



AUSTRALIAN SENATE
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National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008 and National Rental Affordability Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008

On 25 September 2008 the Senate, on the recommendation of the Selection of Bills Committee, referred the provisions of the National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008 and National Rental Affordability Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 to the Committee for inquiry and report by 20 November 2008.

Reasons provided for referral of the Bills and principal issues for consideration are:

- whether the Bills are targeted to deliver affordable housing to those in greatest need;
- whether the Bills are an efficient and effective way to deliver increased affordable housing; and
- whether the Bills facilitate investment in social housing by not for profit community housing organisations, as well as private investors.

The Bill, explanatory memorandum and second reading speeches may be accessed at these links:

[National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008](#)

[National Rental Affordability Scheme \(Consequential Amendments\) Bill 2008](#)

The Minister noted in the second reading speech that regulations are currently being drafted and an exposure draft will be made available.

The Committee invites you to provide a written submission addressing issues that may be of relevance to you. The submission should be lodged by 24 October 2008. The Committee prefers to receive submissions electronically as an attached document – email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au – otherwise by fax (02 6277 5829).

Submissions become Committee documents and are made public only after a decision by the Committee. Publication of submissions includes loading them onto the internet and their being available to other interested parties including the media. Persons making submissions must not release them without the approval of the Committee. Submissions are covered by parliamentary privilege but the unauthorised release of them is not protected. Information relating to Senate Committee inquiries, including notes to assist in the preparation of submissions for a Committee, can be located on the Internet at http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit_sub/index.htm

The Committee intends to hold public hearings on the Bills in early November.

Should you require further information please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 3515.