

Parliamentary Inquiries

June 2014

Committee inquiries provide an opportunity for organisations and individuals to participate in policy making and have their views placed on the public record and considered as part of the decision-making process.

This Occasional Paper provides a brief overview of the new and continuing Senate, House and Joint Committee inquiries in the 44th Parliament. These inquiries are either still accepting submissions or are no longer accepting submissions but are yet to report.

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on Parliamentary Committees and inquiries is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton guide to participating in Parliamentary inquiries is available [here](#).

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Senate Committees

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Australian National Preventive Health Agency (Abolition) Bill 2014

The [Australian National Preventive Health Agency \(Abolition\) Bill 2014](#) abolishes the Australian National Preventive Health Agency, which provides leadership across the non-government, health promotion and primary care sectors to deliver coordinated and effective preventive health activities and policies. The Agency plays a central role in collaborating across the health sector, embedding preventive health as central to the delivery of health care.

The closing date for submissions was 6 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 14 July 2014.

Business Services Wage Assessment Tool Payment Scheme Bill 2014

The Senate referred the [Business Services Wage Assessment Tool Payment Scheme Bill 2014](#) and the [Business Services Wage Assessment Tool Payment Scheme \(Consequential Amendments\) Bill 2014](#) to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report.

The two bills respond to the Federal Court's decision in *Nojin v Commonwealth of Australia* [2012] FCAFC 192 by establishing a payment scheme for supported employees with intellectual impairment in Australian Disability Enterprises who previously had their wages assessed under the Business Services Wage Assessment Tool.

The closing date for submissions is 23 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 August 2014.

Health Workforce Australia (Abolition) Bill 2014

The [Health Workforce Australia \(Abolition\) Bill 2014](#) abolishes Health Workforce Australia and provides for transitional arrangements, including the transfer of assets, liabilities, interests in land, records and instruments to the Commonwealth, and the transfer of functions and programs to the Department of Health. Health Workforce Australia was established by Labor to provide a national, long-term, coordinated approach to health workforce planning and reform to ensure that Australia's health workforce can meet Australia's health needs into the future.

The closing date for submissions was 6 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 14 July 2014.

National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Bill 2014

The [National Health Amendment \(Pharmaceutical Benefits\) Bill 2014](#) amends the National Health Act 1953 in relation to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme by:

- increasing the concessional patient co-payment by 80 cents from 1 January 2015;
- increasing the general patient co-payment by \$5.00 from 1 January 2015;
- increasing the general patient safety net threshold by 10 per cent each year for four years; and increasing the concessional safety net threshold by two prescriptions each year for four years.

The closing date for submissions is 23 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 August 2014.

Private Health Insurance Amendment (GP Services) Bill 2014

The [Private Health Insurance Amendment \(GP Services\) Bill 2014](#) amends the Private Health Insurance Act 2007 to clarify that private health insurers may not enter into agreements or arrangements with primary care providers that provide preferential treatment to their members. The Bill specifies in clear language that insurers cannot pay GPs for treatment of their members, nor can they pay to get their members preferential access to treatment.

The closing date for submissions is 18 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 September 2014.

Social Security Legislation Amendment (Stronger Penalties for Serious Failures) Bill 2014

The [Social Security Legislation Amendment \(Stronger Penalties for Serious Failures\) Bill 2014](#) amends the Social Security (Administration) Act 1999 to provide that:

- jobseekers who incur an eight week non-payment penalty for refusing suitable work will no longer be able to have the penalty waived; and
- jobseekers who fail to comply with participation obligations will only be able to have the penalty waived once while in receipt of an activity tested income support payment.

The closing date for submissions is 18 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 August 2014.

Social Services and Other Legislation Amendments

The [Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment \(2014 Budget Measures No. 1\) Bill 2014](#) and the [Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment \(2014 Budget Measures No. 2\) Bill 2014](#) amend Social Security legislation to place various restrictions on access to benefits for students, pensioners, families and veterans by:

- pausing indexation on certain income and assets test free areas and thresholds;
- indexing pensions to the CPI;
- include tax-free superannuation income in the assessment of income for qualification for the seniors health card;
- increasing the age pension qualifying age from 67 to 70 years;
- restricting qualification for relocation scholarship payments;
- replacing newstart or sickness allowance with the lower youth allowance for 22 to 24 year olds;
- creating a 26-week waiting periods and non-payment periods;
- limiting the large family supplement; and
- reducing the primary earner income limit; limiting family tax benefit Part B.

The closing date for submissions is 25 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 September 2014.

Senate Community Affairs References Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Out-of-pocket costs of Healthcare

The Committee will examine out-of-pocket costs in Australian healthcare, with particular reference to the current and future trends in out-of-pocket expenditure by Australian health consumers, the impact of co-payments on consumers' ability to access health care and health outcomes and costs and the effects of co-payments on other parts of the health system.

The Committee will also inquire into the implications for the ongoing sustainability of the health system, key areas of expenditure, including pharmaceuticals, primary care visits, medical devices or supplies, and dental care and the role of private health insurance.

Finally the Committee will examine the appropriateness and effectiveness of safety nets and other offsets and market drivers for costs in the Australian healthcare system.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 26 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 8 August 2014.

Grandparents who take primary responsibility for raising their grandchildren

The inquiry will examine Grandparents who take on the primary responsibility for raising their grandchildren when parents are unable or unwilling to do so, through a formal or informal care arrangement, including:

- the practical challenges facing grandparents raising grandchildren, and their support needs;
- recognising the role and contribution of grandparents raising their grandchildren;
- other challenges that grandparents raising their grandchildren face in undertaking their role, including in circumstances complicated by family conflict, mental illness, substance abuse, homelessness, child abuse or neglect, or family violence;
- legal barriers, including Legal Aid entitlements for grandparents seeking to formalise their custodial arrangements through the Family Law Courts;
- the practical measures that can be implemented by Federal, State and Territory governments and the community sector, including key priorities for action;
- the specific needs of particular groups within the caring population.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 14 March 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 30 September 2014.



Prevalence of different types of speech, language and communication disorders and speech pathology services in Australia

This inquiry will examine the prevalence and instances of different types of speech, language and communication disorders and swallowing difficulties in Australia, the availability and adequacy of speech pathology services provided by the Commonwealth, state and local governments and across Australia, and the social and economic cost of failing to treat communication and swallowing disorders.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 21 February 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 1 September 2014.

Extent of income inequality in Australia

This inquiry will examine the extent of income inequality in Australia and the rate at which income inequality is increasing in our community and the likely impact of Government policies on current and future rates of inequality particularly the changes proposed in the 2014-15 Budget.

The inquiry will look at the impact of income inequality on access to health, housing, education and work in Australia, and on the quality of the outcomes achieved. It will also examine the specific impacts of inequality on disadvantaged groups within the community, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, older job seekers, people living with a disability or mental illness, refugees, single parents, those on a low income, people at risk of poverty in retirement as well as the relationship between gender and inequality.

The Committee will report on the principles that should underpin the provision of social security payments in Australia and the practical measures that could be implemented by Governments to address inequality, particularly appropriate and adequate income support payments.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 22 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 November 2014.

Senate Economics Affairs Legislation Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Australian Renewable Energy Agency (Repeal) Bill 2014

The [Australian Renewable Energy Agency \(Repeal\) Bill 2014](#) repeals ARENA, an agency created to improve the competitiveness of and increase the supply of renewable energy and related technologies. ARENA has provided financial assistance, largely through grants, to nearly 200 renewable energy developments, including the construction of renewable energy projects, the research and development of various technologies and the development and deployment of renewable energy.

The closing date for submissions is 16 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 September 2014.

Reserve Bank Amendment (Australian Reconstruction and Development Board) Bill 2013

The Committee will examine the Private Member's bill of Senator John Madigan (DLP) and Senator Nick Xenophon, [Reserve Bank Amendment \(Australian Reconstruction and Development Board\) Bill 2013](#), which creates a specific entity tasked with examining, reconstructing and improving the financial status of the Australian agricultural sector and its associated industries and infrastructures.

As such, the Bill establishes an 'Australian Reconstruction and Development Board' (ARDB) under the Reserve Bank, with the task of forming and implementing rural reconstruction and development policy.

The closing date for submissions was 10 February 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 28 August 2014.

Competition and Consumer Amendment (Misuse of Market Power) Bill 2014

The Committee will examine the [Competition and Consumer Amendment \(Misuse of Market Power\) Bill 2014](#).

In undertaking the inquiry, the Committee will consider the application of the [Competition and Consumer Act 2010](#) with particular reference to provisions relating to competition and market power. The Committee will also examine the remedies available to the Courts and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission regarding breaches of the Act and the current levels of competition in Australian markets and the impact on consumers and small businesses.

The closing date for submissions is 30 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 28 August 2014.

Energy Efficiency Opportunities (Repeal) Bill 2014

The [Energy Efficiency Opportunities \(Repeal\) Bill 2014](#) repeals the *Energy Efficiency Opportunities Act 2006* to terminate the Energy Efficiency Opportunities program

The closing date for submissions was 20 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 14 July 2014.

Fuel Indexation (Road Funding) Bill 2014 and 3 related bills

The [Fuel Indexation \(Road Funding\) Bill 2014](#) and 3 related bills contain proposed amendments to the Excise Tariff Act 1921 and the Customs Tariff Act 1995 that would index the rate of excise and excise-equivalent customs duty applied to fuels. The bills also propose that a special account be established to ensure that the net additional revenue from the reintroduction of fuel indexation is used for road infrastructure funding.

The closing date for submissions was 27 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 7 July 2014.



Senate Economics Affairs References Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Australia's Innovation System

The Committee will examine challenges to Australian industries and jobs posed by increasing global competition in innovation, science, engineering, research and education. In particular, the Committee will examine the need to attract new investment in innovation to secure high skill, high wage jobs and industries in Australia, as well as the role of public policy in nurturing a culture of innovation and a healthy innovation ecosystem.

It will also examine the Government's approach to innovation, especially with respect to the funding of education and research, the allocation of investment in industries, and the maintenance of capabilities across the economy. It will report on the relationship between advanced manufacturing and a dynamic innovation culture and suggest policy actions to attract, train and retain a healthy research and innovation workforce and create a seamless innovation pipeline.

The full terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 31 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by the first sitting day of July 2015.

Affordable housing

This inquiry will examine government policies to encourage home ownership and residential property investment and increase housing supply, including current taxes and levies, and the operation, effect and future of the National Rental Affordability Scheme.

The inquiry will also look at the regulatory structures governing the roles of financial institutions and superannuation funds in the home lending and property sectors, and the operation and effectiveness of rent and housing assistance programs.

The inquiry is broad in scope, and will report on implications for other related changes to Commonwealth government policies and programs, including taxation policy, aged care, disability services, Indigenous affairs and for state and territory governments. Construction, building materials, sustainability and the availability of an appropriately skilled workforce will also form part of the inquiry.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 25 March 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 November 2014.

Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2014

The [Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2014](#) amends the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* and *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* to:

- remove the requirement for a ministerial declaration for a corporation to be eligible to be granted a licence for self-insurance;
- enable certain corporations to apply to join the Comcare scheme;
- allow a former Commonwealth authority to apply to be a self-insurer in the Comcare scheme and be granted a group licence if it meets the national employer test;
- enable group licences to be granted to related corporations; and
- and extend coverage to corporations that are licenced to self-insure.

It also amends the:

- *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* to exclude access to workers' compensation when injuries occur during recess breaks away from an employer's premises or a person engages in serious and wilful misconduct; and
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* to make technical amendments.

The closing date for submissions was 30 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 8 July 2014.

Senate Education and Employment References Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

The immediate future of the childcare sector in Australia

This inquiry will examine the cost and availability of childcare for parents over the short term, including the effectiveness of the current government rebates, the administrative burden (including the impact of the introduction of the National Quality Framework) on childcare, the impact of the current regulatory environment, and methods to strengthen the sector in the short term to boost Australia's productivity and workplace participation for parents.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 14 March 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 15 July 2014.

The delivery of quality and affordable early childhood education and care services

This inquiry will look at the outcomes for children in early childhood education and care services, including workforce factors such as stability, qualifications and wage rates, quality regulation (including staff-to-child ratios), participation and access to services, and environments for learning.

The Inquiry will also produce a progress report into the implementation of the National Quality Framework (NQF), including parents' experiences of the outcomes of the NQF, the impacts of the announced government amendments to the NQF, and the outcomes for children and early childhood education and care services.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 14 March 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 15 July 2014.

Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Carbon Farming Initiative Amendment Bill 2014 [Provisions]

The inquiry will examine provisions of the [Carbon Farming Initiative Amendment Bill 2014](#) which establish the Emissions Reduction Fund to replace the carbon tax and provide a transition for the Carbon Farming Initiative by amending the: Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011 to:

- provide for the Clean Energy Regulator to conduct auctions and enter into contracts to purchase emissions reductions;
- enable a broader range of emissions reduction projects to be approved; and
- amend the project eligibility criteria and processes for approving projects and crediting carbon credit units.

The closing date for submissions is 26 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 7 July 2014.

National Broadband Network Companies Amendment (Tasmania) Bill 2014

The [National Broadband Network Companies Amendment \(Tasmania\) Bill 2014](#) would amend the National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011 to require NBN Co to only make fixed line connections to the NBN in Tasmania using fibre to the premises.

The closing date for submissions was 23 April 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 June 2014.



Performance, importance and role of Australia Post in Australian communities and its operations in relation to licensed post offices

The Committee will examine the overall performance, importance and role of Australia Post in Australian communities, and the challenges it faces in the immediate and longer term. In particular it will examine the importance and role of the Licensed Post Office (LPO) network in the Australian postal system, with particular reference to regional and remote areas, the licensing and trading conditions applicable to LPOs, including the Community Service Obligations, and any effects these may have on operating an LPO business, and marketing, retail and trading arrangements between Australia Post and LPOs and other entities.

The closing date for submissions was 25 November 2013.

The Committee is due to report by 27 August 2014.

Senate Environment and Communications References Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Australia's environment

The Committee will examine “the Abbott Government's attacks on Australia's environment, and their effects on our natural heritage and future prosperity.”

The closing date for submissions is 1 September 2014.

A reporting date has not yet been set.

Great Barrier Reef

The adequacy of the Australian and Queensland Governments' efforts to stop the rapid decline of the Great Barrier Reef, including the management of the impacts of industrialization and agriculture on the reef coastline, the adequacy, timeliness and transparency of independent scientific work undertaken to support government decisions impacting the reef and government responses and processes and their consistency with the World Heritage Committee's recommendations on what is required to protect the reef.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is was 2 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 August 2014.



Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Department of Parliamentary Services

The Committee will examine progress in implementing the recommendations of the committee's 2012 reports into the performance of the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS), including workplace culture and employment issues, heritage management, building maintenance and asset management issues, and contract management, the senior management structure of DPS and arrangements to maintain the independence of the Parliamentary Librarian and oversight arrangements for security in the parliamentary precincts and security policies.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 5 September 2014.

The Committee is due to report by the seventh sitting day in March 2015.

Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Commonwealth procedures for procurement

The inquiry was established on established on 14 November 2013 and will report on the current ratio of Australian goods and services versus imported goods and services utilised by the Commonwealth through procurement procedures.

In particular, it will examine the effectiveness of current policies and procedures for procurement in Commonwealth departments and agencies, including oversight and scrutiny, cost, and requirements relating to transparency and information-sharing. It will also look at the economic, social and environmental benefits of utilising Australian goods and services

The closing date for submissions was 31 December 2013.

The Committee is due to report by 10 July 2014.

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Implementation of the Defence Trade Controls Legislation

The [Defence Trade Controls Bill 2011](#) was introduced to give effect to the 2007 Australia-United States Defence Trade Co-operation Treaty, which aims to reduce administrative burdens on Australian-US defence trade.

During the 24 month transition period for the bill, the Committee is conducting a six-monthly examination of progress of the implementation of the provisions of the bill and report to the Senate. This decision was made in response to [ongoing concerns held by stakeholders](#).

The *Defence Trade Controls Bill 2011 [Provisions] Final Report (October 2012)* is available [here](#).

The Preliminary Report is available [here](#).

Trade and Foreign Investment (Protecting the Public Interest) Bill 2014

The [Trade and Foreign Investment \(Protecting the Public Interest\) Bill 2014](#) seeks to prevent the Commonwealth from entering into agreements with foreign countries that include investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) clauses.

ISDS clauses are designed to allow foreign corporations to sue governments if their business activities and interests are impinged on by the policy and legislative decisions of the government.

There are ISDS clauses in a number of Australia's agreements with other countries, including in the recently signed Korea Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA), the Singapore FTA, the Chile FTA, the ASEAN FTA and the Thai FTA. It is believed that the Trans-Pacific partnership agreement which is currently under negotiation has ISDS clauses on the table as well.

The Australian Government is currently being sued under ISDS clauses over plain packaging.

The Committee is due to report by 27 August 2014.

Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade References Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA)

The Committee will examine the agreement with particular reference to its impact on Australia's economy, and our trade, investment, social, cultural and environmental policies. Further information about the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties may be found on that [committee's website](#), as well as the full text of the Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement and related resources.

The closing date for submissions is 29 August 2014.

Abuse in defence

With reference to the Committee's [earlier report into the review of allegations of sexual and other abuse in Defence](#), the Committee will examine the accessibility and adequacy of current mechanisms and processes to provide support to victims of sexual and other abuse in Defence.

The Committee will take into account the Defence Abuse Response Taskforce (DART) process to date, Defence's response to the DLA Piper Review and the work of DART, successive governments' responses to the DLA Piper Review and the work of DART and the desirability of releasing a true reflection of volume two of the DLA Piper report in a redacted form or by way of a summary. '

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The Committee is due to report by 28 August 2014

Australia's future activities and responsibilities in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic waters

The Committee will inquire into Australia's future activities and responsibilities in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic waters, including Australia's management and monitoring of the Southern Ocean in relation to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, cooperation with international partners on management and research under international treaties and agreements and appropriate resourcing in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic territory for research and governance.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

Submissions closed on 1 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 28 August 2014.

Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Australian Citizenship Amendment (Intercountry Adoption) Bill 2014

The [Australian Citizenship Amendment \(Intercountry Adoption\) Bill 2014](#) amends the Australian Citizenship Act 2007 to provide access to citizenship for children adopted by Australian citizens through bilateral arrangements made by Australia with specific countries who are not parties to the Hague Convention on Protection and Co-operation in respect of Intercountry Adoption.

The closing date for submissions is 18 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 August 2014.

Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment (Classification Tools and Other Measures) Bill 2014

The [Classification \(Publications, Films and Computer Games\) Amendment \(Classification Tools and Other Measures\) Bill 2014](#) amends the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995* to:

- enable certain content (including online and mobile device content) to be classified using classification tools;
- enable the secretary (or their delegate) to notify law enforcement authorities about certain content without first having the content classified;
- establish additional exempt film categories for natural history and the social sciences;
- discontinue exemption certificates for publishers for unclassified films or computer games;
- provide for exemptions for unclassified content to be screened at festivals, special events and by cultural institutions;
- remove requirements to reclassify when certain content modifications are made; and
- enable the minister to determine display and consumer advice requirements for classified content.

The closing date for submissions was 19 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 August 2014.

Criminal Code Amendment (Harming Australians) Bill 2013

The [Criminal Code Amendment \(Harming Australians\) Bill 2013](#) extends existing provisions under the Criminal Code Act 1995 that make it an offence to harm Australians overseas. The original provisions were introduced in October 2002, following the Bali bombings. The aim of these provisions was to allow for prosecution of individuals who harm Australians outside Australia (either through murder or manslaughter, or through intentional or reckless behaviour) to be brought to justice.

These provisions commenced on 1 October 2002, and apply only to offences committed after this date. This Bill gives the Act retrospective operation.

The closing date for submissions was 21 January 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 December 2014.

Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013

The inquiry will examine the [Criminal Code Amendment \(Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor\) Bill 2013](#), which makes it an offence for a person who is over 18 years of age to misrepresent their age to a person they reasonably believe to be under 16 years of age and applies to online communication.

The Committee is due to report by 4 December 2014.

Independent National Security Legislation Monitor Repeal Bill 2014

The [Independent National Security Legislation Monitor Repeal Bill 2014](#) repeals the Independent National Security Legislation Monitor Act 2010; and provides for transitional arrangements, including the transfer of records and final reporting requirements.

Barrister Bret Walker has performed the role of the independent national security legislation monitor since 2011. When this role was established, there were concerns about whether counter-terrorism laws had gone too far, and the Monitor position established to advise ministers on the effectiveness and consistency with international obligations of Australia's counter-terrorism and national security legislation. He was also authorised to advise whether the laws contained appropriate safeguards for protecting individual rights.

The Committee is due to report by 19 August 2014.

Migration Amendment (Protecting Babies Born in Australia) Bill 2014

The [Migration Amendment \(Protecting Babies Born in Australia\) Bill 2014](#) amends the *Migration Act 1958* to provide that a person will have been deemed not to have entered Australia by sea if they entered the migration zone and landed in an aircraft or if the person was born in the migration zone.

The closing date for submissions is 29 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 28 October 2014.

Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2014

The [Migration Legislation Amendment Bill \(No. 1\) 2014](#) amends the *Migration Act 1958* to:

- clarify the limitations or prohibitions on valid applications by persons who have been refused a visa or who held a visa that was cancelled;
- ensure that a bridging visa application is not an impediment to removal;
- apply debt recovery provisions to all convicted people smugglers and illegal foreign fishers;
- clarify the obligation of the Migration Review Tribunal and the Refugee Review Tribunal to provide documents to an authorised recipient;
- clarify the role of an authorised recipient and the extent of the obligation to notify an authorised recipient of direct communications made with the person who authorised them;
- clarify the procedural fairness provisions relating to giving of certain information to a visa applicant; and
- provide access to, and use of, material and information obtained under certain search warrants.

The Committee is due to report by 21 August 2014.

Recognition of Foreign Marriages Bill 2014

The [Recognition of Foreign Marriages Bill 2014](#) amends the *Marriage Act 1961* to remove the prohibition of the recognition of same sex marriages solemnised in a foreign country and provide that these marriages are recognised under the laws of Australia.

The closing date for submissions is 31 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 10 September 2014.

Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Comprehensive revision of Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979

The Committee will undertake a comprehensive revision of the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979, with regard to: the recommendations of the Australian Law Reform Commission For [Your Information: Australian Privacy Law and Practice report](#), particularly recommendation 71.2, and recommendations relating to the Act from the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security Inquiry into [the potential reforms of Australia's National Security Legislation report](#), May 2013.

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 27 February 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 August 2014.

Incident at the Manus Island Detention Centre from 16 February to 18 February 2014

The Committee will inquire into the incident at the Manus Island Detention Centre from 16 February to 18 February 2014. The Committee will have particular reference to the events and factors that gave cause to the incident and that led to, and the cause of, Reza Berati's death, the Departmental, contractor, subcontractor and service provider involvement and response, the Papua New Guinean police, military and civilian involvement and response, the conduct of the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, communications surrounding the incident, the Australian Government's duty of care obligations and responsibilities, and refugee status determination processing and resettlement arrangements in Papua New Guinea.

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The Committee is due to report by 24 September 2014.

The ability of Australian law enforcement authorities to eliminate gun-related violence in the community

The Committee will examine the ability of Australian law enforcement authorities to eliminate gun-related violence in the community, with reference to the estimated number, distribution and lethality of illegal guns in Australia, the operation and consequences of the illicit firearms trade and the adequacy of current laws and resourcing to enable law enforcement authorities to respond to technological advances in gun technology.

The closing date for submissions is 15 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 2 October 2014.

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Australian Grain Networks

The Committee will inquire into grain export networks, including the on- and off-farm storage, transport, handling and export of Australian grain, with particular reference to the principles and practices underpinning an efficient grain supply chain from farm-gate to port, grain marketing and export arrangements and their impact on farm-gate returns, competition constraints on grain transport, storage and handling services and the extent to which transport, storage and handling arrangements are transparent and accountable

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 31 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 3 December 2014.

Role of public transport in delivering productivity outcomes

The Committee will examine the need for an integrated approach across road and rail in addressing congestion in cities, including Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth, the social and environmental benefits of public transport projects compared to road infrastructure projects such as WestConnex and the East-West Link and the national significance of public transport.

The Committee will also look at the relationship between public transport and building well-functioning cities, the decision of the Federal Government to refuse to fund public transport projects and the impact on user charges arising from requiring states to fund public transport projects.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 30 January 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 December 2014.

Future of the beekeeping and pollination service industries in Australia

The Committee will look at the importance of beekeeping and pollination service industries from a food security, environmental and financial point of view. It will have regard to the current challenges facing the beekeeping industry domestically and internationally, and its future sustainability and will examine the adequacy of the current biosecurity arrangements for imported and exported honey, apiary products, package bees and queen bees. The Committee will also examine Australia's food labelling requirements, and how these affect the beekeeping industry.

In its inquiry, the Committee will have regard to the recommendations from the House Standing Committee on Primary Industries and Resources 2008 report [More than Honey; the future of the](#)

[Australian honey bee and pollination industries](#), and the Rural Affairs and Transport References Committee 2011 report [Science underpinning the inability to eradicate the Asian honey bee](#).

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 7 February 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 16 July 2014.

Industry structures and systems governing levies on grass-fed cattle

The Committee is tasked with an examination of the industry structures and systems governing the collection and disbursement of marketing and research and development levies pertaining to the sale of grass-fed cattle set out in subsections 6(1)(a), 6(1)(b), 6(2)(a) and 6(2)(b) of Schedule 3 (Cattle transactions) of the [Primary Industries \(Excise\) Levies Act 1999](#).

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 30 January 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 16 July 2014.

Implications of the use of Fenthion on Australia's horticultural industry

The implications of the restriction on the use of Fenthion on Australia's horticultural industry, including the roles and responsibilities of relevant departments and agencies of Commonwealth, State and Territory governments in relation to the regulation of pesticides and veterinary chemicals, the short- and long-term impact of the decision on stakeholders, the effectiveness and sustainability of chemicals other than Fenthion to manage fruit fly and transition arrangements following the restriction on the use of Fenthion, including Area Wide Management.

The terms of reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 28 January 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 16 July 2014.

The current requirements for labelling of seafood and seafood products

The Committee will examine whether the current requirements provide consumers with sufficient information to make informed choices, allow for best-practice traceability of product chain-of-custody and allow domestic seafood producers to compete on even terms with imported seafood products.



The Committee will have regard to the regulations in other jurisdictions and the need for consistent definitions and use of terms in product labelling, and will take into account Food and Agriculture Organisation guidelines and the need for labelling for cooked or pre-prepared seafood products and recommendations for the provision of consumer information.

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 1 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 September 2014.

Senate Select Committee on School Funding

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

On 12 December 2013 the Senate referred the following matter to the Select Committee on School Funding to inquire into and report on the development and implementation of national school funding arrangements and school reform.

The Committee is due to report by 9 July 2014.

Senate Select Committee on the National Broadband Network

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

On 14 November 2013 the Senate established a Select Committee on the National Broadband Network to inquire into and report on the Government's reviews of the National Broadband Network (NBN) and the governance of NBN Co, with interim reports as the committee sees fit and a final report on or before 10 June 2014.

On 14 May 2014, the Senate agreed to extend the date for the presentation of the final report to the last sitting day of the 44th Parliament. The committee has subsequently agreed to continue accepting submissions.



House Committees

House Standing Committee on Agriculture and Industry

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Country of Origin Food Labelling

The Committee will examine whether the current Country of Origin Labelling (CoOL for food) system provides enough information for Australian consumers to make informed purchasing decisions, and whether Australia's CoOL laws are being complied with and what, if any, are the practical limitations to compliance. The Committee will report on whether improvements could be made, including to simplify the current system and/or reduce the compliance burden, whether Australia's CoOL laws are being circumvented by staging imports through third countries and the impact on Australia's international trade obligations of any proposed changes to Australia's CoOL laws.

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 9 May 2014.

The Committee has not published date for reporting.

House Standing Committee on Economics

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into foreign investment in residential real estate

The Committee will examine the economic benefits of foreign investment in residential property, whether such foreign investment is directly increasing the supply of new housing and bringing benefits to the local building industry and its suppliers, how Australia's foreign investment framework compares with international experience; and whether the administration of Australia's foreign investment policy relating to residential property can be enhanced.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 9 May 2014.

The Committee is to report by 10 October 2014.

Review of the Reserve Bank Annual Report 2013

The Standing Committee on Economics, which can inquire into and report on any annual reports referred to it by the House of Representatives, has agreed to undertake an inquiry into the 2013 Annual Report of the Reserve Bank of Australia.

The Committee has tabled two reports to date:

- [Review of the Reserve Bank Annual Report 2013 \(First Report\)](#)
- [Review of the Reserve Bank Annual Report 2013 \(Second Report\)](#)

The Committee will continue to review the 2013 Annual Report.

Review of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Annual Report 2013

The Standing Committee on Economics, which can inquire into and report on any annual reports referred to it by the House of Representatives, has agreed to undertake an inquiry into the 2013 Annual Report of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority.

House Standing Committee on Education and Employment

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into the role of the Technical and Further Education system and its operation

The Committee will inquire into and report on the role played by TAFEs in the development of skills in the Australian economy, the provision of pathways for Australians to access employment, the provision of pathways for Australians to access University education and the operation of a competitive training market.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The Committee is due to report by 31 July 2014.

House Standing Committee on the Environment

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into streamlining environmental regulation, 'green tape', and one stop shops

The Committee will examine environmental regulation, specifically jurisdictional arrangements, regulatory requirements and the potential for deregulation, the balance between regulatory burdens and environmental benefits areas for improved efficiency and effectiveness of the regulatory framework and legislation governing environmental regulation, and the potential for deregulation.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 30 April 2014.



House Standing Committee on Health

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into skin cancer in Australia

The Committee on Health will inquire into melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers and report on options to improve implementation of evidence-based best practice treatment and management, strategies to enhance early diagnosis, effective strategies for prevention and the need to increase levels of awareness in the community and among healthcare professionals.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 28 March 2014.

House Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

The Committee will inquire into and report on the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The inquiry will focus on patterns of supply of, and demand for alcohol in different Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, age groups and genders, the social and economic determinants of harmful alcohol use across Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, trends and prevalence of alcohol related harm, including alcohol-fuelled violence and impacts on newborns e.g. Foetal Alcohol Syndrome and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

The Committee will also examine best practice strategies, treatments and support for minimising alcohol misuse and alcohol-related harm, best practice strategies to minimise alcohol misuse and alcohol-related harm, and in so doing will include international and domestic comparisons.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 17 April 2014.



House Standing Committee on Infrastructure and Communications

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into High Speed Rail Planning Authority Bill 2013

On Thursday 12 December 2013, the House Selection Committee referred a private member's bill to the Committee for inquiry and report - *the High Speed Rail Planning Authority Bill 2013*.

On 9 December 2013 Shadow Minister for Infrastructure the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP introduced a private member's bill to protect the 1 748 kilometre rail corridor for the HSR project.

The Bill would establish the High-Speed Rail Planning Authority as a vehicle for long-term Commonwealth leadership to progress this project, made up of federal, state and industry stakeholders. The body would be similar to the High Speed Rail Advisory Group established by the former Labor Government which was abolished by the Coalition Government.

The terms of reference are the text of the bill, which can be accessed, together with the explanatory memorandum and the second reading speech, are available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on High Speed Rail is available [here](#).

Infrastructure Planning and Procurement

The Committee will consider the operating around Australia at local and state government levels that might lower the cost of planning approvals and reduce timeframes for delivery of projects. Of those initiatives, the Committee will inquire as whether any are able or appropriate to be implemented on a broader basis, including at Federal level.

The Committee will also examine what industry doing to reduce the regulatory and other costs that it faces in competing for infrastructure projects, and ways that Australia can increase or deepen the competitive market for infrastructure provision and funding in Australia.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 11 April 2014.



House Standing Committee on Procedure

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into the use of electronic devices in the House of Representatives Chamber and Federation Chamber

The Committee is considering whether there is currently sufficient regulation and guidance on the use of electronic devices in the Chamber or whether there needs to be additional guidance or restriction.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

Submissions closed on 11 April 2014.

Inquiry into the maintenance of the Standing and Sessional Orders

The Committee will inquire into and report on the maintenance of the standing and sessional orders of the House of Representatives.

House Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Roundtable on Drones and Privacy

The Social Policy and Legal Affairs Committee held three Roundtable on Drones and Privacy to investigate three main themes around the increasing civilian use of aerial drones in Australia:

- Airspace regulation
- Practical applications
- Privacy implications

On Monday 17 March 2014, the Committee Chair, Mr George Christensen MP, updated the House by oral statement. A copy of the statement can be found [here](#).

Parliamentary Inquiry into the Child Support Program

The Committee will consider whether any problems experienced by payers or payees of child support impact on the majority of parents and other carers involved in the system, or a minority, and make recommendations accordingly.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 4 July 2014.



House Standing Committee on Tax and Revenue

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into the 2013 Annual Report of the Australian Taxation Office

The Committee will inquire into and report on the 2013 Annual Report of the Australian Taxation Office.

The 2013 ATO Annual Report is available [here](#).

Inquiry into Tax Disputes

The Committee will report on disputes between taxpayers and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), and will examine collecting revenues due, fair treatment and respect of taxpayers, the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency, from the perspective of both taxpayers and the ATO, and how the ATO supports the outcomes of efficiency, effectiveness and transparency through the use and publication of performance information.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).



Joint Committees

Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into the jurisdiction of the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity

The Committee will inquire into the jurisdiction of the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI).

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 14 May 2014.

Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

The committee is tasked with:

- a) reviewing the implementation of the NDIS;
- b) reviewing the administration and expenditure of the NDIS;
- c) reviewing any matter in relation to the NDIS referred to the committee by a resolution of either House of the Parliament;

The committee's focus is therefore on the implementation and administration of the scheme.

Unless otherwise stated, the committee will only accept submissions and correspondence that are directly and principally related to the implementation and administration of the NDIS. The case for the NDIS was already examined by the Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs [inquiry into the National Disability Insurance Scheme Bill 2012](#).

The Committee is currently accepting submissions.

The Committee reports by 30 June each year.

Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Oversight of ASIC and the Takeovers Panel 2014

Section 243 of the *Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001* sets out the Committee's duties. These duties include oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC). In

fulfillment of this statutory duty, the committee holds regular public hearings with ASIC and reports its findings to parliament.

The most recent hearing was held on 28 March 2014.

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into and report on all aspects of the conduct of the 2013 Federal Election and matters related thereto.

The Committee will inquire into and report on all aspects of the conduct of the 2013 Federal Election and matters related thereto.

The closing date for submissions was 7 March 2014.

The Inquiry website is available [here](#).

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into Australia's trade and investment relationships with countries of the Middle East

The Committee will consider the nature of Australia's existing trade and investment relationships with countries of the Middle East and emerging and possible future trends in these relationships.

The Committee will also examine barriers and impediments to trade and investment with Middle Eastern countries for Australian businesses, including examination of supply chain costs and opportunities for deepening existing commercial and cultural links, and developing new ones, with the countries of the Middle East.

Finally, the Committee will consider the role of government, including DFAT and Austrade, in identifying new opportunities and assisting Australian companies to access existing and potential opportunities in the Middle East.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 15 March 2014.

Review of the Defence Annual Report 2012-2013

The Committee will review the to review the [Department of Defence Annual Report 2012-2013](#) , having particular regard to submarine capability, the Defence Materiel Organisation and Capability Development Group, asset management, the Defence Cooperation Program and air combat capability.

The closing date for submissions was 1 May 2014.

Inquiry into the human right issues confronting women and girls in the Indian Ocean – Asia Pacific region

The Committee will examine the barriers and impediments to enhancing the human rights of women and girls in the Indian Ocean - Asia Pacific region, especially regarding the impact of family and sexual violence, women's leadership and economic opportunities. The Committee will also review the achievements to date in advancing women and girls' human rights in these key areas and will consider the implications for economic and social development in the Indian Ocean - Asia Pacific region of promoting women and girls' human rights.

Finally the Committee will also examine the effectiveness of Australian programs to support efforts to improve the human rights of women and girls in the Indian Ocean - Asia Pacific region.

The closing date for submissions is 22 May 2014.

Inquiry into the role of the private sector in promoting economic growth and reducing poverty in the Indo-Pacific region

The Committee will examine the current role of the private sector in accelerating the pace of economic growth and in reducing poverty in poor countries in the Indo-Pacific region.

It will look at current Australian Government support for private sector development through bilateral and multilateral investments, any legislative, institutional, social and policy constraints that may reduce the ability of private sector agencies to engage in development and additional partnerships, activities or financial instruments the Australian government could use to enhance the role of the private sector in development in the Indo-Pacific region.

The Committee will also examine the role of public-private partnerships in leveraging private sector investment in developing countries and the role Australian and international businesses could play to support development and inclusive growth in partner countries.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 8 May 2014.

Inquiry into Government Support for Australian Defence Industry Exports

The Committee will inquire into and report on Government support for Australian Defence industry exports, including identification of barriers and impediments to the growth of Australia's Defence exports, how Government can better engage and assist Australian Defence industry to export its products, the operations of the Defence Export Control Office and an assessment of the export support given to Defence industry by governments of comparable nations.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions is 11 July 2014.

Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence and Security

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Review of Administration and Expenditure No. 12 (2012 - 2013) - Australian Intelligence Agencies

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security is required under Section 29 (1)(a) of the [Intelligence Services Act 2001](#), to conduct an annual review of the administration, expenditure and financial statements of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS), Defence Signals Directorate (DSD), Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO), Defence Imagery Geospatial Organisation (DIGO) and the Office of National Assessments (ONA).

The closing date for submissions was 21 February 2014.

Inquiry into financial related crime

The committee will examine the effectiveness of current Commonwealth law enforcement legislation and administrative arrangements that target serious and organised financial related crime including money laundering and identity fraud.

The committee will examine the character, prevalence and impact of financial related crime in Australia, the methods and practices used by the perpetrators and the involvement of organised crime, the operation and effectiveness of Commonwealth legislation, administrative arrangements and law enforcement strategies, the role of the Australian Crime Commission and the Australian Federal Police in detecting financial related crime and the interaction of Commonwealth, state and territory legislation and law enforcement activity.

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 9 May 2014.



Joint Standing Committee on Migration

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Inquiry into the Business Innovation and Investment Programme (BIIP)

Joint Standing Committee on Migration

The inquiry will assess whether the BIIP is meeting its intended objectives and if any adjustments are necessary, consider the conditions involved in the decline in rates of application for the BIIP, in light of rates of application for the previous Business Skills Program and evaluate the current eligibility criteria, with particular regard to the operation of the BIIP points test, and its effectiveness in selecting suitable migrants.

The inquiry will also weigh the size of the current BIIP programme against the emphasis placed on other elements of the skilled stream of the migration programme in generating economic growth.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 2 May 2014.

Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories

[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Review of the National Capital Authority: Biannual Public Briefings

The Committee is empowered to inquire into the National Capital Authority (NCA) through its Resolution of Appointment which provides for the Annual Reports of the NCA to stand referred to the Committee for any inquiry the Committee may resolve to adopt. The committee is committed to holding a public hearing with the NCA every six months to canvass matters of interest.

The next briefing will be held on 17 July 2014.

Inquiry into economic development on Norfolk Island

The Committee will inquire into and report on redressing barriers to tourism, with particular regard to air services, facilities for cruise ships, roads and other infrastructure, complements to tourism, such as agriculture, other industry or small-medium enterprises and proposals and opportunities for niche industries.

The full Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

The closing date for submissions was 17 April 2014.

Joint Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Audit
[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Review of Auditor General's Reports 10-31 (2013-14)

On Thursday 5 June 2014, the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit resolved to review the following audit reports in detail:

- Audit Report No. 21 (2013-14) [Pilot Project to Audit Key Performance Indicators](#);
- Audit Report No. 25 (2013-14) [Management of the Building Better Regional Cities Program](#);
- Audit Report No. 26 (2013-14) [Medicare Compliance Audits](#); and
- Report No. 27 of (2013-14) [Integrity of Medicare Customer Data](#).

The next hearing will be held on 17 July 2014.

Joint Standing Committee on Public Works
[Committee homepage](#) | [Committee membership](#)

Proposed fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Social Services, ACT

On Tuesday, 3 June 2014 the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance, The Hon Michael McCormack MP, asked the Committee to inquire into and report on proposed fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Social Services, Australian Capital Territory.

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

Submissions are due by 8 July 2014.

Development and construction of housing for Defence at RAAF Base Darwin, NT

On Thursday, 5 June 2014 the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance, The Hon Michael McCormack MP, asked the Committee to inquire into and report on the development and construction of housing for Defence at RAAF Base Darwin, NT.

The Terms of Reference are available [here](#).

Submissions are due by 10 July 2014.



Further information

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on Parliamentary Committees and inquiries is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton guide to participating in Parliamentary inquiries is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on the new Senate from 1 July 2014 is available [here](#).

The Senate Committee homepage can be accessed [here](#).