Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Amendment Bill 1989
(Private Member's Bill)

Date Introduced: 13 April 1989
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Geoffrey Prosser, M.P.

Digest of Bill

Purpose
To exempt from sales tax motor-cycles and four-wheel drive vehicles used in the fishing industry.

Background
Australian fishermen do not qualify for sales tax exemption on their commercial vehicles. This exclusion is based on the wording of the Sales Tax (Exemption and Classification) Act 1935 (the Principal Act). The Principal Act allows certain exemptions to persons engaged in the 'agricultural' industry. Because the legislative definition of 'agricultural' does not include fishing operations, the exemption under which person's may obtain commercial vehicles free of sales tax does not apply to fishermen.

The Senate Standing Committee on Trade and Commerce recommended in 1983 that where fishermen can demonstrate that the use of a vehicle is essential to their fishing operations they should be exempt from sales tax on such vehicles, and that the relevant sales tax legislation should be amended to provide for such exemptions.1

Main Provisions
Clause 3 provides that motor cycles, four-wheel drive vehicles, and spare parts for these vehicles, used primarily in the fishing industry, will be exempt from sales tax.

References

For further information, if required, contact the Economics and Commerce Group.

10 August 1989
Bills Digest Service
Legislative Research Service
This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

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