Senate Daily Summary
Wednesday, 29 October 2014

The Senate met from 9.30 am until 7.58 pm

Legislation

Bills and related documents

Bills introduced

The following bills were introduced:

- Civil Law and Justice Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 [Senate bill] [Minister’s second reading speech]
- Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2014 [Senate bill] [Minister’s second reading speech]
- Parliamentary Entitlements Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 [passed by the House of Representatives on 30 September 2014] [Minister’s second reading speech]
- Private Health Insurance Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2014 for concurrence [passed by the House of Representatives on 30 September 2014] [Minister’s second reading speech]

Bills considered

The following bill was debated and passed

Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Foreign Fighters) Bill 2014–79 Government amendments agreed to [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill]

The following bill was debated

Higher Education and Research Reform Amendment Bill 2014 [homepage] [first speaker – second reading debate]

Notice of motion

To vary the days of meeting and routine of business

A notice of motion was given by the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) for the Senate to sit an extra three days (17 November 2014 to 19 November 2014) and to vary the routine of business for 17 November 2014
Committees

Scheduled public committee hearings
Committee reports

Reports and documents tabled

- Community Affairs References Committee–Grandparents raising grandchildren
  [report] [a motion to take note of the report was moved – first speaker]

- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–Australia’s future activities and responsibilities in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic waters [report]
  [a motion to take note of the report was moved – first speaker]

- Regulations and Ordinances Committee–Delegated legislation monitor no. 14 of 2014

- Scrutiny of Bills Committee–
  - 14th report of 2014 and Alert digest no. 14 of 2014
  - Further report relating to the Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Foreign Fighters) Bill 2014 [report]

- Treaties Joint Committee–144th report

Reporting date extended

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee–Comprehensive revision of the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979–to report by 3 December 2014

Meetings during the sitting of the Senate

The Senate authorised meetings of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee and the Health Select Committee to be held while the Senate is sitting

Membership

The Senate agreed to vary the membership of committees

Notices of motion

To refer matters to a committee

- Aspects of road safety in Australia–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 9 September 2015–moved by the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee (Senator Sterle)

- Incentives to privatise state or territory assets–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee–to report by 2 March 2015–moved by Senator Dastyari

2014-15 Supplementary Budget Estimates

To reschedule on 20 November 2014 estimates hearings for the following legislation committees:

- Environment and Communications
- Finance and Public Administration
Legal and Constitutional Affairs

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

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]

Notice of intention to withdraw

The Chair of the Regulations and Ordinances Committee (Senator Williams) gave a notice of intention to withdraw a notice to disallow the Corporations Amendment (Streamlining Future of Financial Advice) Regulation 2014, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2014 No. 102 and made under the Corporations Act 2001 [F2014L00891] [a statement was made]

Orders for the production of documents

Document tabled

The Assistant Minister for Health (Senator Nash) tabled a document relating to the order for the production of documents concerning the Future Fund’s analysis of the risks to its portfolio posed by climate change [The document was tabled in response to the order of the Senate of 28 October 2014]

Motions agreed to

The Senate ordered the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Senator Cash) to table a copy of advice relating to the decision to suspend the humanitarian intake from Ebola-affected countries–by 3 pm on 30 October 2014

The Senate ordered the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann), and the Minister representing the Minister for Communications (Senator Fifield) to table a copy of the NBN Co Corporate Plan 2014-17–by 3.30 pm on 24 November 2014

Notices of motion

- Senator Moore gave a notice of motion to require the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture (Senator Abetz) to table any document concerning arrangements or changes in biosecurity functions–by 3.30 pm on 24 November 2014

- Senator Moore gave a notice of motion to require the Minister representing the Prime Minister (Senator Abetz) to table copies of correspondence between the Prime Minister’s Office and other ministers or their offices concerning the approval of international travel by members of the executive–by 3.30 pm on 24 November 2014

- Senator Xenophon gave a notice of motion to require the Minister for Defence (Senator Johnston) to table copies of certain documents relating to the SEA1000 submarine project–by 4 pm on 30 October 2014
Documents tabled, and considered

- 2 petitioning documents [Journal entries 24 and 25 refer]
- Documents, pursuant to order [and considered]

Other business

Questions without notice and issues arising during question time–first question
Senators’ statements–first speaker
Adjournment debate–first speaker

Motions agreed to

- Family and community services–Public housing–proposed by Senator Rhiannon, as amended
- Foreign affairs–Ebola virus–proposed by Senator Siewert [debated as a matter of urgency – first speaker]
- Health–Brain tumours–International Brain Tumour Awareness Week–proposed by Senators Bilyk, Ryan, Di Natale and Xenophon
- Industry–Energy costs–proposed by Senator O’Sullivan [a statement was made]
- Science and technology–Renewable technologies–Sunswift University of New South Wales solar racing team–proposed by Senator Rhiannon [a statement was made]
- Women–International Day of the Girl Child–Gender equality–proposed by Senator Waters

Motions negatived

Parliament–Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement–Access to draft text–moved by Senator Whish-Wilson [statements were made – first speaker]

Messages from the House of Representatives

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported, inviting senators to attend the House as guests on the following days:

- 14 November 2014 at 11.10 am for the welcoming remarks by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, and the address by the Right Honourable David Cameron MP, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
- 17 November 2014 at 3.35 pm for the welcoming remarks by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, and the address by His Excellency Mr Xi Jinping, President of the People’s Republic of China
- 18 November 2014 at 10.15 am for the welcoming remarks by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, and the address by the Honourable Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India

Notices of motion

Notices of motion given today are available in the Senate Journals
Online


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Contact details

Inquiries, comments and suggestions: phone 6277 3021

e-mail: [sds@aph.gov.au](mailto:sds@aph.gov.au)