (b) calls on the Australian Government to use all diplomatic channels to provide support for Captain Bethune following his arrest in Japan on trespass charges. (*general business notice of motion no. 747*)

8 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Senator O'Brien, by leave, moved—That leave of absence be granted to the following senators:

- (a) Senator Crossin for today, on account of parliamentary business;
- (b) Senator Lundy for today, for personal reasons;
- (c) Senators Sherry and Wortley for 15 March and 16 March 2010, for personal reasons; and
- (d) Senator Stephens on 16 March 2010, on account of parliamentary business.

Question put and passed.

9 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator O'Brien, by leave and at the request of the Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Crossin), moved—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee on the provisions of the Crimes Legislation Amendment (Sexual Offences Against Children) Bill 2010 be extended to 18 March 2010.

Question put and passed.

10 POSTPONEMENTS

The following items of business were postponed:

Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1 standing in the name of Senator Xenophon for today, proposing a reference to the Community Affairs References Committee, postponed till 12 May 2010.

Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2 standing in the name of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) for today, proposing a reference to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee, postponed till 24 August 2010.

General business notice of motion no. 694 standing in the name of the Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding) for today, proposing the introduction of the Protection of Personal Information Bill 2010, postponed till 16 March 2010.

General business notice of motion no. 738 standing in the name of the Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding) for today, proposing the introduction of the Responsible Takeaway Alcohol Hours Bill 2010, postponed till 16 March 2010.

11 ENVIRONMENT—AUSTRALIAN FOREST COVER—MAPS—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

Senator Milne, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 739—That the Senate—

(a) recalls that:

- (i) the return to order motion that Senator Milne moved on 16 September 2009 seeking a map of Australian forest cover (using the Kyoto definition of forest) for each year since 1990, at the highest available resolution, in any widely used GIS format, to be tabled by 26 October 2009, was supported,
- (ii) the Government tabled a response which stated ‘The Government is pursuing this matter however we are currently unable to satisfy the timeline for the production of these documents owing to the inter-departmental consultations that the order has required’, and
- (iii) 9 weeks later, on 18 November 2009, the Senate again supported the return to order motion and that the Government tabled on 19 November 2009 a response which stated that ‘The Government intends to provide the material requested. We have previously advised the Senate that we have been unable to satisfy the timeline for the production of these documents owing to the inter-departmental consultations that the order has required. These consultations have not yet concluded’;

(b) notes that:

- (i) 6 months has now passed since the first motion was supported, and
- (ii) the scrutiny of the forest cover maps is essential for confidence in the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory; and

(c) calls on the Government to comply with the demand of the Senate and table the maps by 10 am on 18 March 2010.

Question put and passed.

12 FOOD IMPORTATION (BOVINE MEAT STANDARDS) BILL 2010

Pursuant to the order of the Senate of 11 March 2010 (*see entry no. 41, 11 March 2010*), the question was put on the motion of Senator Parry—That the question be now put.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 37

Senators—

Abetz	Bushby	Joyce	Ronaldson
Adams	Cash	Ludlam	Ryan
Back	Colbeck	Macdonald	Siewert
Barnett	Fielding	Mason	Troeth
Bernardi	Fifield	McGauran	Trood
Birmingham	Fisher	Milne	Williams
Boswell	Hanson-Young	Minchin	Xenophon
Boyce	Heffernan	Nash	
Brandis	Humphries	Parry (Teller)	
Brown, Bob	Johnston	Payne	

NOES, 26

Senators—

Arbib	Conroy	Hurley	O'Brien (Teller)
Bilyk	Farrell	Hutchins	Polley
Bishop	Faulkner	Ludwig	Pratt
Brown, Carol	Feeney	Marshall	Stephens
Cameron	Forshaw	McEwen	Sterle
Carr	Furner	McLucas	
Collins	Hogg	Moore	

Question agreed to.

Question—That this bill be now read a second time—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 37

Senators—

Abetz	Bushby	Joyce	Ronaldson
Adams	Cash	Ludlam	Ryan
Back	Colbeck	Macdonald	Siewert
Barnett	Fielding	Mason	Troeth
Bernardi	Fifield	McGauran	Trood
Birmingham	Fisher	Milne	Williams
Boswell	Hanson-Young	Minchin	Xenophon
Boyce	Heffernan	Nash	
Brandis	Humphries	Parry (Teller)	
Brown, Bob	Johnston	Payne	

NOES, 26

Senators—

Arbib	Conroy	Hurley	O'Brien (Teller)
Bilyk	Farrell	Hutchins	Polley
Bishop	Faulkner	Ludwig	Pratt
Brown, Carol	Feeney	Marshall	Stephens
Cameron	Forshaw	McEwen	Sterle
Carr	Furner	McLucas	
Collins	Hogg	Moore	

Question agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.

The Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce) moved—That this bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 36

Senators—

Back	Colbeck	Johnston	Parry
Barnett	Coonan	Joyce	Payne
Bernardi	Cormann	Ludlam	Ronaldson
Birmingham	Fielding	Macdonald	Ryan
Boswell	Fifield	Mason	Siewert
Boyce	Fisher	McGauran	Troeth
Brown, Bob	Hanson-Young	Milne	Trood
Bushby	Heffernan	Minchin	Williams (Teller)
Cash	Humphries	Nash	Xenophon

NOES, 25

Senators—

Arbib	Farrell	Ludwig	Pratt
Bilyk	Feeney	Marshall	Stephens
Bishop	Forshaw	McEwen	Sterle
Brown, Carol	Furner	McLucas	Wong
Cameron	Hogg	Moore	
Carr	Hurley	O'Brien (Teller)	
Conroy	Hutchins	Polley	

Question agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

13 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—IMMIGRATION—BORDER PROTECTION POLICY

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Ryan) informed the Senate that Senator Parry had proposed that the following matter of public importance be submitted to the Senate for discussion:

The Rudd Labor Government's border protection policy, which is responsible for:

- (a) weak and porous borders;
- (b) chaos at the Christmas Island detention facility;
- (c) unsafe attempts to arrive in Australia by sea because of a weakened stance of border security; and
- (d) encouraging people smuggling.

The proposal was supported by four senators and the matter was discussed.

14 PARLIAMENTARY ZONE—CAPITAL WORKS PROPOSAL—DOCUMENTS

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Marshall) tabled the following documents:

Parliament Act—Parliamentary Zone—Proposal, together with supporting documentation, relating to the installation of improved pedestrian lighting within the Parliament House precinct.

Notice of motion: The Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water (Senator Wong), by leave, gave a notice of motion as follows: To move on 18 March 2010—That, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the Senate approves the proposal by the Department of Parliamentary Services to improve exterior lighting within the Parliament House precinct.

**15 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION—DEFENCE AMENDMENT (PARLIAMENTARY
APPROVAL OF OVERSEAS SERVICE) BILL 2008 [No. 2]**

Senator McEwen, at the request of the Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee (Senator Bishop), tabled the following document:

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—Report—Defence Amendment (Parliamentary Approval of Overseas Service) Bill 2008 [No. 2]—Additional information.

16 DOCUMENTS

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:

[Legislative instruments are identified by a Federal Register of Legislative Instruments (FRLI) number]

Christmas Island Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2010 No. 34—Christmas Island (Courts) Amendment Regulations 2010 (No. 1) [F2010L00610]*.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Safety Regulations—Airworthiness Directives—

AD/GAS/1 Amdt 9—Inspection, Test and Retirement [F2010L00632]*.

AD/HS 125/89 Amdt 2—Elevator Mass Balance Side Plate and Spigot [F2010L00635]*.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2010 No. 35—Cocos (Keeling) Islands (Courts) Amendment Regulations 2010 (No. 1) [F2010L00611]*.

Customs Act—

Tariff Concession Orders—

0922439 [F2010L00398]*.

0923933 [F2010L00375]*.

0923934 [F2010L00395]*.

0924411 [F2010L00397]*.

0924955 [F2010L00396]*.

0925286 [F2010L00399]*.

0925658 [F2010L00402]*.

0925824 [F2010L00400]*.

0926550 [F2010L00401]*.

0926581 [F2010L00424]*.

0927401 [F2010L00425]*.

0927859 [F2010L00420]*.

0928637 [F2010L00479]*.

0929074 [F2010L00478]*.

Tariff Concession Revocation Instruments—

41/2009 [F2010L00443]*.

42/2009 [F2010L00444]*.

43/2009 [F2010L00445]*.

44/2009 [F2010L00446]*.

45/2009 [F2010L00447]*.
46/2009 [F2010L00442]*.
47/2009 [F2010L00448]*.
48/2009 [F2010L00449]*.
49/2009 [F2010L00450]*.
50/2009 [F2010L00451]*.
51/2009 [F2010L00452]*.
52/2009 [F2010L00453]*.
53/2009 [F2010L00454]*.
54/2009 [F2010L00456]*.
1/2010 [F2010L00461]*.
2/2010 [F2010L00463]*.
3/2010 [F2010L00589]*.
4/2010 [F2010L00466]*.

Disability Discrimination Act—

Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010 [F2010L00668]*.
Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport Amendment 2010 (No. 1) [F2010L00669]*.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—

Amendments of lists of exempt native specimens—

EPBC303DC/SFS/2010/07 [F2010L00650]*.
EPBC303DC/SFS/2010/08 [F2010L00652]*.
EPBC303DC/SFS/2010/09 [F2010L00656]*.

Instrument adopting and revoking Recovery Plans, dated 1 March 2010 [F2010L00625]*.

Extradition Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2010 No. 36—Extradition (United Arab Emirates) Regulations 2010 [F2010L00601]*.

Federal Financial Relations Act—Federal Financial Relations (National Partnership payments) Determination No. 16 (March 2010) [F2010L00648]*.

Life Insurance Act—Life Insurance (Prudential Standard) Determination No. 2 of 2010—Prudential Standard LPS 320 Actuarial and Related Matters [F2010L00620]*.

Migration Act—Migration Regulations—Instrument IMMI 10/012—Skilled occupations for skills assessments [F2010L00657]*.

Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2010 No. 37—Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (United Arab Emirates) Regulations 2010 [F2010L00604]*.

National Consumer Credit Protection (Fees) Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2010 No. 43—National Consumer Credit Protection (Fees) Regulations 2010 [F2010L00634]*.

Private Health Insurance (National Joint Replacement Register Levy) Act—Private Health Insurance (National Joint Replacement Register Levy) Amendment Rules 2010 [F2010L00671]*.

Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2010 No. 40—Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Amendment Regulations 2010 (No. 1) [F2010L00637]*.

Social Security Act—

Social Security (Deeming Threshold Rates) (DEEWR) Determination 2010 (No. 1) [F2010L00646]*.

Social Security (Deeming Threshold Rates) (FaHCSIA) Determination 2010 (No. 1) [F2010L00649]*.

Superannuation Act 1976—Superannuation (CSS) Assets Transfer (PSS Fund) Determination No. 10 [F2010L00613]*.

Governor-General's Proclamations—Commencement of provisions of Acts

Road Transport Reform (Dangerous Goods) Repeal Act 2009—Schedule 1—5 April 2010 [F2010L00647]*.

Tax Laws Amendment (2009 Measures No. 2) Act 2009—Part 2 of Schedule 6—5 April 2010 [F2010L00629]*.

* Explanatory statement tabled with legislative instrument.

17 INDEXED LISTS OF DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY FILES—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENT

The following document was tabled pursuant to the order of the Senate of 30 May 1996, as amended:

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files for the period 1 July to 31 December 2009—Statement of compliance—Department of Defence.

18 DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY CONTRACTS—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENT

The following document was tabled pursuant to the order of the Senate of 20 June 2001, as amended:

Departmental and agency contracts for 2009—Letter of advice—Health and Ageing portfolio agencies.

19 DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY APPOINTMENTS AND VACANCIES—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENT

The following document was tabled pursuant to the order of the Senate of 24 June 2008, as amended:

Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies—Additional estimates—Letter of advice—Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio agencies.

**20 HEALTHCARE IDENTIFIERS BILL 2010
HEALTHCARE IDENTIFIERS (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2010
OFFSHORE PETROLEUM AND GREENHOUSE GAS STORAGE LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES) BILL 2010
OFFSHORE PETROLEUM AND GREENHOUSE GAS STORAGE (SAFETY LEVIES)
AMENDMENT BILL 2010**

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bills:

Message no. 533, dated 11 March 2010—A Bill for an Act to provide for healthcare identifiers, and for related purposes.

Message no. 532, dated 11 March 2010—A Bill for an Act to deal with consequential matters in connection with the *Healthcare Identifiers Act 2010*, and for related purposes.

Message no. 535, dated 11 March 2010—A Bill for an Act to amend the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*, and for other purposes.

Message no. 536, dated 11 March 2010—A Bill for an Act to amend the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Safety Levies) Act 2003*, and for related purposes.

The Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water (Senator Wong) moved—That these bills may proceed without formalities, may be taken together and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bills read a first time.

Senator Wong moved—That these bills be now read a second time.

Consideration of legislation: Pursuant to order, the debate was adjourned and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the first day in the next period of sittings.

Senator Wong moved—That the bills be listed on the *Notice Paper* as two orders of the day, as follows:

- (a) Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 and Healthcare Identifiers (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010; and
- (b) Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2010 and Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Safety Levies) Amendment Bill 2010.

Question put and passed.

21 ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT (CLOSE OF ROLLS AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2010
SOCIAL SECURITY AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (WEEKLY PAYMENTS) BILL 2010

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bills:

Message no. 537, dated 15 March 2010—A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to elections and referendums, and for related purposes.

Message no. 534, dated 11 March 2010—A Bill for an Act to amend the social security law and family assistance law, and for related purposes.

The Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water (Senator Wong) moved—That these bills may proceed without formalities, may be taken together and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bills read a first time.

Senator Wong moved—That these bills be now read a second time.

Explanatory memorandum: Senator Wong tabled a revised explanatory memorandum relating to the Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Close of Rolls and Other Measures) Bill 2010.

On the motion of Senator Wong the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.
Consideration of legislation: Senator Wong moved—That the bills be listed on the *Notice Paper* as separate orders of the day.
 Question put and passed.

22 GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S MESSAGE—ASSENT TO LAWS

A message from Her Excellency the Governor-General was reported, informing the Senate that she had assented to the following laws:

11 March 2010—Message No. 7—

Australian Astronomical Observatory Act 2010 (Act No. 11, 2010)

Australian Astronomical Observatory (Transitional Provisions) Act 2010 (Act No. 12, 2010)

International Tax Agreements Amendment Act (No. 1) 2010 (Act No. 13, 2010)

Aviation Transport Security Amendment (2009 Measures No. 2) Act 2010 (Act No. 14, 2010)

National Health Security Amendment (Background Checking) Act 2010 (Act No. 15, 2010).

23 FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REPORT—GOVERNANCE OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES BILL 2010 AND RELATED BILLS

Pursuant to order, Senator McEwen, at the request of the Chair of the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee (Senator Polley), tabled the following report and documents:

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Bill 2010 [Provisions], ComSuper Bill 2010 [Provisions] and Superannuation Legislation (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2010 [Provisions]—Report, dated March 2010, Hansard record of proceedings, additional information and submissions.

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator McEwen.

24 COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REPORT—HEALTHCARE IDENTIFIERS BILL 2010 AND HEALTHCARE IDENTIFIERS (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2010

Pursuant to order, Senator McEwen, at the request of the Chair of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Moore), tabled the following report and documents:

Community Affairs Legislation Committee—Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 [Provisions] and Healthcare Identifiers (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010 [Provisions]—Report, dated March 2010, Hansard record of proceedings, documents presented to the committee, additional information and submissions.

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator McEwen.

**25 ECONOMICS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REPORT—TAX LAWS AMENDMENT
(2010 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2010**

Pursuant to order, Senator McEwen, at the request of the Chair of the Economics Legislation Committee (Senator Hurley), tabled the following report and documents:

Economics Legislation Committee—Tax Laws Amendment (2010 Measures No. 1) Bill 2010 [Provisions]—Report, dated March 2010, Hansard record of proceedings, documents presented to the committee and submissions.

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator McEwen.

26 ORDER OF BUSINESS—REARRANGEMENT

The Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water (Senator Wong) moved—That intervening business be postponed till after consideration of government business order of the day no. 2 (Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2009 Measures) Bill 2009).

Question put and passed.

**27 FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS AND
OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2009 MEASURES) BILL 2009**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water (Senator Wong)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Senate resolved itself into committee for the consideration of the bill.

In the committee

Bill taken as a whole by leave.

Question—That the bill be agreed to—divided, at the request of Senator Siewert, in respect of Schedule 3, items 2 and 7.

Schedule 3, items 2 and 7 debated and agreed to.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Troeth) resumed the chair and the Temporary Chair of Committees reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion (Senator Stephens) the report from the committee was adopted and the bill read a third time.

28 ORDER OF BUSINESS—REARRANGEMENT

The Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (Senator Conroy) moved—That government business order of the day no. 1 (Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2009) be postponed till the next day of sitting.

Question put and passed.

29 HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (MIDWIVES AND NURSE PRACTITIONERS)**BILL 2009****MIDWIFE PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY (COMMONWEALTH CONTRIBUTION) SCHEME****BILL 2009****MIDWIFE PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY (RUN-OFF COVER SUPPORT PAYMENT)****BILL 2009**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Special Minister of State (Senator Ludwig)—That these bills be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Senator Siewert moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add “and the Senate calls on the Government:

- (a) to ensure that midwives have access to a contract of insurance that provides midwife professional indemnity cover for a person irrespective of the location or venue of the births that they attend; and
- (b) to undertake a thorough review, 12 months after the regulations under this legislation commence, to ensure that the collaborative arrangements as stipulated in the regulations are effective and have in no way obstructed independent midwifery practice”.

Debate ensued.

At 9.50 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Xenophon was speaking.

30 ADJOURNMENT

The Acting Deputy President (Senator McGauran) proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 10.28 pm till Tuesday, 16 March 2010 at 12.30 pm.

31 ATTENDANCE

Present, all senators except Senators Kroger*, Lundy*, Sherry* and Wortley* (* on leave).

ROSEMARY LAING
Clerk of the Senate