

1985

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EXPORT INSPECTION (SERVICE CHARGE) BILL 1985

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

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

## EXPORT INSPECTION (SERVICE CHARGE) BILL 1985

### OUTLINE

The Export Inspection (Service Charge) Bill 1985 adds to the options currently available for the imposition of charges for recoupment of part of the costs of inspection of rural products. This Bill will allow a service charge per manhour of inspector time. It is intended that the charge apply to inspection time associated directly with each product and that can be identified by the management of registered premises. Such a charge could be applied separately or in conjunction with a registration charge.

Where there is an existing quantity charge on exports to recover part of the costs of export inspection such quantity charge will cease to apply when a service charge is imposed on a particular product. Where a charge is imposed under this Bill it will be subject to prevailing Commonwealth policy on the level of recoupment of inspection costs.

The Government will continue to meet costs which are not recouped from industry. In total neither the cost to the Government of providing the inspection service nor the cost to an individual industry will change as a result of this Bill.

## NOTES ON CLAUSES

### Clause 1: Short title

1. This clause provides for the short title of the legislation.

### Clause 2: Commencement

2. This clause provides for the commencement of this Bill concurrently with the commencement of the Export Inspection Charges (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 1985.

### Clause 3: Collection Act

3. The charge legislation and the associated collection legislation is required to be read together as one Act as the provisions of one presuppose the existence of the provisions of the other.

### Clause 4: Interpretation

4. The clause defines the meaning of the charge to be imposed.

### Clause 5: Act to bind Crown

5. This provision would ensure that when a State or Territory is provided with a service, charge will be payable by the State or Territory and that the other provisions of the Bill would also apply to a State or Territory.

### Clause 6: Imposition of charge

#### Sub-clause 6(1)

6. This sub-clause would provide that a charge is imposed for an inspection service undertaken under the Export Control Act 1982 at a registered establishment in relation to the preparation of a particular commodity to be specified in the regulations.

#### Sub-clause 6(2)

7. This sub-clause would enable a regulation to be made to exempt provision of a service from charge where circumstances arise which would make imposition of a service charge inappropriate.

Clause 7: Rates of charge

8. This clause would provide for the rate of charge to be fixed by regulation calculated by reference to the time spent at a registered establishment by an inspector.

Clause 8: By whom charge payable

9. This clause would provide that the person who is liable to pay the charge is the registered occupier of the establishment at which the inspection service is provided.

Clause 9: Regulations

10. This clause would provide for regulations to be made that are necessary to give effect to the scheme of the Bill.