LIVE-STOCK EXPORT CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 1985

Date Introduced: 20 March 1985
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. John Kerin, M.P., Minister for Primary Industry

Purpose

To amend the Live-stock Export Charge Act 1977 in order to update provisions; to alter the process required for a variation of the export charge; and to increase the prescribed maximum rates of charge for the research component and the total of research and Australian Meat and Live-stock Corporation (AMLC) purposes.

Background

This Bill is complementary to the Australian Meat and Live-stock Research and Development Corporation Bill 1985. For information about the new arrangements for rural research, refer to Bills Digests Nos. 85/137 and 85/54.

The Live-stock Export Charge Act 1977 (the Principal Act) provides for a charge to be imposed on all live-stock exports from Australia. Licensed exporters of live-stock are responsible for payment of the charge. The proceeds are allocated to financing the AMLC, funding the Australian Meat Research Committee (AMRC) and financing the national cattle disease eradication scheme.

Under current arrangements, before the AMLC can recommend a variation to the export charge to the Minister, the recommendation must be put before AMLC's annual general meeting. The AMRC, after consulting with industry, has been responsible for recommending variations in the charge for research purposes to the Minister.

Main Provisions

A detailed explanation of the provisions of the Bill is contained in the Explanatory Memorandum.

References to the AMRC in the Principal Act are to be replaced with references to the Australian Meat and
Live-stock Research and Development Corporation (AMLRDC) (section 13 of the Principal Act, as amended by clause 9).

Sections 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the Principal Act are to be amended to provide for charges in the maximum rates of export charge (clauses 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, respectively).

The AMLRDC may not recommend a variation in the research component of the live-stock export charge without the proposal being first endorsed by its annual general meeting (AGM). Furthermore, the AMLRDC will be required to inform the Minister of the voting of the AGM on the proposal, when making a recommendation (section 13 of the Principal Act, as amended by clause 9).

For further information, if required, contact:

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LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE