



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday, 28 February 2013

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 8.20 pm

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Migration Amendment (Reinstatement of Temporary Protection Visas) Bill 2013 [No. 2] [private senator's bill] [introducing senator's [second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Pharmaceutical Transparency) Bill 2013 [private senator's bill]

The following bills were debated

- ❑ Foreign Acquisitions Amendment (Agricultural Land) Bill 2010—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Minerals Resource Rent Tax Amendment (Protecting Revenue) Bill 2012—second reading debate commenced [[first speaker](#)]

The following bill was defeated by a majority vote

- ❑ Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Excessive Noise from Wind Farms) Bill 2012—defeated at second reading [[first speaker](#)]

The following bills were passed

- ❑ Courts and Tribunals Legislation Amendment (Administration) Bill 2012 [[first speaker](#)] [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Federal Circuit Court of Australia (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2013 [[first speaker](#)] [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 4) 2012 [[first speaker](#)] [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill 2012 [[first speaker](#)] [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Amendment Bill 2013 [[first speaker](#)] [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment (Compliance Measures) Bill 2012 [[first speaker](#)] [The bill will now be assented to]
- ❑ Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Bill 2012 [[first speaker](#)] [The bill will now be assented to]

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Estimates

[Additional information](#) received relating to estimates hearings was tabled.

Reports tabled

- ❑ National Broadband Network Joint Committee–Review of the rollout of the National Broadband Network–Fourth report [[report](#)] [a motion to take note of the report was debated – [first speaker](#)]
- ❑ Procedure Committee–First report of 2013–Electronic petitions and routine of business [[report](#)] [a [motion](#) was moved to take note of the report] [a [notice of motion](#) was given to adopt the recommendations of the report]
- ❑ Publications Committee–23rd report [[report](#)] [a motion to adopt the report was agreed to]

Documents tabled

- ❑ Regulations and Ordinances Committee–Delegated legislation monitor for 2012

[Government response](#) tabled

- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–Migration Amendment (Removal of Mandatory Minimum Penalties) Bill 2012

New inquiries

Selection of Bills Committee report

The Senate adopted [report no. 2 of 2013](#) of the Selection of Bills Committee, and made the following references:

- ❑ Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013–Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–to report by 27 June 2013
- ❑ Family Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013–Community Affairs Legislation Committee and the Economics Legislation Committee–to report by 18 March 2013
- ❑ Small Business Commissioner Bill 2013–Economics Legislation Committee–to report by 15 May 2013

Other references

- ❑ [Australian citrus industry](#)–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 20 June 2013
- ❑ [Care and management of dementia](#)–Community Affairs References Committee–to report by 26 June 2013
- ❑ [Silent number fee prohibition](#)–Environment and Communications References Committee–to report by 15 May 2013

Reporting dates extended

The Senate extended reporting dates for the following inquiries:

- ❑ Environment and Communications Legislation Committee–Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Retaining Federal Approval Powers) Bill 2012—to report by 12 March 2013
- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–Victims of sexual and other abuse in Defence—to report by 16 May 2013
- ❑ Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee–Native Title Amendment Bill 2012—to report by 18 March 2013

Notice of motion to extend a reporting deadline

- ❑ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–Aid to Afghanistan—to report by 16 May 2013

Membership

The Senate agreed to discharge Senator Siewert from the Corporations and Financial Services 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

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency contracts published on the Internet

Letters of advice for the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolios were tabled [Letters of advice about certain contracts valued at \$100 000 or more entered into by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Document tabled

- ❑ Auditor-General–[Audit report](#) no. 26 of 2012-13

Documents discussed

[Government documents](#), [committee reports](#) and [Auditor-General's reports](#) were discussed.

Other business

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

Motions agreed to

- ❑ [Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service licence fees](#)—moved by Senators Ruston, Xenophon, Madigan and the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne)
- ❑ [Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease](#)—moved by Senator Thistlethwaite
- ❑ [Establishment of a national asbestos authority](#)—moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne)
- ❑ [Military superannuation pension](#)—moved by Senator Ronaldson
- ❑ [Protection of national parks](#)—moved by Senator Waters

Motions negatived

- ❑ [Coal seam gas](#)—moved by Senator Waters
- ❑ [Whaling in the International Whale Sanctuary in the Southern Ocean](#)—moved by Senator Siewert
- ❑ [Joint Strike Fighters](#)—moved by Senator Ludlam
- ❑ [National Health Reform funding](#)—moved by Senator Di Natale

Proposed suspension of standing orders

The Senate debated but did not agree to a [motion](#) moved by Senator Hanson-Young to suspend standing orders to enable debate on a motion relating to comments concerning asylum seekers [[first speaker](#)].

Notices of motion

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals [see items [4](#) and [42](#)].

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

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Contact details

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