

Last week in Parliament

18-21 March 2024

House of Representatives

Bills initiated in the House

The following new Bills were initiated:

- <u>Customs Tariff Amendment (Tobacco) Bill 2024</u> introduced 20 March 2024, Government Bill
 - Explanatory Memorandum
- Excise Tariff Amendment (Tobacco) Bill 2024 introduced 20 March 2024, Government Bill
 - Explanatory Memorandum
- Health Legislation Amendment (Removal of Requirement for a Collaborative Arrangement)
 Bill 2024 introduced 20 March 2024, Government Bill
 - Explanatory Memorandum
- <u>National Cancer Screening Register Amendment Bill 2024</u> introduced 21 March 2024, Government Bill
 - Explanatory Memorandum
- Therapeutic Goods and Other Legislation Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Bill 2024
 - introduced 21 March 2024, Government Bill
 - Explanatory memorandum

New inquiries of House Committees

The following new inquiries were announced:

Industry, Science and Resources Committee

<u>Food and Beverage Manufacturing in Australia</u> – submissions due 1 May 2024

Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport Committee

<u>Inquiry into local government sustainability</u> – submissions due 3 May 2024

Reports of House Committees

The following new Committee reports were tabled:

Appropriations and Administration Committee

Report No. 27: Annual Report 2022-2023 – tabled 21 March 2024

Petitions Committee

Report No. 23: Petitions and Ministerial responses – tabled 18 March 2024

Selection Committee

 Report No. 24: Committee and delegation business and private Members' business – tabled 20 March 2024

Senate

Bills initiated in the Senate

The following new Bill was initiated:

- <u>Competition and Consumer Amendment (Divestiture Powers) Bill 2024</u> introduced
 20 March 2024, Private Senator's Bill
 - Explanatory Memorandum

New inquiries of Senate Committees

The following new inquiry was announced:

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Agriculture (Biosecurity Protection) Levies Bill 2024 [Provisions] and related bills
 submissions due 10 April 2024

Reports of Senate Committees

The following new Committee reports were tabled:

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

• Annual reports (No. 1 of 2024) - tabled 20 March 2024

Economics Legislation Committee

- Additional Estimates 2023-24 tabled 20 March 2024
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2024) tabled 20 March 2024
- <u>Competition and Consumer Amendment (Fair Go for Consumers and Small Business) Bill 2024 [Provisions]</u> tabled out of session 15 March 2024

Education and Employment Legislation Committee

- Additional Estimates 2023-24 tabled 20 March 2024
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2024) tabled 20 March 2024
- Fair Work Amendment Bill 2024 tabled out of session 14 March 2024

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

- Additional Estimates 2023-24 tabled 20 March 2024
- <u>Progress Report: Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Enhancing Consumer Safeguards and Other Measures) Bill 2023 [Provisions]</u> tabled out of session 14 March 2024
- <u>Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Enhancing Consumer Safeguards and Other Measures) Bill 2023 [Provisions]</u> tabled 18 March 2024

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

- Additional Estimates 2023–24 tabled 20 March 2024
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2024) tabled 20 March 2024
- COAG Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 [Provisions] tabled out of session 14 March 2024
- <u>Electoral Legislation Amendment (Fairer Contracts and Grants) Bill 2023</u> tabled out of session 4 March 2024
- <u>Public Governance</u>, <u>Performance and Accountability Amendment (Vaccine Indemnity) Bill</u>
 2023 tabled 18 March 2024

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

- Additional estimates 2023-24 tabled 20 March 2024
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2024) tabled 20 March 2024
- <u>Defence Trade Controls Amendment Bill 2023 [Provisions]</u> tabled out of session 15 March 2024

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

• Annual reports (No. 1 of 2024) - tabled 20 March 2024

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

• Annual reports (No. 1 of 2024) - tabled 20 March 2024

Scrutiny of Bills Committee

Scrutiny Digest 4 of 2024 – tabled 20 March 2024

Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation Committee

Delegated legislation Monitor 3 of 2024 – tabled 20 March 2024

Selection of Bills Committee

Report No. 3 of 2024 – tabled 21 March 2024

Joint Committees

New inquiries of Joint Committees

The following new inquiries were announced:

Corporations and Financial Services Committee

• Wholesale investor and wholesale client tests – submissions due 15 May 2024

Treaties Committee

 Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Fiji on Cooperation in the Field of Defence and the Status of Visiting Forces – submissions due 9 April 2024

Reports of Joint Committees

The following new Committee reports were tabled:

Human Rights Committee

Human rights scrutiny report: Report 2 of 2024 - tabled 20 March 2024

Intelligence and Security Committee

- Advisory report on the amendments made by the Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Repudiation) Bill 2023 – tabled 21 March 2024
- Advisory report on the Defence Amendment (Safeguarding Australia's Military Secrets) Bill 2023 – tabled out of session 14 March 2024
- Advisory report on the National Security Legislation Amendment (Comprehensive Review and Other Measures No. 3) Bill 2023 tabled 21 March 2024

Law Enforcement Committee

 Report on committee visit to the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation – tabled 20 March 2024

Public Works Committee

 Airservices Australia — PFAS Remediation of Former Fire Training Ground at Launceston Airport, Tasmania – tabled 19 March 2024

Treaties Committee

- Report 214: Acts of the Universal Postal Union tabled 20 March 2024
- <u>Visit by the committee to India and Singapore from 10 to 16 December 2023</u> tabled 20 March 2024

Laws passed

As at the close of business on Thursday 21 March, the following Bills have passed both Houses and are awaiting assent by the Governor-General:

- Australian Research Council Amendment (Review Response) Bill 2024
 - Explanatory Memorandum
- National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse Amendment Bill 2024
 - Explanatory Memorandum
- National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Amendment (Strengthening Quality and Integrity in Vocational Education and Training No. 1) Bill 2024
 - Explanatory Memorandum
- Paid Parental Leave Amendment (More Support for Working Families) Bill 2024
 - Explanatory Memorandum
- Social Services Legislation Amendment (Child Support and Family Assistance Technical Amendments) Bill 2024
 - Explanatory Memorandum

Between the close of business on 29 February and the close of business on Thursday 21 March, the following Bills received assent by the Governor-General:

- Crimes Legislation Amendment (Combatting Foreign Bribery) Bill 2024
 - Explanatory memorandum
 - Supplementary explanatory memorandum
- Passenger Movement Charge Amendment Bill 2024
 - Explanatory memorandum
- Treasury Laws Amendment (Cost of Living Medicare Levy) Bill 2024
 - Explanatory memorandum
- Treasury Laws Amendment (Cost of Living Tax Cuts) Bill 2024
 - Explanatory memorandum

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