



DEPARTMENT
OF THE SENATE

Words in the 45th Parliament

Examining Senate debate through the
frequency of keywords

Senate daily business

Senate routine of business

1/2019

MONDAY

10 am

- Prayers and acknowledgement of country
- Documents presented
- Committees—proposals to meet SO 33(5)
- Private senators' bills

12.20 pm

- Government business only

2 pm

- Questions
- Motions to take note of answers
30 mins
- Petitions
- Notices of motion
- Placing of business
- Formal business
- MPI or urgency motion
SO 75—1 hr
- Consideration of documents tabled earlier in the day
SO 61—30 mins
- Ministerial statements
- Committee memberships
- Messages
- Business of the Senate (if any)
- Government business

6.30 pm

- Sitting suspended (dinner break)

7.30 pm

- Order of business continued

9.50 pm

- Adjournment proposed
40 mins

10.30 pm

- Adjournment

TUESDAY

12 pm

- Prayers and acknowledgement of country
- Documents presented
- Committees—proposals to meet SO 33(5)
- Government business only

2 pm

- Questions
- Motions to take note of answers
30 mins
- Petitions
- Notices of motion
- Placing of business
- Formal business
- MPI or urgency motion
SO 75—1 hr
- Consideration of documents tabled earlier in the day
SO 61—30 mins
- Tabling and consideration of committee reports
SO 62(4)—1 hr
- Ministerial statements
- Committee memberships
- Messages
- Business of the Senate (if any)
- Government business

7.20 pm

- Adjournment proposed
No time limit
- Adjournment

WEDNESDAY

9.30 am

- Prayers and acknowledgement of country
- Documents presented
- Committees—proposals to meet SO 33(5)
- Government business only

12.45 pm

- Senators' statements SO 57(2)

2 pm

- Questions
- Motions to take note of answers
30 mins
- Petitions
- Notices of motion
- Placing of business
- Formal business
- MPI or urgency motion
SO 75—1 hr
- Consideration of documents tabled earlier in the day
SO 61—30 mins
- Tabling and consideration of committee reports
SO 62(4)—1 hr
- Ministerial statements
- Committee memberships
- Messages
- Business of the Senate (if any)
- Government business

7.20 pm

- Adjournment proposed
40 mins

8 pm

- Adjournment

THURSDAY

9.30 am

- Prayers and acknowledgement of country
- Clerk's documents presented
- Committees—proposals to meet SO 33(5)
- Government business only

11.45 am

- Petitions
- Notices of motion
- Placing of business
- Formal business
- Committee memberships
- Messages
- Business of the Senate (if any)
- Government business

12.45 pm

- Non-controversial government business only

2 pm

- Questions
- Motions to take note of answers
30 mins
- Tabling and consideration of committee reports
SO 62(4)—1 hr
- Ministerial statements

not later than

4.30 pm

- Business of the Senate (if any)
- General business debate
SO 59(b)

not later than

6 pm

- Consideration of documents
SO 61(3)—1 hr

not later than

7 pm

- Consideration of committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports
SO 62(1)—1 hr

8 pm

- Adjournment proposed
40 mins

8.40 pm

- Adjournment

Word searches in Hansard – 45th Parliament

The screenshot displays a word search interface for the Hansard database. On the left, a navigation pane shows the search term 'health' and indicates '1 of 519 matches'. Below this, a message states 'Too many results to preview.' and provides instructions: 'Click the arrows to see the next or previous result, or click a tab to browse the filtered pages or the highlighted headings.' The main content area shows a document page from Monday, 10 September 2018, in the SENATE, page 5819. The document title is 'Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment Bill 2018', 'A New Tax System (Medicare Levy Surcharge—Fringe Benefits) Amendment (Excess Levels for Private Health Insurance Policies) Bill 2018', and 'Medicare Levy Amendment (Excess Levels for Private Health Insurance Policies) Bill 2018'. The section is 'Second Reading'. The text discusses the consideration of the motion and the speech by Senator POLLEY (Tasmania) at 12:20. He mentions the Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment Bill 2018, the A New Tax System (Medicare Levy Surcharge—Fringe Benefits) Amendment (Excess Levels for Private Health Insurance Policies) Bill 2018, and the Medicare Levy Amendment (Excess Levels for Private Health Insurance Policies) Bill 2018. He states that Labor has a real plan to rein in soaring private health insurance costs by capping premium price increases at two per cent for two years, effectively tying them to general inflation. He mentions that Labor government will deliver real relief for the 13 million Australian consumers struggling with the cost of living. This strong policy will put an average of \$340 back in the pockets of Australian families. That's only fair, given that wages are so low and private health insurance profits are so high. We're shifting the balance back to ordinary Australians. For decades, Australians have been getting whacked by premium price rises that are double and even triple the rate of inflation. Families are now paying \$1,000 more every year for private health insurance than they were when the Liberals came to power in 2013. Labor's policy will deliver the smallest premium price rises in decades. More than that, Labor's policy will deliver much-needed certainty so that Australians can plan their household budgets around these more modest increases—no more February surprises when the insurance companies say, 'Hey, your premiums will rise by four, five or even six per cent on 1 April.' We believe private health insurance plays an important role in Australia's world-class health system. We're not looking to dismantle it. But this is an industry that gets \$6 billion in taxpayer subsidies every year. Australians are entitled to demand a better deal. Alongside Labor's policy of an unprecedented two per cent cap, we will also order a sweeping Productivity Commission review of private health insurance. This inquiry will give us ideas on how to bring down the cost and improve the quality and value over the longer term. In contrast to Labor's bold plan, the package the government announced in October last year is underwhelming. After two years of talking, the best the government could come up with was a range of mostly minor changes. They're really only tinkering around the edges, which isn't surprising given how closely the government collaborated with private health insurers in devising this package. The opposition welcomes the elements of the government's bills that strengthen the powers of the Private Health Insurance Ombudsman. We also welcome changes that allow insurers to cover travel and accommodation costs under hospital treatment products, in order to help people in rural and remote areas of Australia.

Keywords

- **LGBT** (*same-sex marriage, related issues*)
- **environment** (*environmental policy*)
- **climate** (*climate change*)
- **Indigenous** (*Indigenous affairs, related issues*)
- **health** (*health policy*)
- **education** (*education policy*)
- **economy** (*Australian economy, related issues*)
- **job** (*employment, commonly used*)

Average word mentions in 45th Parliament

Year	LGBT	Environment	Climate	Indigenous	Health	Education	Economy	Job
2016	9.43	37	22.39	31.60	117.47	56.73	36.17	87.34
2017	7.43	46	23.30	33.18	82.38	79.45	30.32	99.4
2018	6.79	48.34	26.62	39.22	112.81	65.48	46.46	124.37
2019	4.2	73.8	68.4	56.8	92	65.8	35.8	81

“Health” above average frequency in 2018

2018	Items at which health was mentioned most frequently
5 February – 171 mentions	Question without notice and taking note of answers
12 February – 164 mentions	Debate on the National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2017
19 March – 152 mentions	Debate on the National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2017
8 May – 154 mentions	Matter of public importance debate and adjournment debate
21 June – 168 mentions	Debate on the Health Legislation Amendment (Improved Medicare Compliance and Other Measures) Bill 2018
25 June – 230 mentions	Matter of public importance debate was on health care
26 June – 168 mentions	Questions without notice
10 Sept – 519 mentions	Debate on three pieces of legislation – Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment Bill 2018, A New Tax System (Medicare Levy Surcharge – Fringe Benefits) Amendment (Excess Levels for Private Health Instance Policies) Bill 2018, and Medicare Levy Amendment (Excess Levels for Private Health Insurance Policies) Bill 2018
12 Nov – 194 mentions	Matter of public importance debate
14 Nov – 357 mentions	Debate on the My Health Records Amendment (Strengthening Privacy) Bill 2018
15 Nov – 250 mentions	Debate on the My Health Records Amendment (Strengthening Privacy) Bill 2018

“Indigenous” above average frequency in 2018

2018	Items at which Indigenous was mentioned most frequently
12 Feb – 244 mentions	Questions without notice; motions to take note of answers; motions for debate; debate on the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Cashless Debit Card) Bill 2017
13 Feb – 118 mentions	Questions without notice; motions for debate; adjournment debate; debate on the Prime Minister and Cabinet Legislation Amendment (2017 Measures No. 1) Bill
20 March – 135 mentions	Questions without notice; order for the production of documents relating to Indigenous housing
28 March – 87 mentions	Questions without notice; some mentions during debate on Treasury Laws Amendment (2017 Measures No. 5) Bill 2017 and the ASIC Supervisory Cost Recovery Levy Amendment Bill 2017
15 November – 73 mentions	Questions without notice; additional answers; order for the production of documents relating to the Indigenous Advancement Strategy
28 Nov – 122 mentions	Debate on three pieces of legislation – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Amendment (Indigenous Land Corporation) Bill 2018, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land and Sea Future Fund Bill 2018, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land and Sea Future Fund (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2018; statements by senators; and related topics in questions without notice

“Climate” above average frequency in 2018

2018	Items at which climate was mentioned most frequently
8 Feb – 61 mentions	Debate on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Amendment (Authority Governance and Other Matters) Bill 2017
19 March – 53 mentions	Debate on the Coal-Fired Power Funding Prohibition Bill 2017; matter of public importance debate
13 August – 90 mentions	Questions without notice; motions take note of answers; matter of public importance debate on drought
23 August – 69 mentions	Questions without notice; motions for debate
10 September – 62 mentions	Debate on the Coal-Fired Power Funding Prohibition Bill 2017; questions without notice
13 September – 50 mentions	Debate on two bills – Customs Amendment (Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus Implementation) Bill 2018, Customs Tariff Amendment (Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus Implementation) Bill 2018; motions for debate
28 November – 66 mentions	Motions to take note of answers; motions for debate
4 December – 111 mentions	Questions without notice; motions to take note of answers; order for production of documents; matter of urgency debate regarding climate change
5 December – 104 mentions	Statements by senators; questions without notice; motions to take note of answers; debate on the Galilee Basin (Coal Prohibition) Bill 2018; motions for debate; matter of urgency debate regarding the mining industry

Hansard mentions vs Parlinfo media search

	Climate mentions in Senate Hansard, 2018	Climate search results for media through Parlinfo search
February	137	516
March	138	630
May	46	619
June	91	674
August	356	1717
September	211	966
October	83	1723
November	235	1286
December	237	1172

LGBT above average frequency in 2017

2017	Items at which LGBT was mentioned most frequently
9 May – 13 mentions	Motion in regards to human rights.
22 June – 10 mentions	Question to Attorney-General re Mrs Margaret Court.
9 August – 9 mentions	Motion to restore the second reading of the Plebiscite (Same-Sex Marriage) Bill 2016 to the notice paper.
13 September – 38 mentions	Marriage Law Survey (Additional Safeguards) Bill 2017
15 November – 9 mentions	Statements by Senator
16 November – 87 mentions	Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Bill 2017
27 November – 120 mentions	Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Bill 2017
28 November – 25 mentions	Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Bill 2017
29 November – 31 mentions	Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Bill 2017, motion relating to funding of health services.

LGBT in Hansard vs Parlinfo media search 2017

	LGBT mentions in Senate Hansard through word search	"Same sex marriage" results for media through Parlinfo search
February	15	200
March	4	296
May	13	168
June	20	426
August	20	1707
September	54	1755
October	0	691
November	253	1709
December	10	908

