



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE, RESOURCES, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY**

*Chair: The Hon Dick Adams MP
Deputy Chair: Mr Alby Schultz MP*

Inquiry into the Agriculture and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendment Bill 2012

Agriculture Committee to review proposed chemicals legislation

The House of Representatives Agriculture Committee will inquire into the Agriculture and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendment Bill 2012.

The Explanatory Memorandum states that the 'Bill implements reforms to the approval, registration and reconsideration of agvet chemicals to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the current regulatory arrangements and provide greater certainty to the community that chemicals approved for use in Australia are safe. The Bill makes it clear that the health and safety of human beings, animals and the environment is the first priority of the regulatory system'.

The text of the Bill forms the inquiry's Terms of Reference. Without limiting these Terms, the Committee has resolved to target a number of key areas of the Bill:

1. Initial assessment and registration processes (Schedule No.1 of the Bill), including:
 - a. Factors that affect efficient regulation, including the risk assessment process;
2. Re-approval and re-registration of agricultural and veterinary chemicals (Schedule No.2 of the Bill), including:
 - a. The need for re-approval/and re-registration
 - b. The process and practical effects (including the financial impacts) for all stakeholders including the regulator
3. International comparisons and trade issues, including the effect on small companies
4. Consultation processes and outcomes
 - a. Including intergovernmental consultations

Further information about the Inquiry and a copy of the Bill is available on the Committee's website at: www.aph.gov.au/arff

Submissions to the Committee's inquiry are due by **Friday, 18 January 2013**. Submissions should preferably be lodged electronically via arff.reps@aph.gov.au. Please read the information on preparing a submission available on the Committee's website before lodging a submission.

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, the Hon Dick Adams MP, on (03) 6398 1115 or 0418 132 828 or email D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au

Further information: contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4500, email arff.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/arff>