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1 **MEETING OF SENATE**  
The Senate met at 10 am. The President (Senator the Honourable John Hogg) took the chair; read prayers and made an acknowledgement of country.

2 **MINERALS RESOURCE RENT TAX REPEAL AND OTHER MEASURES BILL 2013**  
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. 
The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne) moved the following amendment: 
At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate calls on the Government to recognise that the benefits of the mining boom should be enjoyed by all Australian society by:  
(a) applying a 40 per cent tax rate to all minerals;  
(b) rebating only those royalties that were in place at July 2011; and  
(c) allowing depreciation on the book value of the amounts actually spent on mining infrastructure only”.
Debate ensued.  
*At 2 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Waters was speaking.*

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

*Document:* The Minister for Employment (Senator Abetz) tabled the following document: 

Further questions without notice were answered.

4 **MOTIONS TO TAKE NOTE OF ANSWERS**  
Senator Moore moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Assistant Minister for Health (Senator Nash) to questions without notice asked by Senators Sterle and Lines today relating to charges for medical services. 
Debate ensued.  
Question put and passed.  
Senator Hanson-Young moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Minister for Employment (Senator Abetz) to a question without notice asked by Senator Hanson-Young today relating to a visit by the Prime Minister to Papua New Guinea. 
Question put and passed.
NOTICES
The Chair of the Economics Legislation Committee (Senator Bushby): To move on the next day of sitting—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Economics Legislation Committee on the Reserve Bank Amendment (Australian Reconstruction and Development Board) Bill 2013 be extended to 25 June 2014. (general business notice of motion no. 193)

The Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Macdonald): To move on the next day of sitting—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee on the Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013 be extended to 29 May 2014. (general business notice of motion no. 194)

Senator Smith: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit be authorised to hold a private briefing during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 15 May 2014, from 10.30 am. (general business notice of motion no. 195)

Senator Siewert: To move on the next day of sitting—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to stop the Environment Minister exempting shark drum lines from the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, and for related purposes. Save Our Sharks Bill 2014. (general business notice of motion no. 196)

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

(i) over the past year, Israeli settlements in the West Bank have significantly increased,

(ii) it is unlawful under the Fourth Geneva Convention for an occupying power to transfer parts of its own population into the territory it occupies, and

(iii) world leaders, including the British Prime Minister, Mr Cameron, have called for a halt in settlement activity by Israel; and

(b) calls on:

(i) the Israeli Government to cease expansion of settlements in the West Bank, and

(ii) the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ms Bishop, to publicly acknowledge that all settlements are illegal and in breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention. (general business notice of motion no. 197)

Senator Farrell: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Veterans’ Children Education Scheme (Income Support Bonus) Repeal Instrument 2014, made under subsections 117(2) and (3) of the Veterans’ Entitlements Act 1986, be disallowed.

Senator Farrell: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme (Income Support Bonus) Repeal Determination 2014, made under subsections 258(4) and (5) of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004, be disallowed.
Senator Carr: To move on the next day of sitting—That there be laid on the table by
the Minister for Employment, no later than 10 am on Wednesday, 26 March 2014, the
following:

(a) a copy of the email between the Minister’s office and officials in the
Department of Employment, as referenced in the Australian of 24 March 2014
(‘Coalition urged department to “massage” jobs data’);
(b) details of any subsequent communications, including emails and file notes of
telephone conversations, between the department and the Minister’s office
regarding the department’s draft labour market growth rate projections; and
(c) the alternate job forecasts produced by the department following the
aforementioned correspondence with the Minister’s office. (general business
notice of motion no. 198)

6 PRIVATE SENATORS’ BILLS—CONSIDERATION
The Assistant Minister for Social Services (Senator Fifield) moved—That the
following general business orders of the day be considered on Thursday, 27 March
2014 under the temporary order relating to the consideration of private senators’ bills:

No. 30 Privacy Amendment (Privacy Alerts) Bill 2014.
No. 29 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment
Bill 2014.

Question put and passed.

7 LEAVE OF ABSENCE
Senator Kroger, by leave, moved—That leave of absence be granted to the following
senators:

(a) Senator Cash for today, for personal reasons; and
(b) Senator Johnston for 24, 25 and 27 March 2014, on account of ministerial
business.

Question put and passed.
Senator McEwen, by leave, moved—That leave of absence be granted to the following
senators from 24 to 27 March 2014:

(a) Senator McLucas, for personal reasons; and
(b) Senator Pratt, on account of electorate business.

Question put and passed.
Senator Siewert, by leave, moved—That leave of absence be granted to Senator
Ludlam from 24 to 27 March 2014, on account of electorate business.

Question put and passed.

8 POSTPONEMENTS
The following items of business were postponed:

General business notice of motion no. 191 standing in the name of Senator
Urquhart for today, relating to the International Year of Solidarity with the
Palestinian People, postponed till 26 March 2014.

General business notice of motion no. 192 standing in the name of Senator Singh
for today, relating to Sri Lanka, postponed till 26 March 2014.
9 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REFERENCE
Senator Whish-Wilson, 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 15 May 2014:
Australia’s future activities and responsibilities in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic waters, including:
(a) Australia’s management and monitoring of the Southern Ocean in relation to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;
(b) cooperation with international partners on management and research under international treaties and agreements;
(c) appropriate resourcing in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic territory for research and governance; and
(d) any other related matters.
Question put and passed.

10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—FINANCE—NATIONAL COMMISSION OF AUDIT
The Deputy President (Senator Parry) informed the Senate that Senator Moore had proposed that the following matter of public importance be submitted to the Senate for discussion:
The failure of the Abbott Government to release recommendations of the Commission of Audit and reveal its program of savage cuts to the Australian people.
The proposal was supported by four senators and the matter was discussed.

11 WOMEN—UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—DOCUMENT
The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education (Senator Ryan) tabled the following document:
Senator Waters, by leave, moved—that the Senate take note of the document.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

12 EDUCATION—HEADS OF AGREEMENT ON NATIONAL EDUCATION REFORM—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENT
The Acting Deputy President (Senator Ruston) tabled the following document received on 21 March 2014:
Education—Heads of Agreement on National Education Reform—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Human Services (Senator Payne), dated 21 March 2014, responding to the order of the Senate of 17 March 2014 and raising a public interest immunity claim.
13 **ENVIRONMENT—WESTERN AUSTRALIA—SHARK CULL—DOCUMENT**

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Ruston) tabled the following document:

Environment—Western Australia—Shark cull—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for the Environment, dated 19 March 2014, responding to the resolution of the Senate of 4 March 2014.

Senator Siewert, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the document. Question put and passed.

14 **INDUSTRY—ECONOMIC REVIEW OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND VICTORIA—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENT**

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment (Senator Birmingham) tabled the following document:

Industry—Economic Review of South Australia and Victoria—Letter from the Minister for Veterans’ Affairs (Senator Ronaldson) to the Clerk of the Senate (Dr Laing), dated 24 March 2014, responding to the order of the Senate of 20 March 2014.

Senator Carr, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the document. Debate ensued.

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

15 **RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REPORT—LAND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AMENDMENT BILL 2014**

Pursuant to order, Senator Back, at the request of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan), tabled the following report and documents:


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

16 **ECONOMICS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REPORT—QANTAS SALE AMENDMENT BILL 2014**

Pursuant to order, Senator Back, at the request of the Chair of the Economics Legislation Committee (Senator Bushby), tabled the following report and documents:


Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator Back.
The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:


Broadcasting Services Act 1992—Broadcasting Services (Events) Notice (No. 1) 2010—
  Amendment No. 3 of 2014 [F2014L00295].
  Amendment No. 4 of 2014 [F2014L00325].


Federal Financial Relations Act 2009—


Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915—Administration Ordinance 1990—
  Electricity Supply Fees Determination 2014 (Jervis Bay Territory) [F2014L00329].
  Water and Wastewater Services Fees Determination 2014 (Jervis Bay Territory) [F2014L00328].

Migration Act 1958—
  Direction under section 499—Screening procedures in relation to immigration detainees—Direction No. 60.
  Instrument of Revocation—IMMI 13/160 [F2014L00326].

Migration Regulations 1994—
  Alternative English Language Proficiency Tests to the International English Language Testing System for Student Visa Purposes—IMMI 14/002 [F2014L00318].
  Classes of Persons—IMMI 14/017 [F2014L00321].
  Evidence of Further Funds and Living Costs—IMMI 14/004 [F2014L00316].
Student Visa Assessment Levels—IMMI 14/003 [F2014L00315].
Tests, Scores, Period, Level of Salary and Exemptions to the English Language Requirement for Subclass 457 (Temporary Work (Skilled)) Visas—IMMI 14/009 [F2014L00327].
Types of Courses for Student Visas—IMMI 14/015 [F2014L00320].

Private Health Insurance Act 2007—
Private Health Insurance (Benefit Requirements) Amendment Rules 2014 (No. 1) [F2014L00309].
Private Health Insurance (Complying Product) Amendment Rules 2014 (No. 2) [F2014L00311].

Veterans’ Entitlements Act 1986—
Amendment Statement of Principles concerning chronic lymphoid leukaemia—No. 28 of 2014 [F2014L00303].
Amendment Statements of Principles concerning ischaemic heart disease—
No. 33 of 2014 [F2014L00302].
No. 34 of 2014 [F2014L00305].
Statements of Principles concerning allergic rhinitis—
No. 22 of 2014 [F2014L00306].
No. 23 of 2014 [F2014L00300].
Statements of Principles concerning periodic limb movement disorder—
No. 26 of 2014 [F2014L00313].
No. 27 of 2014 [F2014L00314].
Statements of Principles concerning restless legs syndrome—
No. 20 of 2014 [F2014L00307].
No. 21 of 2014 [F2014L00308].
Statements of Principles concerning somatic symptom disorder—
No. 24 of 2014 [F2014L00304].
No. 25 of 2014 [F2014L00299].

18 Indexed Lists of Departmental and Agency Files—Order for Production of Documents—Documents
The following documents were tabled pursuant to the order of the Senate of 30 May 1996, as amended:
Indexed lists of departmental and agency files for the period 1 July to 31 December 2013—Statements of compliance—
Department of Veterans’ Affairs.
Environment portfolio.
Fair Work Ombudsman.
19 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**
The Acting Deputy President (Senator Whish-Wilson) informed the Senate that the President had received a letter requesting changes in the membership of a committee.
The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Senator Mason), by leave, moved—That senators be discharged from and appointed to the Economics References Committee as follows:
- Discharged—Senator Carr
- Appointed—
  - Senator Pratt
  - Substitute member: Senator Carr to replace Senator Pratt for the committee’s inquiry into Australia’s innovation system
  - Participating member: Senator Pratt.
Question put and passed.

20 **EXPORT MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AMENDMENT BILL 2014**
A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Senator Mason) 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 Mason moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

Explanatory memorandum: Senator Mason tabled a revised explanatory memorandum relating to the bill.

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.

21 **MINERALS RESOURCE RENT TAX REPEAL AND OTHER MEASURES BILL 2013**
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—and on the amendment moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Milne) (see entry no. 2).
Debate resumed.
At 9.50 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator McKenzie was speaking.
22 ADJOURNMENT

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Fawcett) proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 10.28 pm till Tuesday, 25 March 2014 at 12.30 pm.

23 ATTENDANCE

Present, all senators except Senators Cash*, Johnston*, Ludlam*, McLucas* and Pratt* (* on leave).

ROSEMARY LAING
Clerk of the Senate