THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

LIVE-STOCK EXPORT CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 1987

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

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

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OUTLINE

- The Live-stock Export Charge consists of three components which raise funds to finance the activities of the Australian Meat and Live-stock Corporation (AMLC), the Australian Meat and Live-stock Research and Development Corporation (AMLRDC), and, in the case of cattle and buffaloes, cattle disease eradication.
- 2. Maximum rates are set in the legislation for the disease eradication component, the AMLRDC component, and the total of the AMLC and AMLRDC components. Only the last of these maximum rates will be changed, and the effect of the amendments will, therefore, be to increase the limit on operative rates which may be set in the future for AMLC purposes.
- 3. The individual operative rates of charge for each species are set by Regulation. The export charge rates for the AMLC and the AMLRDC can be varied only after the Minister has received recommendations from the relevant body, that is either the AMLC or the AMLRDC. Neither the AMLC nor the AMLRDC is permitted to recommend a change to the operative rates of export charge without having first had a motion endorsing the changes passed at their respective Annual General Meetings.
- The proposed increases in the maximum charge rates for the total of the AMLC and AMLRDC components are as follows

Cattle	_	from \$6.00 to \$18.00
Sheep	_	from 60¢ to \$ 1.50
Lambs	_	from 60¢ to \$ 1.50
Buffalo	_	from \$6.00 to \$18.00
Goats	-	from 60¢ to \$ 1.00

5. As with the Live-stock slaughter levy the increased maximum will enable the AMLC to seek to raise additional funds for pesticide residue related activities and for its traditional promotional programme.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. The proposed increases will have no effect on the current operative rates of the livestock export charge, nor will they have any impact on Commonwealth income or expenditure.

NOTES ON INDIVIDUAL CLAUSES

Clause 1: Short title etc

7. Provides that the short title is the Live-stock Export Charge Amendment Act 1987 and establishes the Live-stock Export Charge Act 1977 as the Principal Act

Clause 2: Commencement

The Act is to come into operation on the date of Royal assent

Clause 3: Rate of charge on export of cattle

9. Increases the maximum charge rate on cattle to \$18.00 per head

Clause 4: Rate of charge on export of sheep

10. Increases the maximum charge rate on sheep to \$1.50 per head

Clause 5: Rate of charge on export of lambs

11. Increases the maximum charge rate on lambs to \$1.50 per head

Clause 6: Rate of charge on export of buffaloes

12. Increases the maximum charge rate on buffalo to \$18.00 per head

Clause 7: Rate of charge on export of buffaloes

13. Increases the maximum charge rate on goats to \$1.00 per head