

The New Senate from 1 July 2011

The Senate consists of 76 Senators, twelve from each of the six states and two from each of the mainland territories. In order for a motion to be passed in the Senate, a 50 per cent plus 1 majority must be achieved (i.e. 39 votes). A motion can be defeated if the votes are divided equally (i.e. 50 per cent or 38 votes).

On 1 July 2011, changes to the Senate resulting from the 2010 election will come into effect. As a result of these changes, the Greens will hold the balance of power in the Senate. The make-up of the new Senate is detailed below:

Future Senate (from 1 July 2011)	No. of Seats
Liberal Party	29 (Coalition 34)
Nationals	4
Country Liberal Party	1
ALP	31
Greens	9
Democratic Labor Party (DLP)	1
Independent (Xenophon)	1

The new Senate will sit for the first time from Monday 4 July to Thursday 7 July.

The twelve senators-elect are:

1. Matthew Thistlethwaite (ALP) – NSW
B.Ec., LLB; Solicitor, General Secretary of NSW Labor from 2008, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Unions NSW 2004-08; married with two children.
2. Lee Rhiannon (Green) – NSW
B.Sc.; Greens MP in NSW Upper House from 1999-2010, founder of AID/WATCH; partner and three adult children.
3. Bridget McKenzie (NP) – Victoria
B.App.Sc., B.Ed.; Education lecturer, Monash University; four children.
4. Richard Di Natale (Green) – Victoria
MBBS, Masters in Public Health, Masters in Health Sciences; public health specialist, drug and alcohol clinician; married with two children.

5. John Madigan (DLP) – Victoria
Blacksmith; married with two children.
6. Larissa Waters (Green) – Queensland
B.Sc., LLB; Solicitor, community environmental lawyer; partner and one child.
7. Alex Gallacher (ALP) – South Australia
Secretary of Transport Workers' Union, Director of Motor Accident Tribunal (SA)
8. Sean Edwards (LP) – South Australia
President of the Liberal Party's South Australian Division; Winemaker; married with four children.
9. David Fawcett (LP) – South Australia
B.Sc.; Former Member for Wakefield, Lieutenant Colonel in the Australian Defence Force, pilot; married with two children.
10. Penny Wright (Green) – South Australia
LLB; Deputy President of the South Australian Guardianship Board, mediator, solicitor; married with three children.
11. Lisa Singh (ALP) – Tasmania
B.A.; CEO Asbestos Free Tasmania Foundation, Former state member for Denison; two children.
12. Anne Urquhart (ALP) – Tasmania
President of Unions Tasmania, State Secretary of AMWU Tasmania, Organiser at Food Preservers' Union; married with two children and four grandchildren.

For more information on the senators elect, click [here](#).

On 26 June 2011, the Leader of the Greens Senator Bob Brown released details of his party's new portfolio arrangements which will come into effect from 1 July. Details are available [here](#).

The following twelve senators will finish their term on 30 June 2010:

1. Senator Michael Forshaw (ALP) – Senator for NSW since 1999
2. Senator Steve Hutchins (ALP) – Senator for NSW since 1999
3. Senator Julian McGauran (LP) – Senator for Victoria from 1987-1990, and again since 1993
4. Senator the Hon. Judith Troeth (LP) – Senator for Victoria since 1993
5. Senator Steve Fielding (Family First) – Senator for Victoria since 2005
6. Senator Russell Trood (LNP) – Senator for Queensland since 2005
7. Senator Annette Hurley (ALP) – Senator for South Australia since 2005
8. Senator Dana Wortley (ALP) – Senator for South Australia since 2005
9. Senator the Hon. Alan Ferguson (LP) – Senator for South Australia since 1993
10. Senator the Hon. Nick Minchin (LP) – Senator for South Australia since 1993
11. Senator Kerry O'Brien (ALP) – Senator for Tasmania since 1999
12. Senator Guy Barnett (LP) – Senator for Tasmania since 2005

For more information, contact your Hawker Britton consultant.