

1986

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DRIED FRUITS LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1986

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the
Minister for Primary Industry,
the Hon John Kerin, MP)

OUTLINE

DRIED FRUITS LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1986

The Dried Fruits Levy Amendment Bill 1986, proposes an increase in the maximum rate of levy which can be applied for dried fruits research purposes in accordance with the provisions of the Dried Fruits Research Act 1971.

The Bill proposes an increase in the maximum rate of levy to be applied for dried fruits research from \$2.00 to \$5.00 per tonne of dried vine fruits and from \$10.00 to \$30.00 per tonne for dried tree fruits. This will increase the maximum rate to about 0.5% of the industry's current Gross Value of Production (GVP). The operative, or actual, levy rate remains unchanged and will not be affected by this amendment.

The Government stated in February 1985 its policy of encouraging industries to increase their contributions to research to 0.5 per cent of GVP within 5 years, and that the Commonwealth will match the industry contribution to that level of expenditure. This amendment is consistent with those objectives.

This amendment will facilitate action on any request by the industry for an operative rate increase, made by Regulation, and avoid delays caused by the pressure of legislative business in the Parliament at the time the request is made.

No additional budgetary outlays will result from the amendment itself. However, the Bill would enable the Government to agree to an industry request for an operative rate increase above the current maximum, which would then generate additional matching budgetary outlays. The current operative rates are \$1.50 per tonne of dried vine fruits, \$7.50 per tonne of dried plums and \$5.00 per tonne of other dried tree fruits.

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NOTES ON CLAUSES

NO OF
CLAUSES

EXPLANATION

1. Sub-clause (1) provides for the Short Title of the Act to be the Dried Fruits Levy Amendment Act 1986.

Sub-clause (2) establishes that references to the Principal Act are references to the Dried Fruits Levy Act 1971.
2. Provides for the Bill to come into operation on the day of Royal Assent.
3. Increases the maximum rate of levy allowable under the Act from (a) \$2.00 per tonne to \$5.00 per tonne of dried vine fruits and (b) from \$10.00 per tonne to \$30.00 per tonne of dried tree fruits.