

1989

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GRAPE RESEARCH LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1989

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Primary Industries
and Energy the Honourable John Kerin MP)

GRAPE RESEARCH LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1989

OUTLINE

The purpose of this Bill is to amend the Grape Research Levy Act 1986 (the Act) to increase the maximum rate of the levy.

2. The Act, together with the Grape Research Levy Collection Act 1986 provides for the imposition and collection of a levy on prescribed goods, namely fresh and dried grapes and grape juice, delivered to a processing establishment. The funds raised represent the contribution by grapegrowers to grape research and are paid into a research fund administered by the Grape and Wine Research Council established under the Rural Industries Research Act 1985. These funds attract matching Commonwealth contributions up to a limit of 0.5% of the average annual gross value of production of leviable grapes as provided in that Act.

3. Currently, the Act sets the maximum rate of levy at \$0.50 per tonne of grapes and grape juice (fresh equivalent) delivered to a processing establishment. The amendment increases, with the full agreement of relevant industry organisations, the maximum rate of the levy to \$2.00 per tonne. This will permit the operative rate of levy to be increased by regulation beyond the present \$0.50 per tonne maximum.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

4. Increasing the maximum rate of the Grape Research Levy will not in itself have a direct impact on Government expenditure. The extent to which outlays for grape research increase in the future will depend upon the level of levy increases implemented within the higher maximum rate.

NOTES ON INDIVIDUAL CLAUSES

Clause 1 - Short Title

5. Short title of the Act for citation purposes.

Clause 2 - Commencement

6. The Act will come into operation on 1 January 1990 to enable the Government to respond promptly to any industry request to increase the operative rate of levy.

Clause 3 - Rates of Levy

7. The maximum rate of levy for grape research is increased from 0.50¢ per tonne to \$2.00 per tonne of prescribed goods.

