



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  
Legislation Committee**

17 August 2010

Senator the Hon John Hogg  
President of the Senate  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

**INQUIRY INTO THE PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE BILL 2010**

**INTERIM REPORT**

Pursuant to Senate Standing Order 38(7), I present to you the interim report of the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee on its inquiry into the Parliamentary Budget Office Bill 2010.

On 24 June 2010 the Senate, on the recommendation of the Selection of Bills Committee (Report No 10 of 2010), referred the Parliamentary Budget Office Bill 2010 to the Committee for inquiry and report by 25 August 2010. The reasons for referral were:

To review merit of independent analysis and scrutiny of major Government budget statements with the PBO reporting to the Parliament rather than the executive. To note the growing trend for such an office around the world including the US, Canada and the UK.

The Committee has received six submissions from organisations and individuals, and has not yet held public hearings. Due to the prorogation of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Parliament and the need to thoroughly consider the evidence it has received to date, the Committee requires additional time to complete its inquiry and intends to table its final report as soon as practicable.

Senator Helen Polley  
**Chair**