

Food (Validation) Bill

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The aim of this Bill is to put beyond doubt that the Food Standards Regulations 1987, and amendments to those regulations, are valid.

The Bill will also moderate the effects of section 32 of the *Interpretation of Legislation Act* 1984 in relation to future adoptions of the national food standards code in Victoria.

As a result of the proposed amendment to section 63A of the *Food Act* 1984, regulations made after the enactment of the Bill will not be automatically voided if a secondary, or tertiary, document incorporated by those regulations has not been tabled, provided that the *Commonwealth Gazette* in which the code is published is itself tabled before Parliament.

Rather, the Bill establishes a defence in proceedings that an incorporated document had not been tabled at the relevant time.

