WHEAT LEVY BILL (NO. 1) 1979

Date Introduced: 8 November 1979
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. P.J. Nixon, Minister for Primary Industry

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To impose a levy on wheat delivered to the Australian Wheat Board.

Background

This Bill is part of a package of legislation providing for new marketing arrangements for wheat and wheat products. See Short Digest of Wheat Marketing Bill 1979. Under the Wheat Marketing Bill 1979 a Fund is to be established to finance the prescribed functions of the Australian Wheat Board.

The present Bill provides for the Board to collect the levy on behalf of the Commonwealth. The Wheat Marketing Bill 1979 provides for the Commonwealth to pay moneys, equivalent to the levy collected, to the Wheat Finance Fund out of Consolidated Revenue.

Provisions

The Bill shall be deemed to have come into operation on 1 October 1979 (clause 2).

Provision is made for a levy to be paid on wheat delivered to the Board (clause 4) at a rate of $2.50 per tonne (clause 5). Clause 6 specifies the levy as a debt due to the Commonwealth by the Board. The debt is due on 31 March following the season (1 October to 30 September) in which the levy is collected. Clause 7 allows the Board to deduct the levy from amounts payable for wheat delivered to the Board.