CANNED AND FROZEN VEGETABLES (EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGE) COLLECTION BILL 1984

Date Introduced: 29 February 1984
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. John Kerin, M.P., Minister for Primary Industry

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To provide for the collection and enforcement of export inspection charges imposed on canned and frozen vegetables.

Background

The Canned and Frozen Vegetables (Export Inspection Charge) Bill 1984 imposes export inspection charges on canned and frozen fruits and vegetables, at a rate to be prescribed but not to exceed 0.6 cents per kilogram. A rate of 0.3 cents per kilogram is intended to be prescribed, to apply from 1 April 1984. This rate is expected to achieve recovery of 50 per cent of the cost of operating inspection services. The Bill provides for the collection and enforcement of the export inspection charge and is similar to the Fresh Vegetables (Export Inspection Charge) Collection Bill 1984.

Main Provisions

Clause 2 provides for commencement on a date fixed by Proclamation.

Clause 3 defines "can" to include glass or other immediate container, in which "vegetables", defined to include fruit and fruit salad, may be preserved by heat-sterilization.

The export inspection charge imposed by the Canned and Frozen Vegetables (Export Inspection Charge) Bill 1984 is to be paid by the exporter to whom the export permit is granted, within 28 days of the end of the month in which the permit was granted (clause 4). For late payment, a penalty of 20 per cent per annum applies (clause 6). Late payment charges may be remitted by the Minister or, for remission of
up to $100, by an authorized person. A decision as to whether to remit the charge is reviewable by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (clause 9).

Clause 7 prescribes a penalty for providing false or misleading information, or failure to provide information, of a $1000 fine and/or six months' imprisonment. A similar penalty applies under clause 8 for obstructing or hindering an authorized person entering premises to search for and examine documentation relating to vegetable exports, on the authority of a warrant issued by a Justice of the Peace where there are reasonable grounds for belief that such documentation exists on the premises.

For further information, if required, contact:

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