# Journals of the Senate

**No. 110**  
**Thursday, 20 August 2015**

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1 **MEETING OF SENATE**

The Senate met at 9.30 am. The President (Senator the Honourable Stephen Parry) took the chair, read prayers and made an acknowledgement of country.

2 **DOCUMENTS**

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk pursuant to statute:

[Legislative instruments are identified by a Federal Register of Legislative Instruments (FRLI) number. An explanatory statement is tabled with an instrument unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk.]

- **Defence Act 1903**—Section 58B—Compassionate leave and long service leave – amendment—Defence Determination 2015/32.

- **Post indexes**—amendment—Defence Determination 2015/33.


- **Radiocommunications Act 1992**—
  - Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Maritime Coast Licence) Determination 2015 [F2015L01283].
  - Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Scientific Licence) Determination 2015 [F2015L01284].
  - Radiocommunications (Minimum Age for Issue of Certificates of Proficiency) Declaration 2015 [F2015L01286].

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk pursuant to order:


- **Indexed lists of departmental and agency files for the period 1 January to 30 June 2015**—Statement of compliance pursuant to the order of the Senate of 30 May 1996, as amended—Immigration and Border Protection portfolio.

3 **COMMITTEE—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING**

A committee was authorised to meet during the sitting of the Senate, as follows:

- Environment and Communications References Committee—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) today, from 1 pm.

4 **VACANCY IN THE REPRESENTATION OF TASMANIA—CHOICE OF NICHOLAS JAMES MCKIM**

The President informed the Senate that he had received, through the Governor-General, from the Governor of Tasmania, a copy of the certificate of the choice by the Parliament of Tasmania of Nicholas James McKim to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Milne.
The President tabled the copy of the certificate as follows:

Government House
Tasmania

Her Excellency
Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AM

19 August 2015
His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
Government House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that, pursuant to Section 15 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, a Joint Sitting of the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly was held on 19 August 2015 to fill a vacancy in the representation of the State of Tasmania in the Senate that arose from the resignation of Senator Christine Milne.

Based on the advice I have received from the Speaker of the House of Assembly who was the Presiding Officer at the Joint Sitting, I certify that the Honourable Nicholas James McKim has been chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant through the said resignation of Christine Milne.

Yours sincerely,
Kate Warner
Governor.

Senator sworn: Senator McKim, pursuant to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, then made and subscribed the affirmation of allegiance at the table.

5 **Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Consumer Lease Exclusion) Bill 2015**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Cameron—
That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

*Time expired*: The time for general business orders of the day for the consideration of bills reached the limit of 2 hours 20 minutes.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Ruston in continuation.

6 **Notices**

The Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Williams): To move 15 sitting days after today—


No. 2—That the Private Health Insurance (Registration) Amendment Rules 2015 (No. 1), made under item 7 of the table in section 333-20 of the Private Health Insurance Act 2007, be disallowed [F2015L00765].

No. 3—That the Jervis Bay Territory Emergency Management Ordinance 2015, made under the Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915, be disallowed [F2015L00774].
Senator Siewert: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that legislation amending the Western Australian Constitution to recognise Aboriginal people as the first peoples of Western Australia recently passed in the Lower House of the Western Australian State Parliament; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to keep up the momentum in moving towards substantive constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia’s Federal Constitution. (general business notice of motion no. 830)

The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield): To move on the next day of sitting—That consideration of the business before the Senate on Wednesday, 9 September 2015 be interrupted at approximately 5 pm, but not so as to interrupt a senator speaking, to enable Senator McKim to make his first speech without any question before the chair.

Notice of motion withdrawn: Senator McEwen, at the request of Senator Carr, withdrew general business notice of motion no. 822 standing in the name of Senator Carr for today, proposing an order for the production of documents by the Minister representing the Minister for Industry and Science.

7 SELECTION OF BILLS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT NO. 10 OF 2015

The Chair of the Selection of Bills Committee (Senator Bushby) tabled the following report:

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 10 OF 2015

1. The committee met in private session on Wednesday, 19 August 2015 at 7.16 pm.

2. The committee resolved to recommend—That—

(a) the provisions of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Bill 2015 be referred immediately to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 15 September 2015;

(b) contingent upon their introduction in the House of Representatives, the provisions of the Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Legislation Amendment Bill 2015, the Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Fees Imposition Bill 2015 and the Register of Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land Bill 2015 be referred immediately to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 12 October 2015;

(c) the Motor Vehicle Standards (Cheaper Transport) Bill 2014 be referred immediately to the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 28 October 2015;

(d) the Parliamentary Expenses Amendment (Transparency and Accountability) Bill 2015 be referred immediately to the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in the first sitting week of February 2016; and

(e) the provisions of the Social Security Legislation Amendment (Debit Card Trial) Bill 2015 be referred immediately to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 12 October 2015.

3. The committee resolved to recommend—That the following bills not be referred to committees:

   Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Primary Television Broadcasting Service) Bill 2015
Civil Law and Justice (Omnibus Amendments) Bill 2015.

The committee recommends accordingly.

4. The committee considered the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Standing) Bill 2015 but was unable to reach agreement.

5. The committee deferred consideration of the following bills to its next meeting:
   Aged Care Amendment (Independent Complaints Arrangements) Bill 2015
   Australian Centre for Social Cohesion Bill 2015
   Banking Laws Amendment (Unclaimed Money) Bill 2015
   Competition and Consumer Amendment (Australian Country of Origin Food Labelling) Bill 2015
   Corporations Amendment (Publish What You Pay) Bill 2014
   Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Inter-State Voyages) Bill 2015
   Marriage Equality Plebiscite Bill 2015
   Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Caring for Single Parents) Bill 2014
   Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 4) Bill 2015

David Bushby
Chair
20 August 2015.

Senator Bushby moved—That the report be adopted.

The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add, “and in respect of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Standing) Bill 2015, the provisions of the bill be referred to the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 12 October 2015”.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and passed.

Main question, as amended, put and passed.

8 ORDER OF BUSINESS—REARRANGEMENT

The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) moved—That—
(a) the following government business orders of the day be considered from 12.45 pm today:
   No. 2 Australian Defence Force Superannuation Bill 2015
   Australian Defence Force Cover Bill 2015
   Defence Legislation Amendment (Superannuation and ADF Cover) Bill 2015
   Passports Legislation Amendment (Integrity) Bill 2015; and
(b) government business be called on after consideration of the bills listed in paragraph (a) and considered till not later than 2 pm today.

Question put and passed.
Senator Fifield moved—that the order of general business for consideration today be as follows:

(a) general business notice of motion no. 826 standing in the name of Senator Moore relating to National Science Week; and

(b) orders of the day relating to documents.

Question put and passed.

9 COMMITTEES—EXTENSIONS OF TIME TO REPORT

The following committees were granted extensions of time to report:

Economics References Committee—Forestry managed investment schemes, extended to 12 November 2015.

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—Circumstances surrounding a letter sent to the Attorney-General, extended to 9 September 2015.

10 TAXATION—GOODS AND SERVICES TAX—WOMEN’S SANITARY PRODUCTS—DOCUMENT

Senator Waters, by leave, tabled the following document:

Taxation—Goods and services tax—Women’s sanitary products—Petitioning document from 101 945 signatories calling for the removal of the goods and services tax from women’s sanitary products.

11 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REFERENCES

Senator McEwen, at the request of the Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee (Senator Gallacher) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1—

That the following matter be referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in March 2016:

The capability of Defence’s physical science and engineering (PSE) workforce, with particular reference to:

(a) the importance of the PSE workforce to Defence projects;

(b) the current PSE capability within Defence, the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) and the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO);

(c) the potential risks of a skills shortage in the PSE workforce and a decline in Defence’s PSE capability;

(d) the ability of Defence to have relevant PSE capabilities to meet future technological needs;

(e) the ability of new technologies discovered by the PSE workforce to be incorporated into Australia’s defence capability planning;

(f) the effect of project outsourcing on Defence’s PSE capability;

(g) the ability to attract and retain a highly skilled PSE workforce in Defence, DMO and DSTO; and

(h) any other related matters.

Statement by leave: The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield), by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

Question put and passed.
Senator Bushby, at the request of the Deputy Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee (Senator Back) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2—
That the following matter be referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for inquiry and report by 3 December 2015:

Australia’s relationship with Mexico, with particular reference to:

(a) Mexico’s continued elevation in the global geo-political and economic order and its implications for Australia;
(b) opportunities for enhanced relations, including the potential for increased bilateral engagement and also through jointly held memberships such as the G20, APEC, OECD and MIKTA;
(c) potential opportunities for enhanced trade and investment ties, in particular those emanating from the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP);
(d) the scope for increased collaboration in the education sector and the potential for extending scholarship programs to Mexico;
(e) the scope for increased trade and commercial exchange in the resources sectors with particular reference to hard rock mining and the oil and gas sector in the Gulf of Mexico;
(f) the scope for cross investment and joint ventures in Australian and Mexican infrastructure projects; and
(g) any other related matters.

Question put and passed.

12 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REFERENCE

Senator Rice, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 3—That the following matter be referred to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 16 September 2015:

The matter of a popular vote, in the form of a plebiscite or referendum, on the matter of marriage in Australia, with particular reference to:

(a) an assessment of the content and implications of a question to be put to electors;
(b) an examination of the resources required to enact such an activity, including the question of the contribution of Commonwealth funding to the ‘yes’ and ‘no’ campaigns;
(c) an assessment of the impact of the timing of such an activity, including the opportunity for it to coincide with a general election;
(d) whether such an activity is an appropriate method to address matters of equality and human rights;
(e) the terms of the Marriage Equality Plebiscite Bill 2015 currently before the Senate; and
(f) any other related matters.

Question put and passed.
13 ADMINISTRATION—NEW SOUTH WALES—LOCAL COUNCIL AMALGAMATIONS

Senator Rhiannon, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 825—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) the Federal Government will give over $2.6 billion in grants to local governments in 2015-16, and this amount is frozen until at least 2017-18, cutting $287 million from local councils’ budgets,

(ii) the New South Wales State Government is proposing to dramatically reduce the number of councils through amalgamations in its ‘Fit for the Future’ process,

(iii) the New South Wales Office of Local Government has not produced any evidence to support the notion that amalgamations produce lower council rates, and

(iv) local councils are closest to the community and are in the best position to identify and respond to the needs of the community, and in each jurisdiction where forced amalgamations have been imposed on communities, residents have faced significant rate increases and diminished local representation; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to write to the New South Wales State Government demanding it abandon the ‘Fit for the Future’ process and support the right of communities to determine the future of their own local councils through municipal-wide referendums.

Statements by leave: Senator Moore and the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield), by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 10

Di Natale
Hanson-Young
Ludlam

McKim
Rhiannon
Rice

Stewart (Teller)
Waters

Whish-Wilson
Wright

NOES, 40

Back
Bilyk
Bullock
Bushby
Cameron
Canavan
Colbeck
Collins
Edwards
Fawcett

Fierravanti-Wells
Fifield
Gallacher
Gallagher
Johnston
Ketter
Lazarus
Leyonhjelm
Landgren
Lines

Ludwig
Madigan
McAllister
McEwen (Teller)
McGrath
McKenzie
McLucas
Moore
Muir

O’Neill
O’Sullivan
Peris
Polley
Reynolds
Ruston
Ryan
Smith
Sterle

Wang
Williams

Question negatived.
14 **LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REFERENCE**

The Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee (Senator Lazarus), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 4—That the following matter be referred to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in June 2016:

The establishment of a national registration system for Australian paramedics to improve and ensure patient and community safety, with particular reference to:

(a) the role and contribution made by those in the paramedic profession, including the circumstances in which they are required to operate;

(b) the comparative frameworks that exist to regulate the following professions, including training and qualification requirements and continuing professional development:
   (i) paramedics,
   (ii) doctors, and
   (iii) registered nurses;

(c) the comparative duties of paramedics, doctors and registered nurses;

(d) whether a system of accreditation should exist nationally and, if so, whether the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency is an appropriate body to do so;

(e) the viability and appropriateness of a national register to enable national registration for the paramedic profession to support and enable the seamless and unrestricted movement of paramedic officers across the country for employment purposes; and

(f) any other related matters.

Question put and passed.

15 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS—AFGHANISTAN—SUPPORT ASSOCIATION FOR THE WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN**

Senator Wright amended general business notice of motion no. 823 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:
   (i) the costs of political unrest fall disproportionately on the rights and wellbeing of women, and
   (ii) the Support Association for the Women of Afghanistan (SAWA)—Australia was established in 2004, and that SAWA—Australia (South Australia) was set up in 2010 as its first state branch;

(b) acknowledges the valuable work of these organisations, dedicated to raising funds and awareness for human rights, education, nutrition, health, safety and improving the self-esteem of Afghanistan’s women and children; and

(c) acknowledges and welcomes the ongoing work of Professor Matthias Tomczak in his role as convenor of SAWA—Australia (South Australia) and as a leader in promoting the rights and wellbeing of women in Afghanistan.

Question put and passed.
16 **SPORT—NETBALL WORLD CUP**

Senator McKenzie, also on behalf of Senator McAllister, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney-General (Senator Fierravanti-Wells), the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women (Cash) and Senator Siewert, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 827—

That the Senate—

(a) congratulates the Australian Netball Diamonds on their achievement in claiming a record 11th world title;

(b) recognises the wonderful success of Australia in hosting the world’s top 16 netball nations over 10 days and 64 matches for the 14th edition of the Netball World Cup, an event estimated to have contributed more than $6 million in visitor expenditure, with an ever larger cumulative impact to the economy from around 4 000 domestic and international visitors, culminating in a final before a new world record crowd of 16 752 spectators; and

(c) notes that:

(i) the Australian Sports Diplomacy Strategy 2015-18 has been developed to take full advantage of partnerships between the Australian Government and sporting organisations in hosting major sporting events, establishing and maximising people-to-people links, development, cultural, trade, investment, education and tourism opportunities, and

(ii) the Netball World Cup, Sydney 2015, has joined the AFC Asian Cup and the ICC Cricket World Cup as showcases of Australia’s excellence in hosting major sporting events on the global stage.

Question put and passed.

17 **HEALTH—LYME DISEASE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**

Senator Moore, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 820—That the Senate—

(a) notes the hard work of the Lyme Disease Association of Australia in its ongoing work to raise awareness and funds to provide ongoing advocacy for people living with Lyme disease;

(b) recognises that Lyme disease can be debilitating and have a devastating impact on the lives of people living with it; and

(c) calls on the Government to continue to work with the Lyme Disease Association of Australia to accept Lyme disease as a disease, undertake research, develop a national plan to collect statistics, and develop treatments for people living with Lyme disease.

Question put and passed.

18 **MINING—QUEENSLAND—GALILEE BASIN AND ABBOT POINT**

Senator O’Sullivan, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 824—That the Senate notes:

(a) the importance of the Galilee Basin and Abbot Point to the future development of northern Australia;

(b) the ongoing support of the Queensland and the Australian governments for the responsible and sustainable development of the Galilee Basin and Abbot Point;

(c) the actions of anti-coal activists which have delayed billions of dollars in investment and thousands of much needed jobs; and
(d) the importance of maintaining the reputation of Queensland and Australia as a mining and resource hub by removing legal loopholes that allow for the hijacking of approval processes for political purposes.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 33

Senators—

Back—Edwards
Bernardi—Fawcett
Birmingham—Fierravanti-Wells
Brandis— Fifield
Bushby (Teller)— Heffernan
Canavan—Johnston
Cash— Leyonhjelm
Colbeck— Lindgren
Day—

Madigan—Ryan
McKenzie— Scullion
Nash—Seselja
O’Sullivan—Sinodinos
Payne—Smith
Reynolds—Wang
Ronaldson—Williams

NOES, 33

Senators—

Bilyk—Hanson-Young
Bullock—Ketter
Cameron—Lazarus
Carr— Lines
Collins—Ludlam
Dastyari— Ludwig
Di Natale— McAllister
Gallagher— McEwen (Teller)

McKim—Rice
McLucas—Siewert
Moore—Singh
Muir—Sterle
O’Neill—Urquhart
Peleys—Waters
Rhiannon—Whish

The ayes and noes were equal and so the question was negatived.

19 ENVIRONMENT—MONTARA OIL SPILL

Motion determined as not formal: Senator Siewert requested that general business notice of motion no. 829 standing in her name for today, relating to the Montara oil spill, be taken as formal.

An objection was raised and the motion was not proceeded with as a formal motion.

Statements by leave: Senator Siewert and the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield), by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

20 TRADE—CHINA-AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Senator Madigan, also on behalf of Senator Xenophon, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 828—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) the importance of trade with China to the Australian economy,
(ii) that on 17 June 2015, Australia’s Minister for Trade and Investment (Mr Robb) and China’s Minister of Commerce (Mr Gao Hucheng) signed the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA),
(iii) that Article 10.4 of ChAFTA, in combination with other provisions, removes the requirement for Chinese companies operating in Australia to carry out 'labour market testing', 'economic needs testing' or 'other procedures of similar effect' before nominating foreign workers on temporary 457 work visas,

(iv) that a letter from the Minister for Trade and Investment to Mr Hucheng, dated 17 June 2015, which is stated to form part of ChAFTA, removes requirements for mandatory skills assessments for Chinese nationals entering Australia on certain types of temporary 457 work visas for ten occupations, including automotive electricians, general electricians and motor mechanics,

(v) that Chapter 9 of ChAFTA includes Investor State Dispute Settlement provisions of the type that have been utilised by foreign companies to bring claims against governments for legislative changes made for legitimate public purposes, such as the current claim by Philip Morris against the Australian Government seeking compensation in relation to tobacco plain packaging legislation, and

(vi) that these aspects of ChAFTA are contrary to the national interest as they will cost Australian jobs, undermine the regulatory framework that ensures the safety of Australian worksites, and constrain the legislative process; and

(b) calls on the Government to renegotiate ChAFTA so as to remove these aspects of the agreement, or, alternatively, to abandon the agreement by not ratifying it.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 14

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Question negatived.
21 HEALTH—TYPE 1 DIABETES MELLITUS
Senator Muir, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 821—That the Senate—
(a) notes that:
   (i) Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus is an autoimmune (not lifestyle) condition which affects over 120,000 Australians,
   (ii) people diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes require insulin to manage their diabetes for life,
   (iii) Type 1 Diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases affecting children in Australia, and
   (iv) Type 1 Diabetes creates a significant financial and emotional burden for its patients, families and the community; and
(b) acknowledges the importance of access to optical medical management for people with Type 1 Diabetes regardless of geographic location or social status. Question put and passed.

22 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
The Deputy President (Senator Marshall) informed the Senate that the President had received a letter nominating a senator to be a member of committees.
The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield), by leave, moved—That Senator McKim be appointed as a participating member of all legislation and references committees and the Select Committee on Health. Question put and passed.

23 GENE TECHNOLOGY AMENDMENT BILL 2015
PASSPORTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (INTEGRITY) BILL 2015
Messages from the House of Representatives were reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bills:
   Message no. 438, dated 19 August 2015—A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to Australian and foreign travel documents, and for related purposes.
The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) moved—That these bills may proceed without formalities, may be taken together and be now read a first time. Question put and passed.
Bills read a first time.
Senator Fifield moved—That these bills be now read a second time.

Explanatory memorandum: Senator Fifield tabled a revised explanatory memorandum relating to the Passports Legislation Amendment (Integrity) Bill 2015.

On the motion of Senator Fifield the debate was adjourned and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour.
Consideration of legislation: Senator Fifield moved—that the bills be listed on the Notice Paper as separate orders of the day.
Question put and passed.

24 VETERANS’ AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2015 BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2015
A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

Message no. 439, dated 20 August 2015—A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to veterans’ affairs, military rehabilitation and compensation and defence, and for related purposes.

The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) moved—that this bill may proceed without formalities and be now read a first time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a first time.
Senator Fifield moved—that this bill be now read a second time.
On the motion of Senator Fifield the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

25 GENE TECHNOLOGY AMENDMENT BILL 2015
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield)—That this bill be now read a second time.
Debate resumed.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.
On the motion of the Assistant Minister for Health (Senator Nash) the bill was read a third time.

At 12.45 pm—

26 AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE SUPERANNUATION BILL 2015
AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE COVER BILL 2015
DEFENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION AND ADF COVER) BILL 2015
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Attorney-General (Senator Brandis)—That these bills be now read a second time.
Debate resumed.
Question put and passed.
Bills read a second time.
No amendments to the bills were circulated and no senator required that they be considered in committee.
On the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education and Training (Senator Ryan) the bills were read a third time.
27 **PASSPORTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (INTEGRITY) BILL 2015**
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield)—That this bill be now read a second time.
Debate resumed.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.
On the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education and Training (Senator Ryan) the bill was read a third time.

28 **MIGRATION AMENDMENT (MAINTAINING THE GOOD ORDER OF IMMIGRATION DETENTION FACILITIES) BILL 2015**
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Human Services (Senator Payne)—That this bill be now read a second time.
Debate resumed.
At 2 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator McKenzie was speaking.

29 **QUESTIONS**
Questions without notice were answered.

30 **MOTIONS TO TAKE NOTE OF ANSWERS**
Senator McLucas moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by ministers to questions without notice asked by Opposition senators today.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Senator Whish-Wilson moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann) to a question without notice asked by Senator Whish-Wilson today relating to competition policy.
Question put and passed.

31 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**
The Deputy President (Senator Marshall) informed the Senate that the President had received a letter requesting changes in the membership of a committee.
The Assistant Minister for Education and Training (Senator Birmingham), by leave, moved—That senators be discharged from and appointed to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee, as follows:
Appointed—
Substitute member:
Senator Moore to replace Senator Collins
Senator Gallagher to replace Senator Moore for the committee’s inquiry into Commonwealth payments relating to asylum seeker boat turn backs
Participating member: Senator Collins.
Question put and passed.
A message from the House of Representatives was reported informing the Senate of a change in the membership of the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories, as follows:

Message no. 440, dated 20 August 2015—Mrs BK Bishop in place of Mrs Griggs.

32 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES—TABLING AND CONSIDERATION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 62(4)

Senator Ruston, at the request of the chairs of the respective committees, tabled the following documents:

Additional estimates 2014-15—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Additional information received between 14 May and 18 August 2015—Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.

Budget estimates 2015-16—

Education and Employment Legislation Committee—Additional information received between 26 June and 19 August 2015—

Employment portfolio.

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Additional information received between 23 June and 18 August 2015—

Finance portfolio.

Indigenous issues across portfolios.

Parliamentary departments.

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.

Senator Ruston, at the request of the Chair of the Standing Committee on Publications (Senator O’Sullivan), tabled the following report:

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
16TH REPORT

The Publications Committee reports that it has met in conference with the Publications Committee of the House of Representatives.

The Committee, having considered documents presented to the Parliament since 25 June 2015, recommends that the following be printed:


Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse—Royal Commission—

Reports of case studies—


Senator O’Sullivan
Chair
20 August 2015.

Senator Ruston moved—that the report be adopted.
Question put and passed.

Senator Ruston tabled the following report:
Economics Committee—Parliamentary delegation to Singapore and Canada, 7 to 18 December 2014—Report, dated August 2015.

Senator Ruston moved—that the Senate take note of the report.
Question put and passed.

Pursuant to order, the Chair of the Finance and Public Administration References Committee (Senator Gallagher) tabled the following report and documents:
Finance and Public Administration References Committee—Domestic violence in Australia—Report, dated August 2015, Hansard record of proceedings, documents presented to the committee, additional information and submissions.

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator Gallagher.

Senator Gallagher moved—that the Senate take note of the report.
Debate ensued.
Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Moore in continuation.

The Assistant Minister for Education and Training (Senator Birmingham) tabled the following document:
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Final report—Effect on Australian pineapple growers of importing fresh pineapples from Malaysia; Effect on Australian ginger growers of importing fresh ginger from Fiji; Proposed importation of potatoes from New Zealand—Government response, dated August 2015.

33 TRADE—EXPORT MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANTS SCHEME—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—DOCUMENTS

The Assistant Minister for Education and Training (Senator Birmingham) tabled the following documents:
Trade—Export Market Development Grants Scheme—
Tabling the 2015 review of the Export Market Development Grants (EMDG) Scheme—Ministerial statement by the Minister for Trade and Investment (Mr Robb), dated 19 August 2015.

General business was called on.

34 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY—NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK 2015

Senator Carr, at the request of Senator Moore and pursuant to notice, moved general business notice of motion no. 826—That the Senate—

(a) notes:
   (i) that National Science Week 2015 runs from 15 to 23 August 2015,
   (ii) the importance of inspiring and supporting young Australians to study and pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and
   (iii) that science and research are critical to building the jobs of the future;

(b) congratulates the organisers of the 1 500 National Science Week events around the nation, aimed at engaging Australians of all ages with the wonders of science; and

(c) condemns:
   (i) the short-sighted cuts to science and research in the Government’s first two budgets, totalling more than $1 billion,
   (ii) the Government’s attempts to undermine Australia’s publicly-funded research agencies, by slashing funding and jobs, including overseeing the largest job losses at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in the organisation’s history,
   (iii) the complete failure of the Government to understand and advocate for basic research, which delivers new knowledge and underpins technological innovation, and
   (iv) the total lack of vision or commitment on the part of the Government when it comes to creating and sustaining the jobs of the future.

Debate ensued.

At 6 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Edwards was speaking.

General business concluded.

35 NOTICE

The Chair of the Environment and Communications References Committee (Senator Urquhart) and Senator Brown gave a notice of motion as follows: To move on the next day of sitting—That the following matter be referred to the Environment and Communications References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 April 2016:

The environmental, social and economic impacts of large-capacity fishing vessels commonly known as ‘supertrawlers’ operating in Australia’s marine jurisdiction, with particular reference to:

(a) the effect of large fishing vessels on the marine ecosystem, including:
   (i) impacts on fish stocks and the marine food chain, and
   (ii) bycatch and interactions with protected marine species;

(b) current research and scientific knowledge;
(c) social and economic impacts, including effects on other commercial fishing activities and recreational fishing;
(d) the effectiveness of the current regulatory framework and compliance arrangements; and
(e) any other related matters.

36 VACANCY IN THE REPRESENTATION OF TASMANIA—CHOICE OF NICHOLAS JAMES MCKIM—DOCUMENT

The President tabled the original certificate of the choice by the Parliament of Tasmania of Nicholas James McKim to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Milne (see entry no. 4).

37 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES—ORDERS OF THE DAY—CONSIDERATION

The following orders of the day relating to committee reports and government responses were considered:

- Community Affairs References Committee—Out of home care—Report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Siewert) to take note of report debated. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Moore in continuation.
- Economics References Committee—Future of Australia’s automotive industry—Interim report. Motion of Senator Carr to take note of report debated. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Xenophon in continuation.
- Economics References Committee—Australia’s innovation system—Interim report. Motion of Senator Carr to take note of report agreed to.
- Environment and Communications References Committee—Report—Recent trends in and preparedness for extreme weather events—Government response. Motion of Senator McEwen to take note of document agreed to.
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Report—Industry structures and systems governing levies on grass-fed cattle—Government response. Motion of Senator McEwen to take note of document agreed to.
- Community Affairs References Committee—Availability of new, innovative and specialist cancer drugs in Australia—Interim report. Motion of Senator McEwen to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.
- Wind Turbines—Select Committee—Report. Motion of Senator Leyonhjelm to take note of report debated and agreed to.
- Recent Allegations relating to Conditions and Circumstances at the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru—Select Committee—Report. Motion of Senator McEwen to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.
- Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Industry structures and systems governing the imposition and disbursement of marketing and research and development (R&D) levies in the agriculture sector—Report. Motion of Senator Leyonhjelm to take note of report agreed to.
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Use of unmanned air, maritime and land platforms by the Australian Defence Force—Report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Gallacher) to take note of report called on. On the motion of Senator McEwen the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Australia’s transport energy resilience and sustainability—Report. Motion of Senator Urquhart to take note of report agreed to.

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Blind agreement: reforming Australia’s treaty-making process—Report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Gallacher) to take note of report called on. On the motion of Senator McEwen the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples—Joint Select Committee—Report. Motion of Senator Peris to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.

Community Affairs References Committee—Adequacy of existing residential care arrangements available for young people with severe physical, mental or intellectual disabilities in Australia—Report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Siewert) to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Partnering for the greater good: The role of the private sector in promoting economic growth and reducing poverty in the Indo-Pacific region—Report. Motion of Senator Gallacher to take note of report agreed to.


Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—Incident at the Manus Island Detention Centre from 16 February to 18 February 2014—Government responses to interim and final reports. Motion of Senator Siewert to take note of documents called on. On the motion of Senator McEwen the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.


Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—Ability of Australian law enforcement authorities to eliminate gun-related violence in the community—Report. Motion of Senator Wright to take note of report debated. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Leyonhjelm in continuation.

Certain Aspects of Queensland Government Administration related to Commonwealth Government Affairs—Select Committee—Report. Motion of Senator Ruston to take note of report called on. On the motion of Senator McEwen the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.
Finance and Public Administration References Committee—Domestic violence in Australia—Interim report. Motion to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.

National Broadband Network—Select Committee—Second interim report. Motion to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.

National Disability Insurance Scheme—Joint Standing Committee—Progress report—Implementation and administration of the National Disability Insurance Scheme—Government response. Motion of Senator Siewert to take note of document called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.

Environment and Communications References Committee—Report—Environmental offsets—Government response. Motion of Senator Bilyk to take note of document agreed to.

Abbott Government’s Budget Cuts—Select Committee—First interim report. Motion of Senator Bilyk to take note of report called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—Incident at the Manus Island Detention Centre from 16 February to 18 February 2014—Interim and final reports. Motion of Senator Bilyk to take note of reports called on. On the motion of Senator McEwen the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

38 **ADJOURNMENT**

The President proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 6.58 pm till Monday, 7 September 2015 at 10 am.

39 **ATTENDANCE**

Present, all senators except Senators Lambie and Macdonald.

**ROSEMARY LAING**

Clerk of the Senate

Printed by authority of the Senate