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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BOUNTY (SHIPS) AMENDMENT BILL 1982

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by the Authority of the Minister Assisting the  
Minister for Industry and Commerce,  
the Honourable Michael Hodgman, MP)

## BOUNTY (SHIPS) AMENDMENT BILL 1982

### Purpose of the Bill

This Bill amends the Bounty (Ships) Act 1980 to enable the bounty under that Act to be paid on fishing vessels over 150 gross construction tons but which do not exceed 21 metres in length.

At the time of the Bounty (Ships) Act 1980 it was the Government's intention that bounty assistance continue under that Act for the same size vessels that were accorded bounty assistance under the Ship Construction Bounty Act 1975.

The definition of "bountiable vessel" in the Bounty (Ships) Act 1980, however, had the effect of excluding from eligibility for bounty those fishing vessels that are over 150 gross construction tons but under 21 metres in length. These vessels were paid bounty under the previous 1975 scheme.

The amendment to the definition of "bountiable vessel" as proposed by this Bill will correct this anomaly and include such vessels as eligible for bounty.

- Clause 1 - Citation of the Amending Act and identification of the Bounty (Ships) Act 1980 as the Principal Act.
- Clause 2 - Commencement to be 1 July 1980. This is the date upon which the Bounty (Ships) Act 1980 came into operation.
- Clause 3 - Amends the definition of "bountiable vessel" in section 3 of the Principal Act to ensure that fishing vessels over 150 gross construction tons but 21 metres or less in length on the designed load water line are eligible for the bounty. The present definition has the effect of excluding these vessels from payment of the bounty. This was not the intention of the Government.

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