



Senate Daily Summary

Wednesday, 11 December 2013

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.24 pm

Senators

Senators Dastyari and Tillem gave their [first speeches](#)

Legislation

[Bills and related documents](#)

Bills considered

The following bills were introduced

- ❑ Criminal Code Amendment (Harming Australians) Bill 2013 [[private senator's bill](#)]
- ❑ Environment Legislation Amendment Bill 2013 [bill passed by the House of Representatives on 9 December 2013] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Infrastructure Australia Amendment Bill 2013 [bill passed by the House of Representatives on 10 December 2013] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]
- ❑ Migration Amendment (Regaining Control Over Australia's Protection Obligations) Bill 2013 [bill passed by the House of Representatives on 11 December 2013] [[Minister's second reading speech](#)]

The following bill was debated

Climate Change Authority (Abolition) Bill 2013—second reading debate continued [[first speaker](#)]-Opposition second reading amendment to be determined

Message reported

Australian Capital Territory Water Management Legislation Amendment Bill 2013—agreeing to the bill without amendments [The bill will now be assented to]

[Notices of motion](#)

To introduce private senators' bills

- ❑ Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013—notice given by Senator Xenophon

- Defence Legislation Amendment (Woomera Prohibited Area) Bill 2013—notice given by Senator Farrell

Committees

[Scheduled public committee hearings](#)

[Committee reports](#)

Reports tabled

- Performance, importance and role of Australia Post in Australian communities and its operations in relation to licensed post offices—Environment and Communications Legislation Committee [[interim report](#)] [a motion was moved and agreed to relating to the presentation of the final report]
- Examination of annual reports tabled by 30 April 2013:
 - Economics Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
 - Education and Employment Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
 - Environment and Communications Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
 - Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
 - Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
 - Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
 - Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
- Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013:
 - Schedule 2—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee [[report](#)]
 - Schedules 6 and 9—Education and Employment Legislation Committee [[report](#)]

Documents tabled

- Clean Energy Legislation (Carbon Tax Repeal) Bill 2013 and related bills—Environment and Communications Legislation Committee—Additional information
- Effectiveness of the National Assessment Program: Literacy and Numeracy—Education and Employment References Committee—Additional information
- Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment Bill 2013—Education and Employment Legislation Committee—Additional information
- Government's response to the President's report on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports
- Regulations and Ordinances Committee—
 - Delegated legislation [monitor no. 9 of 2013](#)
 - 118th report—Work of the Committee in 2012-13
- Scrutiny of Bills Committee—
 - Future role and direction of the committee—Additional information
 - [Alert digest](#) no. 9 of 2013

New inquiries

The Senate agreed to refer the following matters:

- ❑ Economics References Committee–[Ticket scalping in Australia](#)–to report by 26 March 2014
- ❑ Education and Employment References Committee–[Technical and further education \(TAFE\) in Australia](#)–to report by 13 May 2014 [a [statement](#) was made]

Proposed reference

The Senate did not agree to a [motion](#) to refer to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee a matter relating to the East West Link project [a [statement](#) was made]

Establishment of a select committee

The Senate agreed to a [motion](#) to establish the Select Committee into the Abbott Government's Commission of Audit

[Notices of motion](#)

To establish select committees

- ❑ Senator Carr gave a notice of motion to establish the Select Committee on School Funding–to report by 13 May 2014
- ❑ Senator Xenophon gave a notice of motion to establish the Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform–to report by 30 June 2015

To refer matters to committees

- ❑ Affordable housing–Economics References Committee–to report by 16 July 2014–notice given by Senator McLucas
- ❑ Collection and disbursement of marketing and research and development levies pertaining to the sale of grass-fed cattle–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 28 March 2014–notice given by Senator McKenzie
- ❑ Delivery of quality and affordable early childhood education and care services–Education and Employment References Committee–to report by 17 June 2014–notice given by Senator Hanson-Young
- ❑ Future of beekeeping and pollination service industries in Australia–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 26 March 2014–notice given by Senator Xenophon
- ❑ Future of the childcare sector in Australia–Education and Employment References Committee–to report by 27 March 2014–notice given by Senator Xenophon
- ❑ Public transport–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 13 May 2014–notice given by Senator Moore
- ❑ Referendum on the alteration of the Constitution with regard to marriage–Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–to report by 27 March 2014–notice given by Senator Madigan
- ❑ Revision of the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act–Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–to report by 10 June 2014–notice given by Senator Ludlam

- Use of Fenthion on Australia's horticultural industry—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—to report by 25 June 2014—notice given by Senator Sterle

Membership

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

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]

Proposed disallowance motions

The Senate commenced debate on [motions](#) to disallow various instruments made under the *Aged Care Act 1997*—matter to be determined [[first speaker](#)]

Orders for the production of documents

Document tabled

A [document](#) was tabled in response to the Senate order on the East West Link

Orders with continuing effect

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files published on the Internet

A [statement](#) of compliance for the Attorney-General's portfolio was tabled [Letters of advice about certain files created by departments and agencies are [required to be tabled](#) twice a year]

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to the following orders:

- Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Senator Cash) to table documents relating to [an undetected boat arrival](#)—no later than noon on 12 December 2013 [a statement was made]
- Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Investment to table the [text of free trade agreements](#)—14 days before signing

[Notices of motion](#) given

- Senator Lundy relating to the departmental officials handbook produced by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, to be tabled by the adjournment of the Senate on 12 December 2013
- Senator Rhiannon relating to WestConnex motorway project in New South Wales, to be tabled by 2 January 2014

Documents tabled

- Auditor-General—[Audit report no. 10 of 2013-14](#)
- Australian parliamentary delegation to 129th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly, Geneva, Switzerland, 6 to 10 October 2013

- ❑ [Government documents](#) [and considered]
- ❑ Petition to the Court of Disputed Returns – Mead v Johnston & Ors
- ❑ Presiding Officers' annual statement–Pacific Parliamentary Partnerships
- ❑ Statement of Ministerial Standards

Ministerial statement

The Minister for Defence (Senator Johnston) made a ministerial statement about Afghanistan [statements were made – [first speaker](#)]

Other business

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

[Matters of public interest debate–first speaker](#)

[Adjournment debate–first speaker](#)

Hours of meeting and routine of business

The Senate did not agree to a [motion](#) to vary the hours of meeting and routine of business on 12 December 2013 [statements were made]

Orders relating to the broadcasting of Senate and committee proceedings

The Senate agreed to a [motion](#) to adopt new orders relating to the broadcasting of Senate and committee proceedings

Motions agreed to

- ❑ Administration–[Protection of nationally important species and wilderness places–Responsibility](#)–moved by Senator Waters
- ❑ Communications–[Australian Broadcasting Corporation](#)–moved by Senator Ludlam [[statements](#) were made]
- ❑ [Death of Mr Craig Gleeson and Mr Alistair Lucas](#)–moved by Senators Urquhart, Singh, Polley, Bilyk, Brown and Thorp
- ❑ Education–[Schools funding–Rural areas](#)–moved by Senator Wright
- ❑ Environment–[Great White Shark](#)–moved by Senator Siewert
- ❑ Environment–[Whaling](#)–moved by Senator Whish-Wilson [[statements](#) were made]
- ❑ Foreign affairs–[Saudi Arabia–Migrant workers](#)–moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne)
- ❑ Foreign affairs–[Syria](#)–moved by Senators Moore and Rhiannon
- ❑ Immigration–[Death of asylum seekers](#)–moved by Senator Hanson-Young [[a statement](#) was made]
- ❑ Social issues–[Homelessness](#)–moved by Senator Ludlam

Matter of public importance discussed

Environment–[Queensland–Abbot Point](#)–proposed by Senator Siewert [first speaker]

National Library of Australia–Senate member of Council

Senator Seselja was elected as a member of the Council of the National Library of Australia, on and from 11 December 2013, for a period of 3 years

Notices of motion

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals

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Online

The *Senate Daily Summary* is available at www.aph.gov.au/senate

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Contact details

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