



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT

REFERENCES COMMITTEE

4 April 2012

Inquiry into Australia's biosecurity and quarantine arrangements

INTERIM REPORT

On 23 June 2010, the Senate referred an inquiry into Australia's biosecurity and quarantine arrangements to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee for inquiry and report by 22 November 2010.

On 22 November 2010, the Senate extended the reporting date to 28 April 2011. The reporting date was further extended to 21 March 2012 and 4 April 2012.

The committee held hearings on 14 February 2011, 7 and 8 July 2011 and 21 July 2011.

On 12 December 2011, the committee tabled an Interim report titled *Biosecurity and quarantine arrangements – Interim report: the management of the removal of the fee rebate for AQIS export certification functions*.

The committee intends to table its final report on Australia's biosecurity and quarantine arrangements by 5 April 2011 which would allow it to fully consider the evidence and conclude its deliberations.

Yours sincerely,

Senator the Hon. Bill Heffernan
Chair