[Act 2000 No 82]



Protection of the Environment Operations Amendment (Balloons) Bill 2000

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.*

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to prevent the mass release of lighter-than-air balloons. The Bill will make it an offence to release (or cause or permit the release of) 20 or more lighter-than-air balloons at or about the same time. The maximum penalty will be greater if more than 100 balloons are released. There are to be exceptions where:

- (a) the balloons are released unintentionally and without negligence, or
- (b) the balloons are released and contained indoors, or
- (c) the balloons are hot air balloons that are recovered after landing, or
- (d) the balloons are released for scientific (including meteorological) purposes.

^{*} Amended in committee—see table at end of volume.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

Clause 3 is a formal provision giving effect to the amendments to the *Protection* of the Environment Operations Act 1997 set out in Schedule 1.

Clause 4 is a formal provision giving effect to the amendments to the *Protection* of the Environment Operations (Penalty Notices) Regulation 1999 set out in Schedule 2.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

Schedule 1 [1] makes the amendments described in the Overview of the Bill. **Schedule 1** [2] makes a consequential amendment.

Schedule 2 Amendment of Protection of the Environment Operations (Penalty Notices) Regulation 1999

The Schedule provides for on-the-spot penalty notices to be given for the offences proposed to be inserted in the Act by Schedule 1 [1].