

No. 39/2015

Senate Daily Summary

Monday, 10 August 2015

The Senate met from 10 am until 10.25 pm

Senators

The President [announced](#) the resignation, on 10 August 2015, of Senator Christine Milne, a senator for the state of Tasmania

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills introduced

- Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015 and the Medical Research Future Fund (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2015 [passed by the House of Representatives 22 June 2015] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security Amendment Bill 2015 [[private senator's bill](#)]

Bills considered

The following bills were debated

- Migration Amendment (Strengthening Biometrics Integrity) Bill 2015—second reading continued [[first speaker](#)]
- Social Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2015—second reading commenced [[first speaker](#)]

Bills assented to

[Assent](#) to a number of laws was reported in the Senate

Committees

Scheduled [public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports and government responses tabled

- Community Affairs Legislation Committee—Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015 and a related bill [[report](#)]



- Community Affairs References Committee—Availability of new, innovative and specialist cancer drugs in Australia [[interim report](#)]
- Economics References Committee—
 - Digital currency—game changer or bit player [[report](#)]
 - Future of Australia’s naval shipbuilding industry: Long-term planning (part 3) [[report](#)]
- Environment and Communications References Committee—[Response to report](#)—Recent trends in and preparedness for extreme weather events
- Intelligence and Security Joint Committee—
 - Potential reforms of Australia’s national security legislation—[Response to chapters 2 and 3 of report](#)
 - Review of the declaration of al-Raqqa province, Syria—[Response to report](#)
 - Review of the declaration of Mosul district, Ninewa province, Iraq—[Response to report](#)
- Recent Allegations relating to Conditions and Circumstances at the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru Select Committee [[report](#)]
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—
 - Current and future arrangements for the marketing of Australian sugar—Erratum to report
 - Industry structures and systems governing levies on grass-fed cattle—[Response to report](#)
 - Industry structures and systems governing the imposition and disbursement of marketing and research and development (R&D) levies in the agriculture sector [[report](#)]
- Wind Turbines Select Committee [[report](#)]

Membership

The Senate [agreed](#) to vary the membership of committees

Reporting dates extended

The Senate [extended](#) reporting dates for inquiries of various committees

Select committee reappointment

The Senate [agreed](#) to a motion to reappoint the Select Committee on the Recent Allegations relating to Conditions and Circumstances at the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru—to report by 31 August 2015

[Notices of motion](#)

To amend the name of select committee

Abbott Government’s Budget Cuts Select Committee to be known as the Scrutiny of Government Budget Measures Select Committee—amend resolution of 25 June 2014—notice given by the chair of the Select Committee into the Abbott Government’s Budget Cuts (Senator Whish-Wilson)

To hold meetings when the Senate is sitting

National Capital and External Territories Joint Committee—13 August, 20 August, 10 September, 17 September, 15 October, 12 November and 26 November 2015—private meetings, followed by public meetings

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]

Disallowance motions

[Notices of motion](#) to disallow given

- Senators Collins, Wright and Lazarus gave a notice of motion to disallow the Family Law (Fees) Amendment (2015 Measures No. 1) Regulation 2015 as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 114 and made under the *Family Law Act 1975* and the *Federal Circuit Court of Australia Act 1999* [[F2015L01138](#)]
- Senators Leyonhjelm and Muir gave a notice of motion to disallow the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Amendment (Firearms and Firearm Magazines) Regulation 2015 as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 133, made under the *Customs Act 1901* [[F2015L01233](#)]

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

The Senate [ordered](#) the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development to table documents concerning the proposed Perth Freight Link—to table by no later than 5 pm on 11 August 2015

Notice of motion

Senator Ludlam gave a [notice of motion](#) requiring the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment to table documents concerning the proposed Roe 8 extension and Perth Freight Link—to table by no later than 5 pm on 12 August 2015

Proposed order

The Senate [did not agree](#) to a motion requiring the Minister representing the Treasurer to table documents relating to corporate tax avoidance—moved by Senator Whish-Wilson

Orders with continuing effect

Departmental and agency unanswered questions on notice—Estimates hearings

A [statement](#) was tabled [Letters of advice in relation to questions taken on notice are required to be tabled by not later than 10 days before the commencement of the budget estimates, supplementary budget estimates and additional estimates hearings]

Documents tabled

Delegation reports, government documents, ministerial statement relating to the Centenary of Anzac and Anzac Day 2015, reports of the Auditor-General, response to Senate resolution, and Senate documents

Other business

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

Adjournment debate – [first speaker](#)

Death of members of the House of Representatives

The President [informed](#) the Senate of the death of the following members:

- on 14 July 2015, of Albert John (Alby) Schultz, a former member of the House of Representatives for the division of Hume from 1998 to 2013
- on 21 July 2015, of Donald James (Don) Randall, a sitting member of the House of Representatives for the division of Canning from 2001 to 2015, and also a member for the division of Swan from 1996 to 1998

Dissent from decision

Senator Macdonald [debated](#) then subsequently withdrew the [motion](#) to dissent from a decision of the Deputy President [statements were made – [first speaker](#)]

Matter of public importance discussed

Employment—[Unemployment rate](#)—proposed by Senator Moore [[first speaker](#)]

Motions agreed to

- Foreign affairs—[70th anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations](#)—moved by Senators Back and Singh
- Immigration—[Vietnamese community in Australia](#)—moved by Senator Macdonald
- Law and justice—[Use of police sniffer dogs](#)—moved by Senator O’Sullivan [a [statement](#) was made]
- Primary industries—[Australian beef industry](#)—moved by Senators O’Sullivan, Canavan and Williams
- Primary industries—[Genetically-modified crops](#)—moved by Senators Leyonhjelm, Wang and Day
- Regional Australia—[Waltzing Matilda Centre](#)—Fire—moved by Senator Macdonald

Motion denied formality

Foreign affairs—[Foreign aid](#)—moved by Senator Rhiannon [statements were made – [first speaker](#)]

Notices of motion

Further notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals [entries nos [11](#) and [33](#) refer]

Online

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Contact details

Inquiries, comments and suggestions

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