



New web site for news from the House

Up-to-date information on the work of the House and its committees is now only a mouse click away with the launch of the House News web site at:

www.aph.gov.au/house/house_news

About the House is published by the Department of the House of Representatives.

For more information on the work of the House of Representatives visit: www.aph.gov.au/house

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Citizenship reforms passed by parliament

A change to the Citizenship Act that will allow Australians to acquire dual citizenship has been passed by the federal parliament. The reform, supported by the government and the opposition, will allow Australian citizens to acquire the citizenship of another country without losing their Australian citizenship. It is part of various amendments aimed at updating Australia's citizenship law. (Full story page 6)



House approves anti-terrorism bills

Five proposed laws aimed at combating terrorism have been passed by the House of Representatives. The bills, brought on as part of the response to the September 11 attacks on the United States, make terrorism a specific crime punishable by life imprisonment. The opposition has indicated that it wants more scrutiny of the legislation in the Senate. (See related story page 11)



Revamp of House committees

The House of Representatives committee system has been revamped, with the number of investigatory committees increasing from 9 to 13. The 13 are the House of Representatives Standing Committees on:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs;
- Ageing;
- Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry;
- Communications, Information Technology and the Arts;
- Economics, Finance and Public Administration;
- Education and Training;
- Employment and Workplace Relations;
- Environment and Heritage;
- Family and Community Affairs;
- Industry and Resources;
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs;
- Science and Innovation; and
- Transport and Regional Services.

For more information

Visit: www.aph.gov.au/house/committee

Phone: (02) 6277 4399

Email: committee.reps@aph.gov.au

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