

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

23 July 2010

Senator the Hon John Hogg President of the Senate

INQUIRY INTO THE PROVISIONS OF THE AVIATION CRIMES AND POLICING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2010

Background

On 24 June 2010, the Senate referred the provisions of the Aviation Crimes and Policing Legislation Amendment Bill 2010 (Bill) to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 24 August 2010.

The Bill sought to strengthen the existing legislative framework surrounding Australia's international and domestic aviation security regime by ensuring that aviation-related crimes carry appropriate penalties, and by making sure that an appropriate range of offences are applicable. The Bill also contained amendments relating to the policing capabilities of the Australian Federal Police which support the move to an 'all-in' policing and security model at airports, as recommended by the 2009 Federal Audit of Police Capabilities.

Conduct of the inquiry

The committee advertised the inquiry in *The Australian* newspaper on 30 June 2010 and 14 July 2010, and invited submissions by 2 August 2010. Details of the inquiry, the Bill and associated documents were placed on the committee's website. The committee also wrote to over 60 organisations and individuals.

The committee did not receive any submissions for this inquiry.

On 19 July 2010, the Governor-General prorogued the 42nd Parliament and dissolved the House of Representatives. Accordingly, the committee has resolved not to continue its inquiry into the provisions of the Bill. This decision is consistent with the approach to inquiries during elections adopted by other Senate committees. If the Bill is reintroduced in the new parliament, the Senate can again refer it to the committee for inquiry.

Senator Trish Crossin Chair