

**Senate Standing Committee
for the
Scrutiny of Bills**



Alert Digest

No. 10 of 2007

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Members of the Committee

Senator R Ray (Chair)
Senator J Adams (Deputy Chair)
Senator G Barnett
Senator A McEwen
Senator A Murray
Senator S Parry

Terms of Reference

Extract from **Standing Order 24**

- (1) (a) At the commencement of each Parliament, a Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills shall be appointed to report, in respect of the clauses of bills introduced into the Senate, and in respect of Acts of the Parliament, whether such bills or Acts, by express words or otherwise:
- (i) trespass unduly on personal rights and liberties;
 - (ii) make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon insufficiently defined administrative powers;
 - (iii) make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon non-reviewable decisions;
 - (iv) inappropriately delegate legislative powers; or
 - (v) insufficiently subject the exercise of legislative power to parliamentary scrutiny.
- (b) The committee, for the purpose of reporting upon the clauses of a bill when the bill has been introduced into the Senate, may consider any proposed law or other document or information available to it, notwithstanding that such proposed law, document or information has not been presented to the Senate.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Commentary on bills

- APEC Public Holiday Bill 2007 5
- Maritime Legislation Amendment Bill 2007 6
- Migration Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Rights and Procedural Fairness) Bill 2007 8
- Water Bill 2007 9
- Water (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2007 16

Commentary on amendments to bills 17

Scrutiny of standing appropriations 18

- **The Committee has commented on these bills**

This Digest is circulated to all Honourable Senators.
Any Senator who wishes to draw matters to the attention of the
Committee under its terms of reference is invited to do so.

APEC Public Holiday Bill 2007

Introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 August 2007
Portfolio: Employment and Workplace Relations

Background

This bill ensures that all employees in the federal workplace relations system that are affected by the public holiday on 7 September 2007 can access public holiday entitlements for that day. The public holiday was declared by the New South Wales Government for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders Meeting and applies to specified Sydney metropolitan areas.

Retrospective effect Subclause 7(3)

Subclause 7(3) would permit the making of regulations that may have retrospective effect, in derogation of subsection 12(2) of the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*.

As a matter of practice, the Committee draws attention to any bill that seeks to have retrospective impact and will comment adversely where such a bill has a detrimental effect on people. In this instance, the Committee notes the advice in the explanatory memorandum (page 3) that '[p]roposed subclause 7(2) would allow regulations to be made to remedy any unforeseen or unintended consequences that may arise...after the APEC public holiday' and that 'the power to make retrospective regulations would not extend so far as to allow the Commonwealth to create, modify, or otherwise affect a provision that makes a person liable to an offence or civil penalty.'

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this provision.

Maritime Legislation Amendment Bill 2007

Introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 August 2007

Portfolio: Transport and Regional Services

Background

This bill repeals the *Maritime College Act 1978* and amends the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*, the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, and the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973* to facilitate the integration of the Australian Maritime College (AMC) with the University of Tasmania. The bill:

- transfers all AMC assets and liabilities to the University and provides continuity for AMC's ongoing operations within the University structure;
- contains funding conditions that the University must comply with in order to access certain government funding and establishes a mechanism for the Minister to assess compliance;
- requires the University to report on key aspects of the College's operations within the University;
- provides for an agreement to be negotiated between the Department of Transport and Regional Services and the University to deal with land assets to be transferred to the University as a result of the integration; and
- requires the Minister to cause a review to be undertaken of the integration of the College with the University and the objectives, effectiveness and efficiency of the AMC institute.

The bill also amends the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990* to clarify the Australian Maritime Safety Authority's powers in relation to disclosure of information.

The bill also contains consequential provisions.

Commencement on Proclamation Schedule 1

Item 2 in the table to subclause 2(1) of this bill provides that the amendments proposed in Schedule 1 will commence on Proclamation, but if they do not commence before 1 January 2009 they do not commence at all. The Committee takes the view that Parliament is responsible for determining when laws are to come into force. The Committee will generally not comment where the period of delayed commencement is six months or less. Where the delay is longer the Committee expects that the explanatory memorandum to the bill will provide an explanation, in accordance with Paragraph 19 of Drafting Direction No. 1.3.

In this instance the Committee notes that the explanatory memorandum (page 2) states that the purpose of the bill is to amalgamate the Australian Maritime College into the University of Tasmania, and that it is hoped that it will be proclaimed to commence on 1 January 2008. However, if that deadline cannot be met, the commencement would have to be delayed for a year because of the ‘calendar year basis on which academic institutions operate.’

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this provision.

Migration Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Rights and Procedural Fairness) Bill 2007

Introduced into the Senate on 8 August 2007

By Senator Bartlett

Background

This bill seeks to repeal certain provisions of the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977* and the *Migration Act 1958* which:

- restrict access to Federal and High Court judicial review of administrative decisions under the Migration Act;
- prevent and limit courts from ordering the release of immigration detainees whilst an appeal seeking their release is before the courts;
- exclude the common law rule of procedural fairness; and
- increase the Minister's power to refuse or cancel visas on character grounds.

The bill also seeks to eliminate the system of mandatory migration detention.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

Water Bill 2007

Introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 August 2007

Portfolio: Environment and Water Resources

Background

This bill gives effect to a number of key elements of the Commonwealth Government's \$10.05 billion *National Plan for Water Security*, announced by the Prime Minister on 25 January 2007. The bill:

- establishes an independent Murray-Darling Basin Authority with the functions and powers, including enforcement powers, needed to ensure that Basin water resources are managed in an integrated and sustainable way;
- requires the Authority to prepare a strategic plan for the management of resources in the Murray-Darling Basin and establishes mandatory content for the plan;
- establishes a Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder to manage the Commonwealth's environmental water, both within the Murray-Darling Basin and outside the Basin where the Commonwealth owns water;
- provides the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) with a key role in developing and enforcing water charge and water market rules along the lines agreed in the *National Water Initiative*; and
- provides the Bureau of Meteorology with water information functions that are in addition to its existing functions under the *Meteorology Act 1955*.

The bill also contains application and transitional provisions.

**‘Henry VIII’ clauses
Clauses 18 and 62**

Clause 18 and clause 62 both allow regulations to modify the operation of parts of this bill and are, therefore, ‘Henry VIII’ clauses. Since its establishment, the Committee has consistently drawn attention to ‘Henry VIII’ clauses and other provisions which (expressly or otherwise) permit subordinate legislation to amend or take precedence over primary legislation. Such provisions clearly involve a delegation of legislative power and are usually a matter of concern to the Committee. Clauses 18 and 62 create such a delegation of legislative power.

The Committee notes, however, that in respect of Clause 18 the explanatory memorandum (page 7) indicates that the purpose of such modification is to ensure that any legislation of the Commonwealth will operate concurrently with, or subject to, any state legislation. The Committee further notes that, in respect of clause 62, the explanatory memorandum (page 16) indicates that this ‘regulation-making power is one to be exercised rarely, in circumstances where compliance with the water resource plans would be inappropriate or jeopardise other important policy objectives.’

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on these provisions.

**Legislative Instruments Act—disallowance
Paragraphs 63(7)(b) and 65(7)(b) and subclause 64(3)**

Paragraphs 63(7)(b), and 65(7)(b) provide that a decision by the Minister to accredit (or not to accredit) a water resource plan or an amendment thereto is a legislative instrument, but that it is exempt from the disallowance provisions in section 42 of the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*. Similarly, subclause 64(3) provides that a decision by the Minister to extend or further extend the period for which accreditation has affect is a legislative instrument but is exempt from the disallowance provisions in section 42 of the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*.

The explanatory memorandum (paragraphs 116, 121 and 119 respectively) seeks to justify these exemptions on the grounds that they will ‘avoid the significant uncertainty in the management of [the Murray-Darling] Basin water resources that would arise if an accredited water resource plan that had been given effect under Basin State law is subsequently disallowed by the Commonwealth Parliament.’

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on these provisions.

Determination of important matters by regulation Subclauses 63(9) and 65(9)

Subclauses 63(9) and 65(9) would permit regulations to provide for ‘the time within which the steps provided for in [sections 63 and 65 respectively] are to be taken and the process to be followed in taking [these] steps.’ The Committee notes that the ‘steps provided for’ in these sections include the Minister causing ‘a copy of a statement that sets out the Minister’s reasons for not following the Authority’s recommendation [to accredit or not to accredit a water resource plan or amendments to a water resource plan] to be laid before the [Parliament]’, along with a copy of the legislative instrument recording the Minister’s decision. It therefore appears to the Committee that the effect of subclauses 63(9) and 65(9) would be for the regulations to be able to specify the process and timelines for the registration and tabling of these documents in the Parliament - powers that the Committee considers would be more appropriately included in primary legislation.

The Committee **seeks the Minister’s advice** whether the regulations will be able to specify the process and timelines for the registration and tabling of these documents in the Parliament and if so, why it was considered necessary to include this power in delegated legislation. The Committee also **seeks the Minister’s advice** whether the explanatory memorandum could be amended to clarify this issue.

Pending the Minister’s advice, the Committee draws Senators’ attention to the provisions, as they may be considered to delegate legislative powers inappropriately, in breach of principle 1(a)(iv) of the Committee’s terms of reference.

Determination of important matters by regulation Subclauses 92(10) and 97(8)

Subclauses 92(10) and 97(8) would permit water charge rules and water market rules – both of which are, by virtue of subclauses 92(2) and 97(2), legislative instruments – to impose a civil penalty of 200 penalty units (currently \$22,000) for a contravention of a provision of either of the rules.

The Committee notes the advice included in the explanatory memorandum (paragraph 184) that the ‘level of penalty was set after consultation with the ACCC about an appropriate penalty level for this type of conduct’ but, given the size of the penalty involved (currently \$22,000), questions whether these offence-making powers might be more appropriately exercised by the Parliament. The Committee **seeks the Minister’s advice** as to why it was considered necessary for these offences to be able to be created by legislative instrument rather than by primary legislation.

Pending the Minister’s advice, the Committee draws Senators’ attention to these provisions, as they may be considered to delegate legislative powers inappropriately, in breach of principle 1(a)(iv) of the Committee’s terms of reference.

Apparent error Subclause 92(10)

The Committee notes that subclause 92(10) provides that ‘the civil penalty for a contravention of a provision specified under subsection (7) is 200 penalty units.’ Subclause 92(7) provides that the water charge rules may provide for the ACCC to determine the amount of regulated water charges imposed. Subclause 92(9) allows the water charge rules to provide that a particular provision of the rules is a civil penalty provision. As such, the Committee **seeks the Minister’s advice** whether the cross reference in subclause 92(10) should be to subclause 92(9) rather than to subclause 92(7).

Incorporation of extrinsic material
Subclause 131(1)

Subclause 131(1) would permit the Director of Meteorology, when issuing National Water Information Standards which, by virtue of subclause 130(1), are legislative instruments, to apply, adopt or incorporate any matter contained in any other standard, as in force from time to time, in derogation of subsection 14(2) of the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*. The Committee notes, however, that subclause 131(3) obliges the Director of Meteorology to ensure that, if a National Water Information Standard applies or incorporates matter from another standard, the text of that standard, as in force from time to time, must be available on the website of the Bureau of Meteorology. It therefore follows that the public will at all times have access to the current form of the relevant Water Standard.

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this provision.

Legislative Instruments Act—disallowance and sunseting
Subclause 135(3)

Subclause 135(3) provides that a direction by the Minister to the Director of Meteorology made under subclause 135(1), is a legislative instrument, but that ‘neither section 42 (disallowance) nor part 6 (sunseting) of the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003* applies to the direction.’ The Committee notes that the explanatory memorandum (paragraph 249) advises that this is because the Legislative Instruments Act itself exempts Ministerial directions from the disallowance and sunseting provisions of that Act.

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this provision.

Legislative Instruments Act—determinations Subclauses 201(6), 202(8) and 203(3)

Subclauses 201(6), 202(8) and 203(3) provide that instruments made under subclauses 201(1), 202(1) and 203(1) respectively, to establish various advisory committees, are not legislative instruments. Where a provision specifies that an instrument is *not* a legislative instrument, the Committee would expect the explanatory memorandum to explain whether the provision is merely declaratory (and included for the avoidance of doubt) or expresses a policy intention to exempt an instrument (which *is* legislative in character) from the usual tabling and disallowance regime set out in the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*. Where the provision is a substantive exemption, the Committee would expect to see a full explanation, justifying the need for the provision, in the explanatory memorandum.

The Committee notes that, in this instance, the explanatory memorandum makes no reference to subclauses 201(6), 202(8) and 203(3). The Committee **seeks the Minister's advice** whether these provisions are declaratory in nature or provide for a substantive exemption and whether it would be possible to include this information, together with a rationale for any substantive exemptions, in the explanatory memorandum.

Pending the Minister's advice, the Committee draws Senators' attention to the provisions, as they may be considered to insufficiently subject the exercise of legislative power to parliamentary scrutiny, in breach of principle 1(a)(v) of the Committee's terms of reference.

Entry to premises Subclause 220(1)

Clause 220 outlines the obligations of an authorised officer before entering premises under clause 219. Subclause 220(1) provides that:

‘An authorised officer is not authorised to enter premises under section 219 unless:

- (a) the officer has given reasonable written notice to the occupiers of the officer's intention to enter the premises; and
- (b) if the premises is residential premises—an occupier of the premises has voluntarily consented to the entry; and
- (c) the officer has shown his or her identity card if required by an occupier; and
- (d) the officer has given the occupiers a written statement of the occupiers' rights and obligations in relation to the officer's proposed entry to the premises.'

The Committee notes that paragraph 220(1)(b) requires voluntary consent to the entry if the premises is a residential premises, but the clause remains silent on whether voluntary consent is required if the premises is non-residential. The Committee further notes that the explanatory memorandum is also silent on this point.

The Committee **seeks the Minister's advice** whether there is a requirement that voluntary consent be given before an authorised officer enters non-residential premises under clause 219 and if not, why not. The Committee also **seeks the Minister's advice** whether this issue could be addressed in the explanatory memorandum.

Pending the Minister's advice, the Committee draws Senators' attention to the provision, as it may be considered to trespass unduly on personal rights and liberties, in breach of principle 1(a)(i) of the Committee's terms of reference.

Water (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2007

Introduced into the House of Representatives on 8 August 2007

Portfolio: Environment and Water Resources

Background

This bill makes consequential amendments to the *Meteorology Act 1955*, the *National Water Commission Act 2004* and the *Trade Practices Act 1974* to enable the Bureau of Meteorology, the National Water Commission and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to carry out new functions provided for in the Water Bill 2007.

The Committee has no comment on this bill.

COMMENTARY ON AMENDMENTS TO BILLS

Crimes Legislation Amendment (National Investigative Powers and Witness Protection) Bill 2007

On 7 August 2007 the Senate agreed to 19 amendments to the bill, one of which falls within the Committee's terms of reference.

Retrospective commencement Schedule 7, item 1

New item 3 in the table to subclause 2(1) of the bill, to be inserted by amendment No. 1, provides for new item 1 of schedule 7 (to be inserted by amendment No. 19) to commence on 30 December 2006, 'immediately after the commencement of item 4 of schedule 1 to the *Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner (Consequential Amendments) Act 2006*. The Committee notes that the supplementary explanatory memorandum (page 3) indicates that new item 1 of schedule 7 'inserts a penalty in subsection 60A(2) of the Australian Federal Police Act which was inadvertently repealed by the *Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner (Consequential Amendments) Act 2006*. The proposed amendment does not alter the elements of the offence. Retrospective application of the penalty provision will address the current inability to prosecute breaches of the offences.'

In the circumstances, the Committee makes no further comment on this provision.

Federal Magistrates Amendment (Disability and Death Benefits) Bill 2006

On 9 August 2007 the House of Representatives agreed to seven amendments to the bill, none of which fall within the Committee's terms of reference.

SCRUTINY OF STANDING APPROPRIATIONS

The Committee has determined that, as part of its standard procedures for reporting on bills, it should draw senators' attention to the presence in bills of standing appropriations. It will do so under provisions 1(a)(iv) and (v) of its terms of reference, which require the Committee to report on whether bills:

- (iv) inappropriately delegate legislative powers; or
- (v) insufficiently subject the exercise of legislative power to parliamentary scrutiny.

Further details of the Committee's approach to scrutiny of standing appropriations are set out in the Committee's *Fourteenth Report of 2005*. The following is a list of the bills containing standing appropriations that have been introduced since the beginning of the 41st Parliament.

Bills introduced with standing appropriation clauses - 41st Parliament

*Indicates passed by Senate	Bills and Clauses
*	Aged Care (Bond Security) Bill 2005 – clause 17
*	Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) amendment Bill 2007 – Schedule 1, item 52, section 58 (CRF appropriated by virtue of section 21 of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>)
*	Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation amendment (2007 Measures No. 1) Bill 2007 – Schedule 1, item 18, subsection 64C(2) and 64D(2)
*	Appropriation (Regional Telecommunications Services) Bill 2005-2006 – clause 13
*	Asbestos-related Claims (Management of Commonwealth Liabilities) Bill 2005 – subclause 8(2)
*	Asbestos-related Claims (Management of Commonwealth Liabilities) (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2005 – subclause 5(3)
*	Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Bill 2006 – clause 49
*	Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Bill 2005 – clause 23
*	Australian Trade Commission Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 – Schedule 4, item 16

*	Child Support Legislation Amendment (Reform of the Child Support Scheme—Initial Measures) Bill 2006 – Schedule 5, subitem 20(3)
	Federal Magistrates Amendment (Disability and Death Benefits) Bill 2006 – Schedule 1, item 13, section 9G
*	Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Bill 2004 – Schedule 1, item 397, paragraphs 124(1)(b) and (c) and item 422, subsection 235(2) [also Schedule 1, items 58, 63, 82, 86, 95, 99, 114, 135, 136, 145, 153, 164, 169, 182, 197, 205, 218, 261, 293, 317, 324, 370, 419, 437, 448, 484 and 493 – CRF appropriated by virtue of section 21 of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>]
*	Forestry Marketing and Research and Development Services Bill 2007 – clause 9
*	Forestry Marketing and Research and Development Services (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Bill 2007 – Schedule 1, subitem 16(4)
*	Future Fund Bill 2006 – section 12 (CRF appropriated by virtue of section 21 of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>)
*	Governance Review Implementation (Treasury Portfolio Agencies) Bill 2007 – Schedule 1, items 12 and 63 (CRF appropriated by virtue of section 21 of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>) and Schedule 2, subitems 2(3) and (4)
*	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Amendment Bill 2007 – Schedule 1, item 29 (CRF appropriated by virtue of section 28 of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>), Schedule 1, item 32 (CRF appropriated by virtue of section 21 of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>) and Schedule 2, subitem 2(4)
	Higher Education Support Amendment (Extending FEE-HELP for VET Diploma and VET Advanced Diploma Courses) Bill 2007 – Schedule 1, item 16 [NB bill repeals existing standing appropriation in section 164-25 (item 15 of Schedule 1) and inserts a new standing appropriation in item 16]
*	Housing Loans Insurance Corporation (Transfer of Assets and Abolition) Repeal Bill 2006 – Schedule 2, subitem 1(3)
*	Housing Loans Insurance Corporation (Transfer of Pre-transfer Contracts) Bill 2006 – clause 9
*	Human Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 – Schedule 2, subitem 720(4)
*	Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Bill 2004 – Schedule 1, item 3, subsection 14A(1)
*	Medibank Private Sale Bill 2006 – Schedule 2, subitem 8(1)
	Migration Amendment (Designated Unauthorised Arrivals) Bill 2006 – Schedule 1, subitem 43(3)
*	National Water Commission Bill 2004 – CRF appropriated by virtue of section 21 of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>

	Northern Territory Emergency Response Bill 2007 – section 63
*	Offshore Petroleum Bill 2005 – clause 56
*	Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Amendment Bill 2006 – Schedule 1, item 17, section 10B
*	Private Health Insurance Bill 2006 – clause 282-40 and subclause 318-5
*	Private Health Insurance (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 – subclause 39(2)
*	Schools Assistance (Learning Together—Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity) Bill 2004 – clause 133
*	Skilling Australia’s Workforce Bill 2005 – clause 40
	Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Payment Reform) Bill 2007 – Schedule 1, section 123ZN
*	Social Security and Veterans’ Entitlements Legislation Amendment (One-off Payments to Increase Assistance for Older Australians and Carers and Other Measures) Bill 2006 – Schedule 4, subitem 1(4)
*	Social Security and Veterans’ Affairs Legislation Amendment (One-off Payments and Other 2007 Budget Measures) Bill 2007 – Schedule 2, subitems 1(4) and 2(4) and Schedule 4, subitem 1(4)
*	Superannuation Bill 2005 – subclause 29(4)
*	Superannuation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2005 – Schedule 5, item 1, subsection 4AA(5) and Schedule 6, item 1, subsection 12A(5)
*	Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Future Proofing and Other Measures) Bill 2005 – Schedule 1, item 1, subsections 158ZO(4), 158ZP(7) and 158ZQ(5) and Schedule 3, item 1, subsection 136C(4)
*	Textile Clothing and Footwear Strategic Investment Program Amendment (Post-2005 Scheme) Bill 2004 – Schedule 1, item 12, section 37ZH and subsection 37ZJ(3)
*	Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Bill 2004 – CRF appropriated by virtue of section 21 of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>

Other relevant appropriation clauses

*Indicates Passed by Senate	Bills and Clauses
*	AusLink (National Land Transport—Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004 – Schedule 2, item 3: special appropriation clause – for a finite amount and a finite period of time.
*	Social Security Legislation Amendment (One-off Payments for Carers) Bill 2005 – Schedule 2, item 1: special appropriation clause – for a finite period of time (i.e. for circumstances arising in a particular financial year).

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE SCRUTINY OF BILLS

INDEX OF BILLS COMMENTED ON AND MINISTERIAL RESPONSES SOUGHT/RECEIVED - 2006/2007

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE		REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE		SOUGHT	RECEIVED	
Bills dealt with in 2006							
Airspace Bill 2006	15(6.12.06) 1(7.2.07)	29.11.06	6.2.06	Transport and Regional Services	7.12.06 8.2.07	26.2.07 26.2.07	2(28.2.07) 2(28.2.07)
Australian Energy Market Amendment (Gas Legislation) Bill 2006	15(6.12.06)	29.11.06	22.3.07	Industry, Tourism and Resources	7.12.06	6.2.07	1(7.2.07)
Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Bill 2006	11(11.10.06)	14.9.06	12.10.06	Veterans' Affairs	12.10.06	7.2.07	2(28.2.07)
<i>Copyright Amendment Act 2006</i>	13(8.11.06)	19.10.06	1.12.06	Attorney-General	--	29.1.07	1(7.2.07)
Fuel Quality Standards (Renewable Content of Motor Vehicle Fuel) Amendment Bill 2006	10(13.9.06)	4.9.06	--	Mr Katter	14.9.06	--	RNP
Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill 2006	7(9.8.06)	19.6.06	--	Mr Katter	10.8.06	--	RNP
Bills dealt with in 2007							
<i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory Amendment (Township Leasing) Act 2007</i>	6(13.6.07)	24.5.07	14.6.07	Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	14.6.07	5.7.07	8(8.8.07)

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE		REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE		SOUGHT	RECEIVED	
ACIS Administration Amendment (Unearned Credit Liability) Bill 2007	2(28.2.07)	7.2.07	26.2.07	Industry, Tourism and Resources	1.3.07	20.3.07	3(21.3.07)
Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2007	4(28.3.07)	21.3.07	21.6.07	Ageing	29.3.07	8.5.07	5(9.5.07)
Airport Development and Aviation Noise Ombudsman Bill 2007	2(28.2.07)	12.2.07		Mr Georganas	1.3.07	21.3.07	4(28.3.07)
Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Bill 2007	2(28.2.07)	15.2.07	1.3.07	Justice and Customs	1.3.07	16.3.07	3(21.3.07)
Appropriation (Northern Territory National Emergency Response) Bill (No. 1) 2007-2008	9(13.8.07)	7.8.07	8.8.07	Finance and Administration	13.8.07		
Appropriation (Northern Territory National Emergency Response) Bill (No. 2) 2007-2008	9(13.8.07)	7.8.07	8.8.07	Finance and Administration	13.8.07		
<i>Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research Amendment Act 2007</i>	6(13.6.07)	10.5.07	12.6.07	Foreign Affairs	14.6.07 21.6.07	19.3.07 21.6.07	7(20.6.07) 8(8.8.07)
Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Testing) Bill 2007	6(13.6.07)	30.5.07	8.8.07	Immigration and Citizenship	14.6.07	12.7.07	8(8.8.07)
Aviation Legislation Amendment (2007 Measures No. 1) Bill 2007	8(8.8.07)		21.6.07	Transport and Regional Services	9.8.07		

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE		REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE		SOUGHT	RECEIVED	
Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Additional Screening Measures) Bill 2007	2(28.2.07)	14.2.07	1.3.07	Transport and Regional Services	1.3.07	16.3.07	3(21.3.07)
Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Debt Agreements) Bill 2007	2(28.2.07)	15.2.07	20.3.07	Attorney-General	1.3.07	15.3.07	3(21.3.07)
Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Contributions) Bill 2006	1(7.2.07)	1.3.07	6.12.06	Attorney-General	8.2.07	26.2.07	2(28.2.07)
Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2007	5(9.5.07)	28.3.07	9.5.07	Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	10.5.07		
Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment Bill 2006	1(7.2.07)	7.12.06	8.2.07	Attorney-General	8.2.07	26.2.07	2(28.2.07)
<i>Communications Legislation Amendment (Content Services) Act 2007</i>	6(13.6.07)	10.5.07	12.6.07	Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	14.6.07 21.6.07	19.6.07 7.8.07	7(20.6.07) 8(8.8.07)
Corporations Amendment (Insolvency) Bill 2007	6(13.6.07)	31.5.07	9.8.07	Treasurer	14.6.07	7.8.07	8(8.8.07)
<i>Corporations Legislation Amendment (Simpler Regulatory System) Act 2007</i>	6(13.6.07)	31.5.07	14.6.07	Treasurer	14.6.07	21.6.07	8(8.8.07)
Education Services for Overseas Students Legislation Amendment Bill 2007	4(28.3.07)	22.3.07	9.5.07	Education, Science and Training	29.3.07	26.4.07	5(9.5.07)
Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation (Welfare to Work and Vocational Rehabilitation Services) Bill 2006	1(7.2.07)	7.12.06	27.2.07	Employment and Workplace Relations	8.2.07 1.3.07	22.2.07 15.3.07	2(28.2.07) 3(21.3.07)

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE		REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE		SOUGHT	RECEIVED	
Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Northern Territory National Emergency Response and Other Measures Bill 2007	9(13.8.07)	7.8.07	8.8.07	Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	13.8.07		
Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment (Child Support Reform Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill 2007	5(9.5.07)	29.3.07	9.5.07	Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	10.5.07	28.5.07	6(13.6.07)
Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2007	6(13.6.07)	10.5.07	21.6.07	Finance and Administration	14.6.07		
Financial Sector Legislation Amendment (Discretionary Mutual Funds and Direct Offshore Foreign Insurers) Bill 2007	8(8.8.07)	21.6.07		Treasurer	9.8.07		
<i>Financial Sector Legislation Amendment (Restructures) Act 2007</i>	6(13.6.07)	24.5.07	14.6.07	Treasurer	14.6.07	3.8.07	8(8.8.07)
Financial Sector Legislation Amendment (Simplifying Regulation and Review) Bill 2007	8(8.8.07)	21.6.07		Treasurer	9.8.07		
Fisheries Legislation Amendment Bill 2007	6(13.6.07)	23.5.07	13.6.07	Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	14.6.07	19.6.07	7(20.6.07)
Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment Bill 2007	5(9.5.07)	18.6.07	28.3.07	Health and Ageing	10.5.07	31.5.07	6(13.6.07)

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE		REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE		SOUGHT	RECEIVED	
<i>Forestry Marketing and Research and Development Services Act 2007</i>	5(9.5.07)	29.3.07	12.6.07	Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation	10.5.07 14.6.07 1.6.07	8.6.07 19.6.07 20.7.07	6(13.6.07) 7(20.6.07) 8(8.8.07)
Gene Technology Amendment Bill 2007	5(9.5.07)	10.5.07	28.3.07	Health and Ageing	10.5.07	29.5.07	6(13.6.07)
Health Insurance Amendment (Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation) Bill 2007	5(9.5.07)	29.3.07	12.6.07	Health and Ageing	10.5.07	12.6.07	6(13.6.07)
Health Insurance Amendment (Inappropriate and Prohibited Practices and Other Measures) Bill 2007	5(9.5.07)	29.3.07	10.5.07	Health and Ageing	10.5.07	12.6.07	6(13.6.07)
Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2007 Budget Measures) Bill 2007	6(13.6.07)	24.5.07	14.6.07	Education, Science and Training	14.6.07	19.6.07	7(20.6.07)
Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2007 Measures No. 1) Bill 2007	3(21.3.07)	28.2.07	9.5.07	Education, Science and Training	22.3.07	27.3.07	4(28.3.07)
Higher Education Support Amendment (Extending FEE-HELP for VET Diploma and VET Advanced Diploma Courses) Bill 2007	8(8.8.07)	21.6.07		Education, Science and Training	9.8.07		
Human Services (Enhanced Service Service Delivery) Bill 2007	2(28.2.07)	7.2.07	28.2.07	Human Services	1.3.07	27.3.07	4(28.3.07)
International Trade Integrity Bill 2007	7(20.6.07)	14.6.07		Attorney-General	21.6.07	16.7.07	8(8.8.07)
Judges' Pensions Amendment Bill 2007	7(20.6.07)	14.6.07	14.8.07	Attorney-General	21.6.07	5.7.07	8(8.8.07)

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE		REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE		SOUGHT	RECEIVED	
Liquid Fuel Emergency Amendment Bill 2007	5(9.5.07)	28.3.07	12.6.07	Industry, Tourism and Resources	10.5.07	1.6.07	6(13.6.07)
Maritime Legislation Amendment (Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) Bill 2006	1(7.2.07)	6.12.06	26.2.07	Transport and Regional Services	8.2.07	26.2.07	2(28.2.07)
Murray-Darling Basin Amendment Bill 2006	1(7.2.07)	7.12.06		Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	8.2.07	8.5.07	5(9.5.07)
<i>Native Title Amendment (Technical Amendments) Act 2007</i>	5(9.5.07)	29.3.07	12.6.07	Attorney-General	10.5.07	4.6.07 28.6.07	6(13.6.07) 8(8.8.07)
Non-Proliferation Legislation Amendment Bill 2006	1(7.2.07)	1.3.07	6.12.06	Foreign Affairs	8.2.07	27.2.07	2(28.2.07)
Northern Territory National Emergency Response Bill 2007	9(13.8.07)	7.8.07	8.8.07	Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	13.8.07		
Privacy Protection for Off-shoring Bill 2007	8(8.8.07)	18.6.07		Ms Burke	9.8.07		
<i>Private Health Insurance Act 2007 Amendments</i>	1(7.2.07) 4(28.3.07)	7.12.06	26.2.07	Health and Ageing	8.2.07 29.3.07	26.2.07 8.5.07	2(28.2.07) 5(9.5.07)
Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Payment Reform) Bill 2007	9(13.8.07)	7.8.07	8.8.07	Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	13.8.07		

NAME OF BILL	ALERT DIGEST	INTRODUCED		MINISTER	RESPONSE		REPORT NUMBER
		HOUSE	SENATE		SOUGHT	RECEIVED	
<i>Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (One-off Payments and Other 2007 Budget Measures) Act 2007</i>	6(13.6.07)	9.5.07	10.5.07	Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	14.6.07	5.7.07	8(8.8.07)
Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 7) 2006	1(7.2.07)	7.12.06	7.2.07	Treasurer	8.2.07 1.3.07	27.2.07 15.3.07	2(28.2.07) 3(21.3.07)
Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2007	7(20.6.07)	14.6.07		Attorney-General	21.6.07	19.7.07	8(8.8.07)
Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2007 Measures No. 1) Bill 2007	5(9.5.07)	28.3.07	12.6.07	Veterans' Affairs	10.5.07	1.6.07	6(13.6.07)
Workplace Relations Amendment (A Stronger Safety Net) Bill 2007 Amendment	6(13.6.07)	28.5.07	13.6.07	Employment and Workplace Relations	14.6.07 9.8.07	19.6.07	7(20.6.07)

