

TOTALIZATOR (OFF-COURSE BETTING) AMENDMENT BILL 1988

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 Totalizator (Off-course Betting) Act 1964—

- (a) to reduce from \$1 to 50 cents the minimum bet which the Board may accept on an event taking place in the State for which a multiple selection totalizator is used;
- (b) to enable the Totalizator Agency Board to accept bets that are paid for by way of betting vouchers issued or recognised by the Board;
- (c) to make it an offence for a person to make or attempt to make a telephone bet by gaining unauthorised access to another person's telephone betting credit account with the Board;
- (d) to increase from \$100 to 10 penalty units (currently equivalent to \$1,000) the maximum penalty which may be prescribed for offences against the regulations made under the Act; and
- (e) to express penalties in penalty units instead of in dollars.

Clause 1 specifies the short title of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides that the proposed Act is to commence on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

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

SCHEDULE 1—AMENDMENTS

Reduction of minimum amounts for certain bets

The Bill (Schedule 1 (1)) amends section 17 of the Principal Act to reduce from \$1 to 50 cents the minimum amount required for a bet on an event taking place in the State for which a multiple selection totalizator is used by the Board.

Totalizator (Off-course Betting) Amendment 1988

Payment for bets by betting vouchers

The Bill (Schedule 1 (2)) inserts proposed section 17C into the Principal Act to enable regulations to be made for the acceptance by the Board of betting vouchers. A person will be able to pay for bets with betting vouchers issued or recognised by the Board and to deposit such vouchers in a credit account established with the Board.

Offence of unauthorised use of telephone betting credit accounts

The Bill (Schedule 1 (4)) inserts proposed section 18A into the Principal Act which makes it an offence for a person to charge or attempt to charge a bet against another person's telephone betting credit account without that other person's authority. The maximum penalty is 10 penalty units (currently equivalent to \$1,000).

Increase in penalties for offences against regulations

The Bill (Schedule 1 (5)) amends section 21 of the Principal Act to increase the maximum penalty that may be prescribed for an offence against the regulations from \$100 to 10 penalty units (currently equivalent to \$1,000).

Maintenance of relationship between penalties for offences

The Bill (Schedule 1 (3)) amends section 18 of the Principal Act to express penalties in penalty units instead of in dollars. The amendment will help to maintain the relationship between the penalties for offences under the Principal Act because any alteration in the amount to which a penalty unit is equivalent will automatically flow through to all those offences.
