Commonwealth Hansard – ParlInfo Search

To find a second reading speech (SRS) in Hansard, it helps if you know the date on with it took place, or the date that the Bill was introduced. Once you know the date, you can navigate to the information more easily.

Alternatively, search Hansard from the Parliament of Australia website. Hansard Indexes are available from 1901 onwards and can be searched or browsed using ParlInfo, the Parliament’s search engine.

This tutorial shows how to locate a Bill’s SRS using the ParlInfo Advanced Search.

Note: there are various ways to use ParlInfo to search or Browse Hansard
ParlInfo

The ParlInfo Search link is located on the top right of the Parliament of Australia home page.

Click on the link, then select **Advanced Search/Browse** tab on the search page.
Hansard Search

On the ParInfo Advanced Search page, select hansard from both the House of Representatives and the Senate, or from one chamber only.

In the search box, type the Bill’s name and “second reading”. Use phrase marks to enclose terms.

Click search
Working with Results

As well as accessing links on the “Summary Results” page, you can narrow your results by collapsing the DATE links in the **Browse By** box.

As you collapse the Date links, note that the number of results will decrease but become more relevant.
Navigating the Hansard Index

Now that you have drilled down to the required results, click on the link to navigate to the contents of that day’s Hansard.
View Text of Second Reading Speech

To view the full text of the SRS, click on the link to the Speaker’s name, located in the contents.

This will open up to the full text.
Save the Second Reading Speech Document

To download and save the document, open the “Download Fragment” file.

To access the entire Hansard publication for that day, open the “Full Day’s Hansard” file, which you can then download or save, as well as search within the full text.

This will open up the SRS document which you can then download and save.
Second Reading Speech

THURSDAY, 1 MAY 1958

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MIGRATION BILL 1958

Second Reading

SPEECH

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND READING SPEECH

The purpose of this bill is to consolidate and amend Australia's immigration statutes. It has nothing to do with the Government's recent immigration policy, as it concerns us with the regulations by which immigrants are to be implemented. I am aware that members will perceive it as a technical document arranged in five parts, containing 61 clauses. The more material points are dealt with in immigration, deportation, and the regulation of children and refugees. Some of the drafting is necessarily complex, but it is an effort toatinum such close explanations in such a way that they may be easily understood by the House and the public.

These proposals are the fruit of long deliberation by the Government, my officers, and the Immigration Advisory Council. Every aspect of the immigration law has been carefully examined in the light of new laws in the United Kingdom, as well as in the existing provisions of our own laws. In the result, this bill represents an important step in our immigration laws, but it must be emphasized that it is not a total overhaul of our immigration system. The new bill has been framed with the aim of making it easier to administer and enforce.

Control of immigration has been a feature of Australia's history. In the 18th century, the Victorian Parliament passed a series of laws imposing a ban on Chinese immigration. In the 20th century, Australia has adopted a more open immigration policy, especially after World War II. The Australian Immigration Act of 1958, now being debated, is a further step in this direction.

In recent years, the need for a thorough overhaul of our immigration legislation has become increasingly apparent. The existing law, however, is outdated and unsatisfactory. The new law provides for a more comprehensive approach to immigration, ensuring that it is in line with the needs of the country. It seeks to protect the interests of both Australia and Australia's citizens, and also to ensure that those entering the country are of good character and have no criminal record. It also provides for a more efficient and effective administration of the immigration laws.

I urge all members to support this bill, as it is in the best interests of Australia.