

Working together for animal health

Committee Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
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Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Email: rrat.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Biosecurity Amendment (Enhanced Risk Management) Bill 2021 [provisions]

Animal Health Australia (AHA) notes the Biosecurity Amendment (Enhanced Risk Management) Bill to amend the Biosecurity Act 2015.

AHA is supportive of the proposed amendments to the Biosecurity Act 2015, in so far as they will contribute to enhancing the ability to manage the risk of pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in Australia.

AHA supports the proposed amendments to:

- improve the management of biosecurity risks posed by maritime and aviation arrivals, noting that these relate mostly to managing the risks to human health
- increase the civil and criminal penalties under the Act as a means to improve both awareness of the importance of biosecurity as well as contributing to improved compliance
- improve the processes for risk assessment in Schedule 3 and the arrangements and grants for dealing with risks posed by diseases or pests in Part 3A.

Yours sincerely

Kathleen Plowman
Chief Executive Officer
Animal Health Australia