

PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
DEPARTMENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY

APPLE AND PEAR STABILISATION AMENDMENT BILL 1977

Date Introduced: 10 March 1977
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Rt. Hon. Ian Sinclair, M.P.,
Minister for Primary Industry

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

The purpose of this Bill is to extend the support provided under the Apple and Pear Stabilisation Scheme in 1976 for one year, to cover the 1977 export season. This Bill will accordingly amend the Principal Act, the Apple and Pear Stabilisation Act 1971.

Provisions

1. The Bill provides for Parliamentary approval for support to be extended to 1977 under the Apple and Pear Stabilisation Scheme, at the same level that was given in 1976.
2. The Bill provides for amendment of the Principal Act such that certain imperial measures, expressed as their metric equivalents, are now 'rounded off' to their nearest whole number metric equivalents. A box of apples, which previously meant 18.14 kilograms (or 1 bushel or 40 pounds), will now mean 18 kilograms. A box of pears, which previously meant 20.41 kilograms (or 1 bushel or 45 pounds), will now mean 20 kilograms.
3. Clause 8 of the Bill provides for the authorisation by the Minister, at his discretion, of the payment of advances in respect of stabilisation payments.

The Scheme

The Apple and Pear Stabilisation Scheme commenced in 1971. It covers apple and pear exports to markets 'at risk' — to Europe (including the U.K.) in respect of apples, and to Europe (including the U.K.) and North America in respect of pears.

Under the scheme, support prices are determined for each major variety of apples and pears exported. When average prices for all sales of a variety fall below the support price, a payment is made from a varietal fund to raise the price to the varietal support level. When insufficient amounts are available in such funds, the balance is provided by the Government up to a maximum of \$2.00 per box and a maximum quantity eligible for support of 2 million boxes, in respect of apples, and a maximum level of support of \$0.80 per box and a maximum quantity eligible for support of 1.4 million boxes, in respect of pears. When average prices for all sales of a variety exceed the varietal support price, growers pay into the fund (by way of a duty) a proportion of the

Apple and Pear Stabilisation Amendment Bill 1977 (Bills Digest 1, 1977)

Electronic version created by the Law and Bills Digest Section, Parliamentary Library, 2007.

Warning:

This Digest was prepared for debate. It reflects the legislation as introduced and does not canvass subsequent amendments. This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

excess. The level and collection of this duty are provided for, respectively, in the Apple and Pear Stabilisation Export Duty Act 1971 and the Apple and Pear Stabilisation Export Duty Collection Act 1971.

15 March 1977

Finance, Industries, Trade and Development Group
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE

Warning:

This Digest was prepared for debate. It reflects the legislation as introduced and does not canvass subsequent amendments. This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.