



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



THE SENATE

**AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND
FOOD AUTHORITY
AMENDMENT BILL 1999 [NO. 2]**

In Committee

SPEECH

Tuesday, 7 December 1999

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE

SPEECH

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Speaker	Stott Despoja, Sen Natasha	Question No.	

Senator STOTT DESPOJA (SA) (6.24 pm)—I certainly take on board the minister's concerns. I am not sure if the government is going to support this amendment anyway, regardless of how it is amended, but I seek the indulgence of the chamber to change that word to 'must', on advice. I think that is a preferable option.

Leave granted.

Senator Chris Evans—Mr Temporary Chairman, I raise a point of order. I realise that this is one of the difficulties of doing this sort of thing on the run. I would like a clear indication of what the final Democrat amendment is, because I am not at all clear on it. My intention at this stage is to vote against it unless convinced, but it seems to be such a movable feast at the moment that I am not clear. I think Senator Stott Despoja should make it very clear what the amendment is.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Senator Murphy)—I will make it clear from the chair. Amendment No. 3 will read, as it is proposed at the moment:

In developing food regulatory measures and variations of food regulatory measures, the Authority must also have regard to the following (in descending priority order):

(a) the need for standards to be based on risk analysis using the best available scientific evidence and the precautionary principle;

Paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) remain the same.