

## MEAT AMENDMENT BILL

---

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

THE purpose of this Bill is to provide for the licensing by local authorities, as from 31 December 1957, of premises used for the packaging of meat for export, so as to make them subject to the provisions of the Meat Act 1939 relating to the proper construction and equipment of premises, inspection, and sanitary conditions. Licences must be granted for meat-packing houses in existence at the passing of the Bill, and having satisfactory premises and equipment, so long as application is made before 30 November 1957.

The provisions of the Bill are substantially the same as those of the Meat Amendment Act 1953 relating to canneries.

*Clause 2* is an interpretation clause.

*Clause 3* provides that after 31 December 1957 no one is to use any premises for the packaging of meat for export unless he holds a meat-packing house licence for the premises. If the packaging of meat is carried on in any part of a licensed meat-export slaughterhouse or licensed cannery, no separate licence is required.

*Clause 4* provides that every person carrying on the business of packaging meat at the passing of the Bill is to be entitled to a licence if he applies for it before 30 November 1957, and if in the opinion of the Minister the premises and equipment are satisfactory.

*Clause 5* provides that every licence is to be issued by the local authority in whose district the premises are situated; but no licence is to be granted or renewed without the consent of the Minister, which may be withheld on the grounds set out in *clause 10*.

*Clause 6* provides that before any premises are erected or reconstructed for use as a meat-packing house the plans and specifications must be submitted to the Minister and notice given to the local authority of their submission. The Minister may in his discretion, after having regard to any recommendations of the Meat Producers Board, undertake to consent to the issue of a licence for the premises if the work is completed and a licence applied for within twelve months after the Minister's undertaking is given, or within such extended time as he may allow.

*Clause 7* provides for public notice to be given, by newspaper advertisements, of intention to apply for a meat-packing house licence.

*Clause 8* requires every application for a licence to be made to the local authority, and to be accompanied by an adequate plan and description of the premises and by the prescribed fee (which will be fixed by regulations).

*Clause 9* deals with the issue and renewal of licences. Before issuing a licence, the local authority is to be satisfied that the Minister has consented, that the Act has been complied with, that the situation of the premises is not objectionable, and that in respect of drainage and sanitation and the disposal of refuse and trade wastes the construction and equipment of the premises are satisfactory. Under *subclauses (2) to (4)* a licence remains in force until 30 June after its issue, and may thereafter, subject to *clause 10*, be renewed from year to year; but licences issued before 30 June 1959 will remain in force until that date without the necessity of renewal.

*Clause 10* gives the Minister power to withhold his consent to the issue or renewal of a licence if in his opinion the premises and equipment are not satisfactory, or if the licensee has been convicted of an offence against the Act.

*Clause 11* prohibits the making of additions or alterations to a meat-packing house except in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Minister. Notice of the submission to the Minister of the plans and specifications must be given to the local authority.

*Clause 12* provides that a meat-packing house must be kept in a proper sanitary condition to the satisfaction of the Inspector.

*Clause 13* provides that where the holder of a meat-packing house licence is convicted of an offence against the Act the Court may cancel or suspend his licence.

*Clause 14* consequentially amends a number of sections of the principal Act so as to make them apply to meat-packing houses as well as to canneries. The sections affected are sections 6 (general powers of Inspectors), 53 (making it unnecessary for a licensee to hold a meat exporter's licence), 58 (power to investigate the business of licensees), 59 (power of Inspectors to prohibit the use of insanitary premises), and 71 (regulations for inspection, the construction and sanitation of premises and plant, and the making of returns by licensees).

---

*Right Hon. Mr Holyoake*

## MEAT AMENDMENT

### ANALYSIS

Title	8. Application for licence
1. Short Title	9. Grant and renewal of licence
2. Interpretation	10. Power of Minister to withhold consent
3. Meat-packing houses to be licensed	11. Approval of structural alterations of meat-packing house
4. Licences for existing meat-packing houses	12. Sanitary conditions of meat-packing houses
5. Licences to be issued by local authorities	13. Cancellation or suspension of meat-packing house licence
6. Special provisions as to new premises	14. Consequential amendments
7. Notice of intention to apply for licence	Schedule

### An Act to amend the Meat Act 1939

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

5    **1. Short Title**—This Act may be cited as the Meat Amendment Act 1957, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Meat Act 1939 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

10   **2. Interpretation**—For the purposes of this Act and of the principal Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

    “Meat-packing house” means any premises that are used for the packaging of meat for export and in respect of which a licence is for the time being in force under this Act:

15    “Meat-packing house licence” means a licence granted under this Act in respect of a meat-packing house.

**3. Meat-packing houses to be licensed**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, no person shall, after the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty-seven, use any premises for the packaging of meat for export unless he is the holder of a licence issued to him under this Act in respect of those premises. 5

(2) Where the licensee of any meat-export slaughterhouse carries on the packaging of meat for export in any part of the premises of the meat-export slaughterhouse, that part of those premises shall be deemed to be a meat-packing house, and in respect thereof the holder of the meat-export slaughterhouse licence shall be deemed to be the holder of a meat-packing house licence. 10

(3) Where the licensee of a cannery carries on the packaging of meat for export in any part of the premises of the cannery, that part of those premises shall be deemed to be a meat-packing house, and in respect thereof the holder of the cannery licence shall be deemed to be the holder of a meat-packing house licence. 15

**4. Licences for existing meat-packing houses**—(1) Notwithstanding anything in this Act, every person who at the passing of this Act is carrying on in any premises, not being premises deemed to be a meat-packing house under subsection two or subsection three of section three of this Act, the business of packaging meat for export shall be entitled to a meat-packing house licence in respect of those premises if he applies for such a licence, in accordance with section eight of this Act, on or before the thirtieth day of November, nineteen hundred and fifty-seven, and if in the opinion of the Minister the construction of the premises and their equipment are satisfactory. 25 30

(2) The local authority shall, on compliance by any such person as aforesaid with this section and the said section eight, and on receipt of a notification from the Minister that in his opinion the construction of the premises and their equipment are satisfactory, issue a meat-packing house licence to that person in respect of those premises, to take effect from the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty-seven, as if the issue of the licence had been consented to by the Minister under this Act. 35

**5. Licences to be issued by local authorities**—(1) Every licence in respect of a meat-packing house shall be issued by the local authority of the district in which the premises used or intended to be used as a meat-packing house are situated.

5 (2) No such licence shall be issued or renewed without the consent of the Minister, which may be withheld on any of the grounds specified in section ten of this Act.

**6. Special provisions as to new premises**—(1) Where any person proposes to erect any premises, or to reconstruct or adapt any premises, with the intention that they shall be used as a meat-packing house, he shall, before the work is commenced, submit the plans and specifications thereof to the Minister, and shall at the same time give to the local authority concerned notice that the plans and specifications have been  
10 so submitted.

(2) If, after having regard to any recommendations of the Meat Producers Board, the Minister is satisfied with the plans and specifications, he may in his discretion undertake to give his consent to the issue by the local authority of a meat-packing house licence in respect of the premises if the premises are completed and the licence is duly applied for within twelve months after the date of the Minister's undertaking, or within such extended time as the Minister may allow.  
15

**7. Notice of intention to apply for licence**—Before making application to a local authority for a meat-packing house licence in respect of any premises, the intending applicant shall, by advertisement published at least once in each week for two successive weeks in a newspaper circulating in the district in which the premises are situated, give notice of his  
25 intention to apply for a licence in respect of those premises. The last of such advertisements shall be published not earlier than fourteen days and not later than seven days before the date of the application.

**8. Application for licence**—(1) Every application for a  
35 meat-packing house licence shall be made to the appropriate local authority in the prescribed form, and shall be accompanied by an adequate plan and description of the premises to which the application relates.

(2) Every such application shall also be accompanied by  
40 the prescribed fee, which shall be payable to the local authority.

**9. Grant and renewal of licence—**(1) On receipt of an application for a meat-packing house licence in respect of any premises, the local authority shall consider the application, and shall, with the consent of the Minister but not otherwise, issue a licence if, after such inquiry and investigation as it thinks necessary, it is satisfied— 5

(a) That the requirements of this Act in relation to the application have been complied with:

(b) That the situation of the premises to which the application relates is not objectionable, and that in respect of drainage and sanitation and the disposal of refuse and trade wastes the construction of the premises and their equipment are satisfactory. 10

(2) Every meat-packing house licence shall be in the prescribed form and shall, unless sooner cancelled or surrendered, continue in force until the close of the thirtieth day of June next after the date on which the licence takes effect: 15

Provided that any licence issued at any time after the passing of this Act and before the thirtieth day of June, nineteen hundred and fifty-nine, shall continue in force, unless sooner cancelled or surrendered, until the close of that day. 20

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsection two of section five of this Act, any meat-packing house licence, including any licence issued under section four of this Act, may from time to time be renewed on payment to the local authority of the prescribed fee. 25

(4) The renewal of a meat-packing house licence shall be for the period ending with the thirtieth day of June next after the date on which the renewal takes effect.

**10. Power of Minister to withhold consent—**The Minister may withhold his consent to the issue or renewal of any meat-packing house licence if he is of opinion that the construction of the premises and their equipment are not satisfactory, or if the licensee has been convicted of any offence against the principal Act or this Act in respect of that or any other meat-packing house or any slaughterhouse or any cannery: 30 35

Provided that the Minister shall not withhold his consent to the issue of a licence in any case where he has undertaken to give his consent thereto under section six of this Act.

**11. Approval of structural alterations of meat-packing house—**

(1) No licensee of a meat-packing house shall make or begin to make, or cause or permit to be made, any additions to or structural alterations of the meat-packing house during the currency of the licence, except in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Minister. When submitting plans and specifications to the Minister for the purposes of this subsection, the licensee shall at the same time give to the local authority concerned notice that the plans and specifications have been so submitted.

(2) In considering any application for his approval under this section, the Minister shall have regard to any recommendation of the Meat Producers Board.

(3) Every licensee of a meat-packing house commits an offence and is liable, on summary conviction before a Magistrate, to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds who contravenes or fails to comply in any respect with the provisions of this section.

**12. Sanitary conditions of meat-packing houses—**

(1) Every licensee of a meat-packing house shall maintain the meat-packing house in a proper sanitary condition to the satisfaction of the Inspector.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the proper sanitary condition of a meat-packing house shall be deemed not to be maintained unless the meat-packing house is kept efficiently lighted, ventilated, cleansed, drained, and provided with a sufficient water supply; or if any filth or refuse or anything likely to detrimentally affect the quality of any meat is allowed to remain on the premises of the meat-packing house.

(3) Every licensee commits an offence against the principal Act who fails to comply in any respect with the provisions of this section.

**13. Cancellation or suspension of meat-packing house licence—**

If the holder of a meat-packing house licence is convicted of an offence against the principal Act or this Act, or of a breach of the terms or conditions of his licence, the Court, in addition to imposing any other penalty to which the licensee may be liable, may make an order—

- (a) Cancelling the licence either from the date of the order or from a date to be specified in the order; or
- (b) Suspending the licence for such period, to be specified in the order, as the Court thinks fit.

**14. Consequential amendments**—(1) The principal Act, as amended by section fifteen of the Meat Amendment Act 1953, is hereby further amended in the manner indicated in the Schedule to this Act.

(2) The Meat Amendment Act 1953 is hereby consequentially amended by repealing section fifteen and the Schedule to that Act: 5

Provided that the repeal of the said section and Schedule shall not affect the amendment made thereby to section sixty-nine of the principal Act. 10

---



## SCHEDULE

## CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS OF PRINCIPAL ACT (AS AMENDED BY THE MEAT AMENDMENT ACT 1953)

Section Affected	Amendment
Section 6	By omitting the words "or the canning of meat", and substituting the words "or the canning of meat or the packing of meat for export".
Section 53	By repealing subsection (2), and substituting the following subsection: "(2) For the purposes of this Part of this Act, the term 'meat-exporter' does not include— "(a) The holder of a meat-export slaughterhouse licence, in respect of the export of meat from stock slaughtered in the slaughterhouse to which the licence relates; or "(b) The holder of a cannery licence, in respect of the export of meat canned in the cannery to which the licence relates; or "(c) The holder of a meat-packing house licence, in respect of the export of meat packaged in the meat-packing house to which the licence relates; or "(d) Any person in respect of the export of meat from stock raised or fattened by him for export, but includes every person, firm, or company carrying on the business of exporting meat from New Zealand otherwise than in accordance with any of the provisions of paragraphs (a) to (d) of this subsection."
Section 58 (1)	By omitting the words "or cannery licence", and substituting the words "or cannery licence or meat-packing house licence".
Section 59 (1)	By omitting the words "or for the canning of meat", and substituting the words "or for the canning of meat, or for the packaging of meat for export,".
Section 71 (2)	By omitting from paragraph (d) the word "canneries", and substituting the words "canneries, meat-packing houses,"; by omitting from paragraph (h) the word "canneries", and substituting the words "canneries, meat-packing houses,"; and by omitting from paragraph (o) the words "or of canneries", and substituting the words "or of canneries, or of meat-packing houses".