



THE SENATE
LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE

23 July 2010

Senator the Hon John Hogg
President of the Senate

INQUIRY INTO REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT COMPENSATION SCHEMES

INTERIM REPORT

Pursuant to Senate Standing Order 38(7), I present to you an interim report of the Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee on Review of Government Compensation Schemes.

On 4 February 2010, the Senate referred the following matter to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 September 2010:

The administration and effectiveness of current mechanisms used by federal and state and territory governments to provide discretionary payments in special circumstances, or to provide financial relief from amounts owing to governments, namely:

- state statutory schemes relating to children in care;
- payments made under 'defective administration' schemes, such as the Commonwealth Scheme for Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration;
- act of grace and ex gratia payments; and
- waiver of debt schemes.

The committee has received submissions from 175 organisations and individuals, and has not yet held public hearings. Due to the prorogation of the 42nd Parliament and the need to thoroughly consider the evidence it has received to date, the committee intends to table its final report as soon as practicable.

Senator Guy Barnett
Chair