2013-15
THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 106

THURSDAY, 13 AUGUST 2015

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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.

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.]

- **Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Act 1998**—Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (confidentiality) determination—No. 15 of 2015 [F2015L01250].
- **Banking Act 1959**—Banking (restricted word or expression) determination No. 1 of 2015 [F2015L01253].
- **International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Act 2013**—International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Commencement Proclamation 2015 [F2015L01248].
- **Veterans’ Entitlements Treatment (Anxiety and Depressive Disorders) Determination**—2015 No. R13 [F2015L01247].

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—Statements of compliance pursuant to the order of the Senate of 30 May 1996, as amended—

- Department of Human Services.
- Seafarers Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Authority.

Unproclaimed legislation—Document pursuant to standing order 139(2) providing details of all provisions of Acts which come into effect on proclamation and which have not been proclaimed, including statements of reasons for their non-proclamation and information relating to the timetable for their operation, as at 1 August 2015, dated August 2015.
3 COMMITTEES—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTINGS
Committees were authorised to meet during the sittings of the Senate, as follows:

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) today, from 3.35 pm, for the committee’s inquiry into the Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman Bill 2015 and related bill.

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) today, from 3.40 pm, for the committee’s inquiry into arts programs and funding.

Murray-Darling Basin Plan—Select Committee—private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) today, from 10 am.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—public meeting on Tuesday, 18 August 2015, from 5 pm, to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into the performance of Airservices Australia.

4 NATIONAL INTEGRITY COMMISSION BILL 2013
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion—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 Lines in continuation.

5 NOTICES
The Chair of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Williams): To move 15 sitting days after today—That the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (2015 Measures No. 3) Regulation 2015, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2015 No. 45 and made under the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Act 1997, be disallowed.

Senator Siewert: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) audio description (AD) is a flexible and unobtrusive way of making the visual content of television accessible to people who are blind or have low vision,

(ii) modelling undertaken by Vision Australia shows that there are approximately 350,000 people in Australia who are blind or have low vision, with this number estimated to increase to 564,000 by 2030,

(iii) under Article 30(b) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which Australia has ratified, the Government has an obligation to ensure that people with disabilities have access to television programs,

(iv) Part 9D of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 includes requirements for the provision of captions on television programs in order to make them accessible to people who are deaf or hearing-impaired,

(v) despite a successful trial of AD conducted by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) in 2012, the ABC does not provide AD on any of its free-to-air television services,
(vi) the ABC is currently conducting a government-funded 15 month trial of AD on its ABC iview catch-up service, but that many people who are blind or have low vision experience significant barriers to accessing ABC iview, and

(vii) the Special Broadcasting Service, Foxtel, and the commercial free-to-air television networks provide no AD in Australia;

(b) expresses concern that Australians who are blind or have low vision are disadvantaged because Australia lags behind many other countries, including the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Canada, Ireland, Germany, Spain and New Zealand, which all provide varying levels of AD on television programs; and

(c) calls on the Government to amend the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 to include requirements for the provision of AD on free-to-air and subscription television programs by the ABC and all other networks, similar to captioning requirements. (general business notice of motion no. 808)

6 SELECTION OF BILLS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT NO. 9 OF 2015

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

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 9 OF 2015

1. The committee met in private session on Wednesday, 12 August 2015 at 7.16 pm.

2. The committee resolved to recommend—That the order of the Senate of 25 June 2015 adopting the committee’s 8th report of 2015 be varied to provide that the provisions of the Treasury Legislation Amendment (Small Business and Unfair Contract Terms) Bill 2015 be referred immediately to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 14 September 2015.

3. The committee resolved to recommend—That the following bills not be referred to committees:
   - Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill 2015
   - Acts and Instruments (Framework Reform) (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2015
   - Australian Defence Force Cover Bill 2015
   - Australian Defence Force Superannuation Bill 2015
   - Defence Legislation Amendment (Superannuation and ADF Cover) Bill 2015
   - Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security Amendment Bill 2015
   - Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2015 Measures No. 2) Bill 2015

   The committee recommends accordingly.

4. The committee deferred consideration of the following bills to its next meeting:
   - Aged Care Amendment (Independent Complaints Arrangements) Bill 2015
   - Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Bill 2015
Australian Centre for Social Cohesion Bill 2015
Banking Laws Amendment (Unclaimed Money) Bill 2015
Civil Law and Justice (Omnibus Amendments) 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
Motor Vehicle Standards (Cheaper Transport) Bill 2014
Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Caring for Single Parents) Bill 2014.

David Bushby
Chair
13 August 2015.
Senator Bushby moved—That the report be adopted.
Question put and passed.

7 ORDER OF BUSINESS—REARRANGEMENT
The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) moved—That the order of general business for consideration today be as follows:
(a) general business notice of motion no. 806 standing in the names of Senators Madigan and Xenophon relating to an automotive transformation scheme; and
(b) orders of the day relating to documents.
Question put and passed.

8 PRIVATE SENATORS’ BILLS—CONSIDERATION
The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) moved—That general business order of the day no. 66 (Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Consumer Lease Exclusion) Bill 2015) be considered on Thursday, 20 August 2015 under the order relating to consideration of private senators’ bills.
Question put and passed.

9 POSTPONEMENT
Business was postponed as follows:
Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2 standing in the names of Senators McAllister and Edwards for today, proposing a reference to the Economics References Committee, postponed till 17 August 2015.

10 COMMITTEE—EXTENSIONS OF TIME TO REPORT
The following committee was granted extensions of time to report:
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—
Aspects of road safety in Australia, extended to 26 November 2015.
Australian grape and wine industry, extended to 12 February 2016.
11 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT REFERENCES COMMITTEE—
REFERENCE

Senator Ludlam, also on behalf of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee (Senator Sterle), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1—

That—

(a) the Senate notes the failure of the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development to comply with the order of the Senate of 10 August 2015, namely for all documents relating to the Infrastructure Australia evaluation of the Perth Freight Link and the business case presented by the Western Australian Government and related documents; and

(b) resolves that the decision to commit funding to the Perth Freight Link project be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee for inquiry and report by 26 November 2015, with particular reference to:

(i) the decision-making process that led to the announcement that the Perth Freight Link would receive Commonwealth funding,

(ii) the information relied upon by state and Commonwealth governments informing the decision to fund this project,

(iii) the importance of transparency of decision-making in relation to infrastructure decisions,

(iv) evaluation of options for managing growth in the Perth freight task, and

(v) any related matters.

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

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 37

Senators—

Bilyk
Brown
Bullock
Cameron
Carr
Conroy
Dastyari
Day
Di Natale
Gallacher
Gallagher
Hanson-Young
Ketter
Lambie
Lazarus
Leyonhjelm
Ludlam
Madigan
McAllister
McEwen (Teller)
McLucas
Moore
Muir
O’Neill
Polley
Rhiannon
Rice
Siewert
Singh
Sterle
Urquhart
Wang
Waters
Whish-Wilson
Wright

NOES, 27

Senators—

Back
Bernardi
Birmingham
Brandis
Bushby (Teller)
Canavan
Colbeck
Edwards
Fawcett
Fierravanti-Wells
Fifield
Heffernan
Johnston
Lindgren
Macdonald
McGrath
McKenzie
Nash
O’Sullivan
Payne
Reynolds
Ruston
Ryan
Seselja
Sinodinos
Smith
Williams

Question agreed to.
12  **AGED CARE AMENDMENT (INDEPENDENT COMPLAINTS ARRANGEMENTS) BILL 2015**

The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved government business notice of motion no. 1—That the following bill be introduced:

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Aged Care Act 1997*, and for related purposes.

Question put and passed.

Senator Fifield presented the bill and 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.

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*Explanatory memorandum:* Senator Fifield tabled an explanatory memorandum relating to the bill.

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*Consideration of legislation:* Pursuant to order, the debate was adjourned and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the first day in the next period of sittings, 12 October 2015.

13 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS—BANNING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

Senator Singh amended general business notice of motion no. 799 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) that on 6 and 9 August 2015 many organisations and individuals around Australia held vigils and events to mark the 70th anniversaries of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki,

(ii) that despite the end of the Cold War more than two decades ago, there are still close to 16 000 nuclear weapons in the world today, including an estimated 1 800 kept on high-alert status,

(iii) the Humanitarian Pledge, endorsed by 113 nations, to identify and pursue effective measures for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons, and

(iv) the growing movement of nations supporting the negotiation of a global treaty banning nuclear weapons; and

(b) welcomes the three conferences convened since 2013 by the governments of Norway, Mexico and Austria on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, which the Australian Government attended.

Question put and passed.
14 **Fair Work Amendment (Penalty Rates Exemption for Small Businesses) Bill 2015**

Senator Leyonhjelm, also on behalf of Senator Day, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 801—

That the following bill be introduced:

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Fair Work Act 2009*, and for related purposes.

Question put and passed.

Senator Leyonhjelm presented the bill and 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 Leyonhjelm moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

**Explanatory memorandum:** Senator Leyonhjelm, by leave, tabled an explanatory memorandum relating to the bill.

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

15 **Education—Higher Education Reforms**

Senator Rhiannon, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 800—

That the Senate

(a) notes that:

(i) the Abbott Government’s attempts to deregulate university fees and slash public funding to higher education have been defeated twice in the current Parliament,

(ii) the Minister for Education and Training (Mr Pyne) has so far spent $150 000 of public money hiring a private consultant to conduct parliamentary negotiations on his behalf, and

(iii) this spending is a significant waste of public resources at a time when the Government is inflicting huge cuts to public services such as health and education; and

(b) calls on the Abbott Government to stop wasting public resources in its attempts to wreck public higher education in Australia.

Question put and passed.

16 **Environment—Southern Cassowary**

Senator Waters, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 805—

That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) the fact that the southern cassowary is listed as endangered under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, and that estimates of the remaining population range from 1 000 to 4 000 individuals,
(ii) the recovery plan for the southern cassowary, published in 2007, which estimated a total cost for recovery of the southern cassowary of $994,000 over 5 years, including $50,000 for a cassowary rescue program, and

(iii) the funding uncertainty surrounding the Garners Beach Cassowary Rehabilitation Centre, which has reportedly seen local vets instructed to euthanise injured adult cassowaries and their then-orphaned chicks, rather than sending them for care in the Centre; and

(b) calls on the Federal Government to:

(i) urgently update the recovery plan and ensure that it is implemented, including by prioritising habitat protection and restoration, allocating adequate funding for reducing vehicle strikes, protection from predation by dogs, rehabilitation and protection from other threats, and

(ii) work with the Queensland State Government and urgently consider providing federal funding to allow the Garners Beach Cassowary Rehabilitation Centre to remain open to rehabilitate orphan cassowary chicks, and to expand its operations to enable injured adult cassowaries to be cared for.

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

Question put and passed.

17 PARLIAMENTARY EXPENSES AMENDMENT (TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY) BILL 2015

Senator Xenophon, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 803—That the following bill be introduced:

A Bill for an Act to amend the Parliamentary Entitlements Act 1990 and other legislation, and for related purposes.

Question put and passed.

Senator Xenophon presented the bill and 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 Xenophon moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

Explanatory memorandum: Senator Xenophon, by leave, tabled an explanatory memorandum relating to the bill.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Xenophon in continuation.
18 **HEALTH—RENAL HEALTH—DIALYSIS SERVICES**

Senator Siewert, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 807—That the Senate—

(a) welcomes the $9 million for Purple House to deliver dialysis services in Alice Springs and remote communities in Central Australia, and the $10 million in accommodation infrastructure funding;

(b) congratulates the advocates who have ensured that dialysis accommodation funding, which was first promised in 2011, has finally been delivered to remote communities;

(c) urges the Federal Government to work closely with the Northern Territory Government to ensure that the renal infrastructure funding is quickly translated into outcomes for remote communities; and

(d) calls on the Federal Government to ensure remote communities in the north of the Northern Territory are resourced to meet their need for on-country dialysis.

Question put and passed.

19 **LAW AND JUSTICE—REGULATION OF FIREARMS**

Senator Muir, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 804—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) the Adler A110 lever-action shotgun is currently a Category A firearm,

(ii) lever-action shotguns similar to the Adler A110 currently exist and are in the possession of law-abiding firearm owners in Australia,

(iii) the decision by the Government to temporarily suspend the importation of the Adler A110 lever-action shotgun was taken without consultation with the firearms industry, or the 800 000 plus law-abiding recreational firearm owners, and

(iv) the firearms and hunting industry contributes over $1 billion annually to the Australian economy; and

(b) welcomes the Government’s announcement which will ensure licensed firearms users and industry representatives have meaningful input into the review of the technical aspects of the National Firearms Agreement.

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

Question put.

The Senate divided—

**AYES, 34**

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NOES, 9

Senators—

Di Natale
Rhiannon
Siewert (Teller)
Whish-Wilson
Hanson-Young
Rice
Waters
Wright
Ludlam

Question agreed to.

20 POSTPONEMENT

Senator O’Sullivan, by leave, moved—that general business notice of motion no. 802 standing in his name for today, relating to the Tasmanian specialty timber industry, be postponed till the next day of sitting.

Question put and passed.

21 TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (SMALL BUSINESS MEASURES NO. 3) BILL 2015

A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

Message no. 425, dated 12 August 2015—a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation, 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 and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour.

22 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REPORT—CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (HARMING AUSTRALIANS) BILL 2013

Pursuant to order, Senator Bushby, at the request of the Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Macdonald), tabled the following report and documents:


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

23 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REPORT—CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (MISREPRESENTATION OF AGE TO A MINOR) BILL 2013

Pursuant to order, Senator Bushby, at the request of the Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Macdonald), tabled the following report and documents:

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee—Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013—Report, dated August 2015, Hansard record of proceedings, additional information and submissions.

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator Bushby.
24 Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measures No. 3) 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.

25 Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015
A message from the House of Representatives was reported as follows:
Message no. 426, dated 13 August 2015—Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015, agreeing to amendments made by the Senate, disagreeing to amendment no. 1 and making an identical amendment in place of that amendment.

Ordered, on the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education and Training (Senator Ryan), that the message be considered in committee of the whole immediately.

In the committee
SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE TO WHICH THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS DISAGREED

(1) Clause 5, page 7 (lines 4 to 7), omit the definition of medical innovation, substitute:
medical innovation includes:
(a) the application and commercialisation of medical research for the purpose of improving the health and wellbeing of Australians; and
(b) the translation of medical research into new or better ways of improving the health and wellbeing of Australians.

In the committee
SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT
MADE BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(1) Clause 5, page 7 (lines 4 to 7), omit the definition of medical innovation, substitute:
medical innovation includes:
(a) the application and commercialisation of medical research for the purpose of improving the health and wellbeing of Australians; and
(b) the translation of medical research into new or better ways of improving the health and wellbeing of Australians.
Senator Ryan moved—That the committee agrees to the amendment made by the House of Representatives, which is identical to Senate amendment no. 1.

Statement by Chair of Committees: The Chair of Committees (Senator Marshall) made the following statement:

When the Senate considered the government amendments to the bill, I made a statement indicating that amendment no. 1 would be dealt with as an amendment rather than as a request, in accordance with the precedents of the Senate in relation to these matters, a position which the minister at the table accepted.

Although, on some readings, the amendment in question may expand the purposes for which amounts may be paid from the Fund, it does not affect the appropriation for the special account which is limited. There can be no increased appropriation as a clear, necessary and direct consequence of the amendment because the amendment does not increase the total amount available under the appropriation. There is therefore no increase in any proposed charge or burden on the people.

Unlike a situation where an amendment results in higher expenditure under a standing appropriation— which the Senate has had no difficulty accepting should be dealt with as a request—this bill involves the creation of a special account to which a capped amount is to be credited. It is therefore not the same as an uncapped standing appropriation.

As I indicated at the time, the Senate has long followed the practice that only an amendment which “clearly, necessarily and directly” affects an appropriation is regarded as an increase in a charge or burden on the people within the meaning of section 53 of the Constitution. Amending a bill to change the allocation of proposed expenditure and the purposes for which money is to be appropriated has long been considered to be within the power of the Senate, provided that the total proposed (or available) expenditure is not increased.

However, as the substitute amendment made in the House is the same as the amendment made by the Senate, it is suggested that the Senate can now agree to the amendment which it originally made.

Question put and passed. Resolution to be reported.

The Deputy President (Senator Marshall) resumed the chair and the Chair of Committees reported that the committee had considered message no. 426 from the House of Representatives relating to the Medical Research Future Fund Bill 2015 and agreed to the amendment made by the House to the bill, which is identical to Senate amendment no. 1.

On the motion of Senator Ryan the report from the committee was adopted.
26 **SOCIAL SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2015**
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture (Senator Colbeck)—That this bill be now read a second time.
Debate resumed.
At 2 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Siewert was speaking.

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

28 **MOTIONS TO TAKE NOTE OF ANSWERS**
Senator Conroy moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Attorney-General (Senator Brandis) to a question without notice asked by Senator Conroy today relating to the Commissioner of the Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Senator Siewert moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Assistant Minister for Health (Senator Nash) to a question without notice asked by Senator Siewert today relating to the Aboriginal Medical Service of Western Sydney.
Question put and passed.

29 **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES—TABLING AND CONSIDERATION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 62(4)**
Senator Ruston, at the request of the Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee (Senator Back), tabled the following documents:
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—Budget estimates 2015-16—Additional information received between 23 June and 13 August 2015—
Defence portfolio.
Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio.

30 **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 Minister for Human Services (Senator Payne), by leave, moved—That Senator Moore replace Senator Ludwig on the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee for the committee’s inquiry into the Australian Government Boards (Gender Balanced Representation) Bill 2015, and Senator Ludwig be appointed as a participating member.
Question put and passed.

*General business was called on.*
31 **INDUSTRY—AUTOMOTIVE TRANSFORMATION SCHEME**

Senator Xenophon, also on behalf of Senator Madigan, pursuant to notice, moved general business notice of motion no. 806—That the Senate notes the importance of an automotive transformation scheme to Australia’s economic prosperity and development.

Debate ensued.

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

*General business concluded.*

32 **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:

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 called on. On the motion of Senator Back the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.


Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Report—Current and future arrangements for the marketing of Australian sugar—Erratum. Motion of Senator McEwen to take note of document 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.

Wind Turbines—Select Committee—Report. Motion of Senator Leyonhjelm to take note of report debated. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Leyonhjelm in continuation.

Economics References Committee—Digital currency—game changer or bit player—Report. Motion of Senator McEwen to take note of report 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.


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 called on. On the motion of Senator Back the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.


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 called on. On the motion of Senator Ruston the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Privileges—Standing Committee—161st report—Possible imposition of a penalty on a witness before the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Collins)—That the Senate adopt the recommendation at paragraph 1.47 of the report that no contempt be found in respect of the matter referred—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 Back 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 called on. On the motion of Senator McEwen the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.


Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Department of Parliamentary Services—Second interim report. Motion of Senator Fawcett 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 Back 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. On the motion of Senator McEwen the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

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. On the motion of Senator McEwen the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Health—Select Committee—Second interim report. Motion of Senator McLuccas to take note of report agreed to.
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Current and future arrangements for the marketing of Australian sugar—Report. Motion of Senator McEwen to take note of report agreed to.

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee—446th report—Review of the operations of the Parliamentary Budget Office—Government response. Motion to take note of document agreed to.

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 called on. On the motion of Senator Ruston the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

Procedure—Standing Committee—Second report of 2015—Temporary orders relating to the routine of business and consideration of private senators’ bills; Third party arbitration of public interest immunity claims. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Marshall) to take note of report agreed to.


Wind Turbines—Select Committee—Interim report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Madigan) to take note of report agreed to.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Grain export networks, including the on- and off-farm storage, transport, handling and export of Australian grain—Report. Motion of Senator Smith 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. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Ruston in continuation.

Economics Legislation Committee—Competition and Consumer Act 2010—Competition and Consumer (Industry Codes—Food and Grocery) Regulation 2015—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.

Community Affairs References Committee—Impact on service quality, efficiency and sustainability of recent Commonwealth community service tendering processes by the Department of Social Services—Interim report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Siewert) to take note of report agreed to.

Environment and Communications References Committee—Environmental biosecurity—Report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Urquhart) to take note of report agreed to.


Economics References Committee—Out of reach? The Australian housing affordability challenge—Interim and final reports. Motion of Senator McLucas to take note of reports agreed to.

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—Ability of Australian law enforcement authorities to eliminate gun-related violence in the community—Report. Motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Wright) to take note of report called on. On the motion of Senator Leyonhjelm the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.


Environment and Communications References Committee—National Landcare Program—Report. Motion of Senator McEwen to take note of report agreed to.

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 called on. Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator McEwen in continuation.

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

33 **AUDITOR-GENERAL’S REPORTS—ORDERS OF THE DAY—CONSIDERATION**

The following orders of the day relating to reports of the Auditor-General were considered:

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 28 of 2014-15—Performance audit—Management of interpreting services: Department of Immigration and Border Protection; Department of Social Services. Motion of Senator Ruston to take note of document agreed to.


Auditor-General—Audit report no. 37 of 2014-15—Performance audit—Management of Smart Centres’ Centrelink telephone services: Department of Human Services. Motion of Senator Bilyk to take note of document agreed to.

34 **ADMINISTRATION—DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE—PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

Senator Ludwig, by leave, made a personal explanation relating to an incorrect reference in a report submitted to the Department of Finance in 2014.

35 **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Debate ensued.

Document: Senator Wright, by leave, tabled the following document:


Debate continued.

The Senate adjourned at 7.15 pm till Monday, 17 August 2015 at 10 am.

36 **ATTENDANCE**

Present, all senators except Senators Cash and Scullion.

ROSEMARY LAING
Clerk of the Senate