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PIG INDUSTRY BILL 1986

Date introduced: 23 October 1986
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. John Kerin, M.P., Minister for
Primary Industry

DIGEST OF BILL

Purpose

To replace the Pork Promotion Committee with an Australian Pork Corporation; and to establish an Australian Pork Corporation Selection Committee and an Australian Pig Industry Policy Council.

Background

The Pork Promotion Act 1975 established a four member Pork Promotion Committee which makes recommendations to the Minister regarding expenditure on the promotion of the sale and consumption of Australian pig meat. For some time, the Australian pig industry has been concerned about the lack of power of the Committee to participate in and contribute financially to marketing arrangements on behalf of the industry as a whole. The Australian Pork Producers' Federation has accepted a marketing and policy coordination structure that will include a body with functions and powers designed to enable the industry to take advantage of current and future marketing schemes.

Main Provisions

Clause 5 will continue the Pork Promotion Committee under the name, "Australian Pork Corporation".

The functions of the Corporation will be to improve the production, and encourage consumption and export, of pigs and pigmeat, and to recommend rates of levy under the Pig Slaughter Levy Act (clause 7).

Clause 8 will give the Corporation power to perform its functions, including the power to improve the quality of pork and pigs, and the methods of production, storage, transport and marketing of Australian pork and pigs.

The Corporation will consist of the Chairperson, a government member and five other members (clause 10).

Clause 23 will provide that the Corporation will be financed from levies collected under the Pig Slaughter Levy Act 1971.

Clause 24 will require Ministerial approval for the Corporation to borrow more than \$2 million in a financial year.

The Corporation will be subject to Commonwealth tax, other than income tax (clause 31) and will be required to provide the Minister with annual reports (clause 34).

An Australian Pork Corporation Selection Committee will be established (clause 35) to select the five other members of the Corporation (clause 36). The Committee will consist of a Presiding Member, two members nominated by the Australian Pork Producers' Federation and one member nominated by the National Meat Processors' Association (clause 42).

Clause 53 will establish the Australian Pig Industry Policy Council. Its main functions will be to inquire into and report to the Minister about matters affecting the well-being of the industry and to develop recommendations and plans for measures to safeguard or further the interests of the industry (clause 55). Industry conferences can be convened when the Chairperson considers it appropriate, or when directed to do so by the Council, to identify matters of concern to the industry, promote a better understanding of its problems and develop industry policy (clause 57). The Council will consist of its Chairperson, the Chairperson of the Corporation, the President and Senior Vice-President of the Australian Pork Producers' Federation, the Chairpersons of the National Smallgoods Council and Pig Research Council, the Presidents of the Stockfeed Manufacturers' Association and National Meat Processors' Association (clause 59).

The Council will be liable to Commonwealth tax, other than income tax (clause 70) and will be required to provide the Minister with annual reports (clause 71).

The Governor-General will be empowered to make regulations not inconsistent with this Bill.

For further information, if required, contact the Economics and Commerce Group.

19 February 1987

Bills Digest Service
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This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

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