THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EXPLANATORY NOTES RELATING TO AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO THE HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BILL 1987 BY THE MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND ENERGY

THE HON JOHN KERIN MP

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(1) Deputies of members

Clause 24 of the Bill would provide for the appointment of deputy members to the Horticultural Research and Development Corporation. During any period when a member of the Corporation is unable for any reason to attend meetings of the Corporation, the deputy of the member would act as a member of the Corporation.

It is now considered that since the selection for nomination of members for appointment to the board of the Corporation is based on expertise and not on representation of an industry sector, it follows that such members should not be given the option of nominating their own deputies. More recent application of the policy for establishing research agencies is not to provide for deputies. Accordingly this amendment will omit clause 24.

(2) Separate accounts

Clause 49 of the Bill would require the Corporation to keep seperate accounts in relation to specified classes of horticultural products.

This amendment will add a new sub-clause (2) to clause 49 which will enable specification by regulation of the method of disbursement of the uncommitted industry contributions of an industry body which withdraws from the Corporation.

(3) Deputies of members

Clause 76 would provide for the appointment of deputy members to the Corporation Selection Committee. The deputy members would act as a member whenever members are unavailable.

The decisions of the selection committee ought to be taken based on the involvement of the industry's preferred choice of committee member and accordingly this amendment will omit clause 76.