

1994

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

QUARANTINE AMENDMENT BILL 1994

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by the authority of the  
Minister for Primary Industries and Energy,  
Senator the Hon Bob Collins)

## QUARANTINE AMENDMENT BILL 1994

### GENERAL OUTLINE

1. The Quarantine Amendment Bill amends the Quarantine Act 1908 by inserting a limited remission power to apply to fees imposed by Ministerial determinations for quarantine services provided by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS).
2. The remission power will allow for revenue collections which are surplus to cost recovery requirements in any year to be returned to the relevant industry groups in the form of uniform fee rebates in the following year.
3. Rebates will be structured for each industry group in accordance with agreements entered into with AQIS through AQIS Charging Review Committees.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

4. Rebates will be provided through the AQIS trust account with no impact on the Commonwealth Budget.

## NOTES ON INDIVIDUAL CLAUSES

### Clause 1 : Short Title etc.

5. The Act will be called the Quarantine Amendment Act 1994.
6. Clause 1 defines "Principal Act" to mean the Quarantine Act 1908.

### Clause 2 : Commencement

7. Clause 2 provides for the Act to commence on the day in which it receives the Royal Assent.

### Clause 3 : Fees and Deposits

8. Clause 3 inserts subsection (2AA) after Section 86E subsection (2) of the Principal Act which provides for the Minister to remit the whole or part of a fee payable in respect of a quarantine service if appropriate to do so having regard to certain circumstances.
9. Subsection (2AA) (a) and (b) relate to the cost recovery situation in the financial year prior to the year in which the quarantine service which may be subject to a fee remission is provided. Remission of fees would be appropriate if revenue was surplus to cost recovery requirements.
10. Subsection (2AA) (c) and (d) relate to the expected cost recovery situation in the financial year in which the quarantine service which may be subject to a fee remission is provided. Remission of fees would be appropriate if fees in that year were estimated to achieve cost recovery and the provisions of subsection (2AA) (a) and (b) were met.
11. Subsection (2AA) (e) relates to the amount of fees which are payable by a person receiving a quarantine service in the financial year in which a remission may be provided subject to the provisions of subsection (2AA) (a), (b), (c) and (d).



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