

Department: Department of the Senate
Topic: Committees

Senator: Senator Wong
Question no: 4
Question type: Oral

Senator WONG: Dr Laing, on notice, could you provide the committee with details of the Senate Select Committee on Scrutiny of New Taxes from the previous parliament, including composition, the duration of inquiries and the total cost?

Dr Laing: I can do that.

Answer

The Senate Select Committee on New Taxes was created on 30 September 2010. Later that same day, the Senate agreed to a motion to amend the name of the Committee to be the Select Committee on the Scrutiny of New Taxes.

The composition of the Committee was seven senators as follows: two nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, four nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and one nominated by any minority group or independent senator.

The committee was required to report by 30 November 2011 and during that time completed five inquiries which were tabled as follows:

1. The Student Amenities Fee – Another Tax by Another Name (28 February 2011)
2. Interim Report – New Taxes Monitoring Database (21 March 2011)
3. The Mining Tax: A Bad Tax out of a Flawed Process (29 June 2011)
4. Interim Report – The Carbon Tax: Economic Pain for no Environmental Gain (7 October 2011)
5. Final Report – The Carbon Tax: Secrecy and Spin Cannot Hide Carbon Tax flaws (1 November 2011)

Staffing costs were approximately \$190,000. Other expenses for the committee such as travel and printing totalled \$63,400.