Date Introduced: 3 June 1981
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. J.C. Moore, Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To provide bounty assistance for the production in Australia of certain yarns.

Background

The Industries Assistance Commission report 'Textiles, Clothing and Footwear' No. 240 of 29 April 1980 recommended that the present tariff protection of yarn production in Australia be replaced by a bounty scheme. This change would serve to increase uniformity of protection and thereby allow for a more efficient use of resources, as well as giving benefits to user industries.

This Act implements in regard to textile yarns the broad recommendations of the IAC.

Main Provisions

Clause 2 defines what is for the purposes of the legislation a bountiable yarn.

The bounty period is from 1 January 1982 to 31 December 1988 or until such later date as is fixed by the Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs (clause 2). Also defined in clause 2 are registered textile factory, the processes deemed to be involved in the production of yarn and the term business associates.

The bounty is to be uniform throughout the Commonwealth (clause 4).

The bounty is payable if production occurs at registered premises (see clause 11) and the yarn is used in production of prescribed textiles in a registered factory during the bounty period (clause 5). Provision is made to pay bounty for production after 1 October 1981 (when tariffs
are relaxed) and before 1 January 1982 (when the bounty system commences).

The rate of bounty is to be based on the value added by the producer (clause 6) as determined by the Comptroller-General (clause 3).

To prevent higher rates of bounty being paid on yarn that would otherwise attract bounty at a lower rate there is also provision that if one type of bountiable yarn is used in the production of another type the processes in the production of the first bountiable yarn are not to be included in the processes of the second bountiable yarn (sub-clause 2(4)).

Only non-government enterprises are eligible for the bounty (clause 7).

The bountiable yarn must be of good and merchantable quality (clause 9).

Clause 8 provides for advances on account of bounty as approved by the Minister. Clause 13 empowers the Minister to require a producer to give security for compliance with the Act and regulations. Clauses 14, 15, 16 and 17 deal with the appointment of authorized officers and their powers.

Clause 18 creates offences for refusing or failing to attend, to be sworn or make an affirmation, to answer questions or produce records when so required under the Act, and for obtaining or attempting to obtain bounty that is not payable.

Clause 21 provides a right to apply to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for review of specified administrative decisions affecting the rights or entitlements of persons under the Act.

For further information, if required, contact:

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13 August 1981