

MEAT INDUSTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989

NEW SOUTH WALES



EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Explanatory Note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament)

The object of this Bill is to amend the Meat Industry Act 1978 so as—

- (a) to create new offences relating to the sale and storage of meat on certain premises (such as a restaurant, a butcher's shop, a delicatessen or a pet food shop); and
- (b) to make it clear that regulations may be made with respect to the manner of weighing carcasses sold to a slaughtering place on the basis of carcase weight.

Clause 1 specifies the short title of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the proposed Act to commence on a proclaimed day or days.

Clause 3 is a formal provision that gives effect to the Schedule of amendments to the Principal Act.

SCHEDULE 1—AMENDMENTS

Schedule 1 (1) amends section 39 of the Principal Act to enable inspectors to require an occupier of a restaurant or premises used for the retail sale of meat or processed meat (such as a butcher's shop or a delicatessen) to answer questions relating to the inspector's functions under the Act. Currently, inspectors have such a power only in relation to licensees, and their employees, of premises such as abattoirs and meat markets.

Schedule 1 (2) amends section 41 of the Principal Act to create a new offence relating to the sale of processed meat produced on unlicensed premises. It will be an offence for a retailer (such as a delicatessen) to sell illegally processed meat unless the retailer can establish that he or she did not know or suspect that the meat was illegally processed.

Schedule 1 (3) amends the Principal Act by inserting a new section 41A.

Under the proposed section, it will be an offence to store meat on premises used as a restaurant or a retail butcher's shop if the sale of that meat for human consumption would be an offence under section 41 (1) of the Principal Act (relating to the sale of meat unfit for human consumption).

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Similarly, it will be an offence to store meat on premises used for the retail sale of meat as animal food (such as a pet food shop) if the sale of that meat as animal food would be an offence under section 41 (1A) of the Principal Act.

Schedule 1 (4) and (5) amend sections 46 and 77 of the Principal Act to clarify that the New South Wales Meat Industry Authority may make recommendations, and a regulation may be made, with respect to the manner of weighing a carcass sold to a slaughtering place on the basis of the weight of the carcass.
