Legislation Proposed for Introduction in the 2022 Autumn Sittings

Bills marked * are proposed for introduction and passage in the Autumn sittings.

AGRICULTURE, WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

**Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Market Bill** *
- establish tradeable biodiversity outcomes which are generated by farmers and a compliance regime to verify these outcomes

**Reasons for legislation**: to implement a government initiative in support of Agriculture 2030 goals
**Link to announcement**: [Media release of 19 November 2021](#)

**Environment Protection Sea Dumping (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill**
- amend the *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981* to implement changes made to the London Protocol allowing for the export of carbon dioxide for the purposes of geo-sequestration and to regulate the placement of matter for ocean fertilisation

**Reasons for legislation**: to implement amendments to an international treaty

ATTORNEY-GENERAL’S

**Privacy Legislation Amendment (Enhancing Online Privacy and Other Measures) Bill** *
- strengthen penalties and enforcement powers available to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
- enable the introduction of a binding privacy code for social media and other online platforms with new and expanded obligations compared to those that already apply under the *Privacy Act 1988*

**Reasons for legislation**: to implement an election commitment
**Link to announcement**: [Media release of 25 October 2021](#)
FINANCE

Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2021-2022 *
Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2021-2022 *
- propose additional appropriations for expenditure on the ordinary annual services of the Government; for expenditure other than the ordinary annual services of the Government (for matters such as capital works and services, payments to States, Territories and Local Government Authorities and equity injections)

Reasons for legislation: to request legislative authority for additional appropriations to fund expenditure to be incurred in 2021-2022

Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2022-2023 *
Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2022-2023 *
Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2022 2023 *
- propose appropriations for expenditure on the ordinary annual services of the Government; for expenditure other than the ordinary annual services of the Government (for matters such as capital works and services, payments to States, Territories and Local Government Authorities and equity injections); and for the services of the Parliamentary Departments

Reasons for legislation: to request legislative authority for appropriations to fund expenditure to be incurred in 2022-2023

Lands Acquisition Amendment Bill
- implement reforms arising from the Lands Acquisition Act Review

Reasons for legislation: to update and improve the operation of existing legislation
Link to announcement: Media Release of 17 August 2021

HEALTH

Health Insurance Amendment (Administrative Actions) Bill
- amend the Health Insurance Act 1973 to allow Services Australia to use a computer system to place and remove doctors from the Register of Approved Placements, after agreement by the specified body

Reasons for legislation: to update and improve the operation of existing legislation

HOME AFFAIRS

Crimes Legislation Amendment (Ransomware Action Plan) Bill *
- ensure Commonwealth legislation appropriately enables the investigation and prosecution of cybercriminals, to respond to the ransomware threat

Reasons for legislation: to update and improve the operation of existing legislation
Link to announcement: Media release of 13 October 2021
Security Legislation Amendment (Critical Infrastructure Protection) Bill *
- amend the Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018 to insert an obligation for responsible entities for critical infrastructure assets to have a risk management program and to create enhanced cyber security obligations for systems of national significance
- amend the AusCheck Act 2007 to permit the conduct of background checks in relation to risk management programs

Reasons for legislation: to update and improve the regulation of critical infrastructure assets
Link to announcement: Media release of 15 December 2021

Australian Crime Commission Amendment Bill
- implement recommendations for amendments to the Australian Crime Commission Act 2002 made by Mr Phillip Moss as part of his 2015 review. This includes inserting a revised information disclosure regime and consolidating and clarifying certain powers and obligations of Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC) officers to better enable the ACIC to perform its statutory functions
- consistent with the Government response to the Comprehensive Review of the Legal Framework of the National Intelligence Community, exempt the ACIC from the operation of the Freedom of Information Act 1982 and introduce binding privacy rules for the ACIC

Reasons for legislation: to update and improve the operation of the ACIC’s legislative framework and to better enable the ACIC to fulfil its role as Australia’s national criminal intelligence agency

Maritime Transport Security Amendment (Regulated Vessels) Bill
- make amendments to the Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Act 2003 to clarify the regulation of Floating Product, Storage and Offtake vessels and ships on infrequent overseas voyages to reduce the administrative and regulatory burden on industry participants

Reasons for legislation: to implement measures consistent with the Government’s commitment to deregulation

Transport Security Amendment (Critical Infrastructure) Bill
- amend the Aviation Transport Security Act 2004 and the Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Act 2003 to increase and specify the scope of security planning obligations, to enhance regulatory and enforcement provisions, and to introduce provisions relating to secrecy and disclosure of information

Reasons for legislation: to implement the Government’s critical infrastructure reforms for the aviation and maritime transport sectors
Link to announcement: Media release of 15 December 2021
INDUSTRY, SCIENCE, ENERGY AND RESOURCES

Australian Radioactive Waste Agency Bill *
- create a dedicated non-corporate Commonwealth entity with responsibility for Australia's radioactive waste management including the safe and secure establishment and operation of the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility

Reasons for legislation: to establish the legislative framework for the non-corporate entity

Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment (Safety and Other Measures) Bill
- amend the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006 to implement the outcomes of the Safety Review and provide for other measures

Reasons for legislation: to implement the outcomes of a policy review, and update and improve the operation of existing legislation

INFRASCTURE, TRANSPORT, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Copyright Amendment Bill
- amend the Copyright Act 1968 to reform the operation of certain copyright exceptions and statutory licences, improve access to ‘orphan’ works and make other minor amendments

Reasons for legislation: to update and improve the operation of existing legislation
Link to announcement: Media release of 21 December 2021

PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

Regulator Performance Omnibus Bill *
- amend or repeal outdated provisions across Commonwealth legislation that can act as a barrier to effective regulator performance. The bill contains a package of non-controversial amendments that will support best practice regulator performance by streamlining processes or improving regulator efficiency; reducing the regulatory impost on regulated entities; and clarifying legislation for the regulated community

Reasons for legislation: to support the Government’s commitment to lift regulator performance, capability and culture as part of the Deregulation Agenda
Link to announcement: Media release of 13 December 2021
Aboriginal Land Grant (Jervis Bay Territory) Amendment (Strengthening Land and Governance Provisions) Bill
- amend the Aboriginal Land Grant (Jervis Bay Territory) Act 1986 to assist with the implementation of the Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council’s (WBACC) home ownership program, strengthen local decision-making, and improve governance of WBACC

Reasons for legislation: to assist with the implementation of WBACC’s home ownership program. The bill will also strengthen local decision-making, improve WBACC’s governance and corporate operations, and amend other outdated or unclear provisions. The reforms have been co-designed with and endorsed by WBACC

TREASURY

Treasury Laws Amendment (Enhancing Tax Integrity and Supporting Business Investment) Bill *
- give the Commissioner of Taxation the discretion to issue a business with the option to undertake an approved record-keeping course where there has been a failure by the business to comply with an obligation to keep records under a taxation law as an alternative to the existing financial penalties
- amend the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 to provide income tax exemption for two FIFA companies associated with hosting the Women’s World Cup 2023
- provide taxpayers the choice to self-assess the tax effective lives of eligible intangible depreciable assets (such as patents, registered designs, copyrights and in-house software) that they start to hold from 1 July 2023
- ensure that the Treasury portfolio legislation operates as intended by addressing unintended outcomes

Reasons for legislation: to implement a Budget/MYEFO decision
Link to announcement: Black economy - MYEFO 2019-20 - December 2019; FIFA - MYEFO 2021-22 (page 189); Digital Economy Strategy - Joint Media release of 6 May 2021; Minor and Technical Amendments Miscellaneous amendments to Treasury portfolio laws 2022

Treasury Laws Amendment (Streamlining and Improving Economic Outcomes for Australians) Bill *
- restore previously well-established relief for certain Foreign Financial Service Providers (FFSP) from the need to hold an Australian Financial Service Licence and to fast-track the licencing process where relief is not granted. The proposal would be limited to FFSPs providing financial services to Australian wholesale clients or professional investors only
- impose equivalent, or similar, financial reporting obligations on superannuation funds as those that apply to public companies and registered schemes
- give the Administrative Appeals Tribunal the power to modify the Australian Taxation Office’s debt recovery actions in relation to a disputed debt that is under review in the Small Business Tax Division of the Tribunal

Reasons for legislation: to implement a Budget/MYEFO decision
Link to announcement: FFSP - Joint Media release of 11 May 2021; Financial reporting obligations on superannuation funds - Media release of 12 August 2021; Administrative Appeals Tribunal - Joint Media release of 8 May 2021

Treasury Laws Amendment (Tax Concession for Australian Medical Innovations) Bill *
- encourage investment and innovation in Australian medical and biotech technologies by introducing a patent box regime which provides an incentive for businesses to undertake their research and development and retain patents in Australia

Reasons for legislation: to implement a Budget/MYEFO decision
Link to announcement: Budget Paper No. 2 Budget 2021-22

Treasury Laws Amendment (Modernising Business Communications) Bill *
- make targeted changes to improve and simplify Treasury laws with the view to decrease regulation on industry in relation to business communication provisions

Reasons for legislation: to implement a Budget/MYEFO decision
Link to announcement: Joint Media Release of 21 April 2021