



THE SENATE

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

23 July 2010

Senator the Hon John Hogg
President of the Senate

**INQUIRY INTO THE PROVISIONS OF THE CRIMES LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT BILL 2010**

Background

On 24 June 2010, the Senate referred the provisions of the Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2010 (Bill) to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 21 September 2010.

The Bill sought to improve the ability of the Australian Crime Commission to deal with serious misconduct by staff and to make a range of amendments intended to strengthen the powers of law enforcement agencies to gather, examine and use evidence to investigate and prevent criminal offences. The Bill would have amended the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002*, the *Australian Federal Police Act 1979*, the *Crimes Act 1914* and the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979*.

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 10 August 2010. Details of the inquiry, the Bill and associated documents were placed on the committee's website. The committee also wrote to over 50 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