Date Introduced: 24 August 1983
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. John Kerin, M.P., Minister for Primary Industry

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To replace the existing statutory maximum charge for export inspection of grain shipments with a differentiated scale providing separate rates in respect of grain shipped in bulk, in bags and in containers.

Background

Charges for export inspection of grain were initially imposed by the Grain (Export Inspection Charge) Act, No.47 of 1979 (see Bills Digest 79/85). That Act provides for a statutory maximum charge of 40 cents per tonne.

The actual charge for export inspection of grain was last increased in 1981, when the maximum charge of 40 cents per tonne was reached in respect of grain shipped in bags or containers otherwise than under a forward contract. Lower rates were specified for grain shipped in bulk or under a forward contract [Statutory Rules, 1981 No.297]. Regulation 3 provides for exemption from charge of consignments of 10 tonnes or less.

These existing rates are estimated in the Second Reading Speech to yield $1.3 million per year, corresponding to a 32 per cent cost recovery level.

In order to attain 50 per cent cost recovery it is proposed to amend the actual export inspection charges to rates of 16.3 cents, 19 cents and 73 cents per tonne in respect of grain shipped in bulk, bags and containers respectively.

Main Provisions

Differentiation of charges according to method of shipment is presently provided for in the regulations, not
in the Act [Grain (Export Inspection Charges) Regulations No.101 of 1979]. The Bill would incorporate effectively the same definition in the Principal Act (clause 3), and would then, by clause 4, prescribe maximum charges of 33 cents, 40 cents and $1.46 per tonne in respect of shipment in bulk, bags and containers respectively.

By clause 2, the Bill would commence on the date of Royal Assent.

For further information, if required, contact:

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