

1990

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PIG SLAUGHTER LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1990

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

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

PIG SLAUGHTER LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1990

OUTLINE

The Pig Slaughter Levy Amendment Bill 1990, proposes increases in the maximum rates of levies which can be applied for pig research and development purposes and for the purposes of financing the operations of the Australian Pork Corporation.

2. The levy for pig research and development purposes is applied in accordance with the provisions of the Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989 and the Pig Research and Development Corporation Regulations.
3. The Bill proposes an increase in the maximum rate of levy to be applied for pig research and development from 50 cents to \$1 per head. The operative, or actual, levy rate remains unchanged at 40 cents per head, but the Australian Pork Producers' Federation, the gazetted representative pig industry organisation, has foreshadowed its agreement to successive increases beyond the current maximum rate of levy.
4. The Government stated in February 1985 its policy of encouraging rural industries to increase their contributions to research to 0.5 per cent of GVP, and that the Commonwealth will match the industry contribution to that level of expenditure. It has since reaffirmed the policy in its 1989 statement titled "Research, Innovativeness and Competitiveness". This amendment is consistent with those objectives.
5. The levy for the operational purposes of the Australian Pork Corporation is applied in accordance with the Pig Industry Act 1986. The Bill proposes an increase in the maximum rate of levy to be applied for the operational purposes of the Australian Pork Corporation from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per head. The operative, or actual, levy rate is at the maximum of \$1.50 per head.
6. These amendments will facilitate action on any request by the industry for an operative rate increase for both levies above the current maximums, made by Regulation, and avoid delays caused by the pressure of legislative business in the Parliament at the time the request is made.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

7. 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 for pig research and development purposes above the current maximum, which would then generate additional matching budgetary outlays.

NOTES ON CLAUSESClause 1 - Short Title etc

8. Sub-clause (1) provides for the Short Title of the Act to be the Pig Slaughter Levy Amendment Act 1990.
9. Sub-clause (2) establishes that references to the Principal Act are references to the Pig Slaughter Levy Act 1971.

Clause 2 - Commencement

10. Provides that the Act shall come into operation on the day it receives the Royal Assent.

Clause 3 - Rate of Levy

11. (a) Increases the maximum rate of levy allowable under the Act for research and development purposes from 50 cents per head to \$1 per head and
(b) increases the maximum rate of levy allowable under the Act for the purposes of financing the Australian Pork Corporation from \$1.50 per head to \$2.50 per head.



9 780644 217668