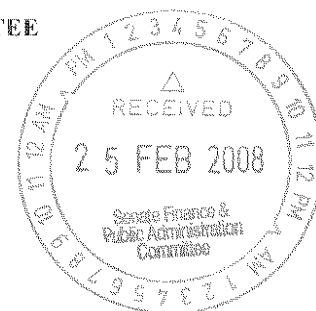


**SENATE FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING, 18 FEBRUARY 2008**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**



**Question No. P1**

**Senator ROBERT RAY** – So subsequent to the then government getting a majority in the Senate no select committees were established.

**Mr Evans** – That is correct.

**Senator ROBERT RAY** – Do you know how many were knocked back?

**Mr Evans** – No. We would have figures for that, but I do not know off-hand.

**Answer**

In the period from 1 July 2005 to the end of 2007, there were two proposals in the Senate for select committees which were rejected, as follows:

Date	Committee name	Proposed by
5.12.2006	Mental Health Services	Senator Allison
9.8.2007	Australia's Anti-Terrorism Laws	Senator Stott Despoja

**Question No. P2**

**Senator ROBERT RAY** – In relation to the average two from 1996 to 2005, would it be possible for you to tell me how many were chaired by government senators and how many were chaired by opposition senators? We know that the Senate Select Committee on Superannuation was chaired by a distinguished senator here for many, many years, as a government member. Do we have those figures?

**Mr Evans** – We can get them for you.

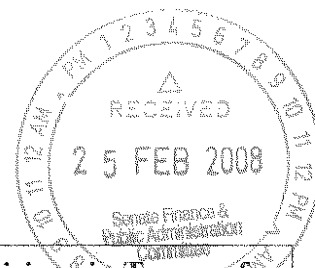
**Answer**

Select Committees established from 1996 to 2007 inclusive were chaired as follows:

Government chair	4
Opposition chair	7
Minority party chair	1
Unspecified in resolution	8*
* Government chair in 5 cases	
Opposition chair in 3 cases	
Total	20

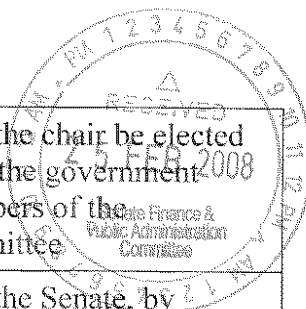
Attached is a complete list of the select committees.

## Select Committees appointed from 1996 to 2007



Committee	Appointed	Chair	Provisions in Terms of Reference for Chair
Uranium Mining and Milling	2/5/1996	Senator Chapman (LP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by the members of the committee
Victorian Casino	8/5/1996	Senator Childs (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by and from the members of the committee
Community Standards Relevant to the Supply of Services Utilising Electronic Technologies	20/5/1996 (re-appointed)	Senator Tierney (LP)	That the chairman be appointed by and from the members of the committee, and the deputy chairman be appointed in a similar manner from the non-government members
Superannuation	29/5/1996 (re-appointed)	Senator Watson (LP)	The committee elect as its chair a member nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate
Information Technologies	27/8/1997	Senator Ferris (LP)	That the chairman be appointed by and from the members of the committee, and the deputy chairman be appointed in a similar manner from the non-government members
Socio-Economic Consequences of the National Competition Policy	1/7/1998 and re-appointed on 9/3/1999	Senator Quirke (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by and from the members of the committee
A New Tax System	25/11/1998	Senator Cook (ALP)	That the committee shall elect as its chair a member nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Retailing Sector – Joint Select Committee	9/12/1998	The Hon Bruce Baird (LP)	That the committee elect a Government member as its chair

Information Technologies	25/3/1999	Senator Ferris (LP)	That the chair be elected from the government members of the committee
Superannuation and Financial Services	22/9/1999	Senator Watson (LP)	That the Senate, by subsequent resolution, appoint a member of the committee as its chair
Lucas Heights Nuclear Reactor Contract	15/08/2000	Senator Forshaw (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by members of the committee
A Certain Maritime Incident	13/2/2002	Senator Cook (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by the committee from the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Superannuation	14/3/2002	Senator Watson (LP)	That the committee appoint a member nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate as its chair
Medicare	15/5/2003 and re-appointed 25/11/2003	Senator McLucas (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by the committee from the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters	19/6/2003	Senator Ludwig (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by the committee from the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Free Trade Agreement between Australia and the United States of America	11/2/2004	Senator Cook (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by the committee from the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Lindeberg Grievance	1/4/2004	Senator Watson (LP)	That the chair be elected by and from the members of the committee



Administration of Indigenous Affairs	16/6/2004 and re-appointed 17/11/2004	Senator Crossin (ALP) then Senator Moore (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by the committee from the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Scrafton Evidence	30/8/2004 and re-appointed 18/11/2004	Senator Ray (ALP) then Senator J Collins (ALP)	That the chair of the committee be elected by the committee from the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Mental Health	8/3/2005	Leader of the Democrats (Senator Allison)	That the chair of the committee be the Leader of the Australian Democrats

