THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Australian Apple and Pear Corporation Amendment Bill (No.2) 1981

Apple and Pear Levy Amendment Bill 1981

Apple and Pear Export Charge Amendment Bill 1981

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Primary Industry, the Hon. Peter Nixon, MP)

OUTLINE

Amendment Bill (No. 2) 1981

The Australian Apple and Pear Corporation Act 1973 needs to be amended to allow the Government to increase the number of grower members on the Australian Apple and Pear Corporation from four to six. This proposed change follows Government acceptance of the Australian Apple and Pear Growers' Association case that the different needs of industry in the various regions required a broader representation of growers on the Corporation. Additional grower numbers will help increase industry understanding of the initiatives of the Corporation especially in relation to domestic promotion.

An opportunity is also being taken to bring sections of the Act relating to dismissal of members and disclosure of interests into line with standard provisions in similar legislation.

The number of members who constitute a quorum at a meeting has been increased from seven to eight because of the increase in total membership on the Corporation.

Apple and Pear Levy Amendment Bill 1981

The Apple and Pear Levy Act 1976 needs to be amended to increase the maximum rate of levy to enable the industry, should it so wish, to support greater activity by the Corporation in domestic promotion and other programs. No change to the operative rates of levy is involved. These are set by Regulation under the Act.

The Bill also amends the weight factor used to convert pears not packed in boxes to a box equivalent. The Act provides, in effect, that a box of pears equals 20 kilograms. The Bill modifies this to 18 kilograms consistent with the weight factor used for similar purposes in other apple and pear legislation.

Apple and Pear Export Charge Amendment Bill 1981

The Apple and Pear Export Charge Act 1976 needs to be amended to increase the maximum rate of export charge per box of fruit to bring it into line with the maximum rate provided for in the Levy Act. The statutory formula used where fruit is not packed in boxes has also been amended as for the Levy Act. No change is involved to the operative rates of levy, set by Regulation under the Act. The Bill also amends the Section dealing with the regulation-making power of the Governor-General to bring its expression into line with the current form of expression in other legislation.

<u>Australian Apple and Pear Corporation Amendment Bill</u> (No. 2) 1981

No of Clause

Explanation

- 1. Citation
- Provides for the number of grower members on the Corporation to be increased from four to six thus increasing total membership to 11. However the initial appointment period for any new appointee cannot extend beyond 31 August 1983.
- 3. Amends provisions relating to the dismissal of members for failing to disclose an interest.
- 4. Amends provisions relating to disclosure of interests to bring them into line with the current standard form for this provision.
- Increases the number of members needed to form a quorum from seven to eight.

Apple and Pear Levy Amendment Bill 1981

No of Clause

Explanation

- 1. Citation
- Provides for a reference to a box of fruit, where fruit is not packed in boxes, to be interpreted as a reference to 18 kilograms of fruit in lieu of the present reference to 18 kilograms of apples and 20 kilograms of pears.
- 3. Provides for the maximum amount of levy to be increased for juicing fruit from 60 cents to \$1.50 per tonne, for processing fruit from \$1.40 to \$3.60 per tonne for any other case from 6 cents to 12 cents per box.

Apple and Pear Export Charge Amendment Bill 1981

No of Clause

Explanation

- 1. Citation
- Provides for a reference to a box of fruit, where fruit is not packed in boxes, to be interpreted as a reference to 18 kilograms of fruit in lieu of the present reference to 18 kilograms of apples and 20 kilograms of pears.

- Increases the rate of export charge from 6 to 12 cents a box.
- 4. Expresses the regulation-making power of the Governor General in the standard form provided in similar legislation.



