

MEAT AMENDMENT BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

THIS Bill makes miscellaneous amendments to the Meat Act 1939.

Clause 2 inserts new definitions in the principal Act. These include new definitions of the terms "canning", "defect", "disease", "game", "meat," and "stock".

Clause 3: This clause makes two new provisions which have the following effects:

- (a) Where local authorities combine for the purpose of establishing a common abattoir, they may appoint a committee for the purpose of making a delegation on behalf of all the local authorities concerned:
- (b) Where local authorities combine as aforesaid the agreement shall be by instrument under the seals of the local authorities concerned.

Clause 4 provides that the amount which a local authority may include, in respect of renewals and depreciation, as part of its expenditure in maintaining an abattoir shall be such proportion of the value of its premises and equipment as the Minister approves.

Clause 5 prohibits the processing of animals other than stock or of poultry in slaughterhouses but permits the storing of any such animals or poultry which have previously been frozen.

Clause 6: The effect of the amendments proposed by this clause is that all carcasses (whether condemned or not) shall be branded before being removed from a slaughterhouse.

Clause 7: This clause inserts a new Part, relating to game packing houses, in the principal Act. The clause provides that after 30 June 1964 all premises used for the packaging or processing of game for sale shall be licensed. Existing premises will be granted a licence if application is duly made and the premises and their equipment are satisfactory.

Any person exporting game from New Zealand will also be required to be licensed.

The licensing authority will be the Minister.

Clause 8: The effect of the amendments proposed by this clause is that meat shall not be removed from a slaughterhouse until it has been inspected and branded, whether or not it is intended for human consumption.

Clause 9 extends the provisions of the principal Act as to the method of dealing with diseased stock to defective stock.

Clause 10 extends the penal provisions of the principal Act as to diseased meat to defective meat.

Clause 11 inserts a new provision for the regulation of the processing and export of sausage casings.

Clause 12 extends the power to make regulations by:

- (a) Permitting the inspection of aircraft carrying meat; and
 - (b) Providing that licensees may be required to provide facilities for the keeping and drying clothing of Inspectors.
-

Hon. Mr Talboys

MEAT AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

	PART IIA
	GAME PACKING HOUSES
	46A. Game packing houses to be licensed
	46B. Export of game
	46C. Issue of licences
Title	8. Inspection of stock and meat in slaughterhouses
1. Short Title and commencement	9. Mode of dealing with diseased or defective stock
2. Interpretation	10. Offence to sell diseased or defective meat
3. Combination of local authorities	11. Regulation of processing and export of casings
4. Refunds of charges or fees	12. Regulations
5. Sanitary conditions of slaughterhouses	
6. Branding of carcasses	
7. New Part inserted	

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 and commencement**—This Act may be cited as the Meat Amendment Act 1963, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Meat Act 1939* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

*1957 Reprint, Vol. 9, p. 421
Amendments: 1961, No. 134; 1962, No. 30

2. Interpretation—(1) Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows:

- (a) By inserting, after the definition of the term “brand”, the following definition:
 “‘Canning’ includes the canning of meat for sale in cans or glass containers:” 5
- (b) By inserting, after the definition of the term “controlling authority”, the following definition:
 “‘Defect’, in relation to stock or meat, means any defect, inferiority, or other condition which in the opinion of an Inspector renders any stock or meat unfit to be used for human consumption:” 10
- (c) By repealing the definition of the term “disease”, and substituting the following definition:
 “‘Disease’ includes any of the diseases specified in Part I of the First Schedule to this Act and any other disease affecting stock which the Governor-General may declare to be a disease within the meaning of this Act:” 15
- (d) By inserting, after the definition of the term “diseased”, the following definition:
 “‘Game’ means deer; and includes hares, pigs, and goats living in a wild state and any other animals living in a wild state which the Governor-General may declare to be game for the purposes of this Act:” 20 25
- (e) By repealing the definition of the term “meat”, and substituting the following definition:
 “‘Meat’ includes every edible part of any slaughtered stock, whether the same is in its natural state or has been subjected to any freezing, chilling, salting, cooking, canning, drying, dehydrating, or other preservative process:” 30
- (f) By repealing the definition of the term “stock”, and substituting the following definition: 35
 “‘Stock’ means cattle, sheep, horses, pigs, and goats (other than pigs or goats living in a wild state) and any other animals which the Governor-General may declare to be stock within the meaning of this Act.” 40

(2) Section 2 of the Meat Amendment Act 1957 (as amended by section 2 of the Meat Amendment Act 1962) is hereby further amended as follows:

- (a) By inserting in the definition of the term “packaging”, after the word “enclosing”, the words “, otherwise than by canning,”; 45

(b) By adding to the definition of the term “packaging” the words “or the packaging of cured or cooked meat intended to be sold by retail on the premises in which it is packaged”.

5 (3) Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing subsection (2), and substituting the following subsection:

“(2) The Governor-General may from time to time, by Order in Council, extend the definition of the term “disease”
10 by declaring any disease that is not specified in Part I of the First Schedule to this Act to be a disease within the meaning of this Act, and may in like manner extend the definition of the terms “stock” or “game” by declaring animals of any species not specified in either of those definitions to be stock
15 or, as the case may be, game within the meaning of this Act. Any Order in Council under this section may be at any time in like manner amended or revoked.”

(4) The Warrant under the hand of the Governor-General dated the twenty-seventh day of July, nineteen hundred and
20 forty-six, extending the definition of the term “stock”, is hereby consequentially revoked.

3. Combination of local authorities—(1) Section 14 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsection (3) (as added by section 3 of the Meat Amendment Act 1961) and
25 substituting the following subsections:

“(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, in any case where local authorities have combined under this section for the purpose of establishing or maintaining a common abattoir, the local authorities may appoint a committee consisting of such number of their members as the local authorities determine by agreement, and the committee shall, for the purposes of making any delegation under section 16 of this Act, be deemed to be the controlling authority of the abattoir.
30

“(4) Any arrangement or agreement entered into under this section shall be by instrument under the seals of the local authorities concerned.”

(2) Section 3 of the Meat Amendment Act 1961 is hereby consequentially repealed.

4. Refunds of charges or fees—(1) Subsection (6) of section 23 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (d) (as amended by section 6 of the Meat Amendment Act 1962) and substituting the following paragraphs:

“(d) The amount (if any) that has been actually appropriated by the local authority and paid to a renewal or depreciation fund established in respect of the abattoir for the purpose of making provision for renewing or replacing the abattoir premises or the equipment or any part of the equipment that may become worn out, obsolete, or otherwise unfit for use in connection with the abattoir (which amount shall, in any year, not exceed such proportion of the value of the buildings, plant, and equipment as the Minister approves in that behalf):”

“(dd) The amount (if any) that has been actually appropriated by the local authority in that year and paid to a fund established under subsection (7A) of this section in accordance with that subsection, reduced by any amount expended pursuant to a direction of the Minister under the proviso to that subsection:”

(2) Section 23 of the principal Act is hereby further amended by inserting, after subsection (7), the following subsection:

“(7A) Any such local authority may, with the prior approval of the Minister and on such terms and conditions as the Minister thinks fit to impose, from time to time set aside in a separate account any money to form a fund for the repair and maintenance of the abattoir, and may from time to time apply the money in the fund for any such purpose, and may invest any money in the fund and pay the proceeds of the investment into the fund:

“Provided that the local authority shall, if the Minister so directs, apply all or any of the money in the fund to any purpose connected with the operation or conduct of the abattoir.”

(3) Section 6 of the Meat Amendment Act 1962 is hereby consequentially repealed.

5. Sanitary conditions of slaughterhouses—(1) Subsection (3) of section 42 of the principal Act (as added by section 7 of the Meat Amendment Act 1961) is hereby amended by inserting, after the words “to slaughter”, the words “or to process”.

(2) Section 42 of the principal Act is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection:

“ (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3) of this section, except as otherwise provided by regulations under this Act, it shall be lawful to store in any part of a slaughterhouse any poultry or animals which have previously been frozen.”

6. Branding of carcasses—(1) Section 44 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the words “(unless it has been condemned as being unfit for human consumption)”.

(2) Section 44 of the principal Act is hereby further amended by adding, as subsection (2), the following subsection:

“ (2) Any person who, without lawful excuse, removes from any abattoir or other slaughterhouse any carcass which has not been branded in accordance with this section, commits an offence against this Act.”

7. New Part inserted—The principal Act is hereby further amended by inserting in Part II, after section 46, the following Part and sections:

“PART IIA

“GAME PACKING HOUSES

“46A. **Game packing houses to be licensed**—(1) No person shall, after the thirtieth day of June, nineteen hundred and sixty-four, use any premises for the packaging or processing of game for sale unless he is the holder of a game packing licence issued under this Act in respect of those premises.

“ (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, every person, who, at the commencement of this Act is carrying on in any premises the business of packaging or processing game for sale shall be entitled to a game packing licence in respect of those premises if he applies for such a licence on or before the thirty-first day of May, nineteen hundred and sixty-four, and if in the opinion of the Minister the construction of the premises and their equipment are satisfactory.

“46B. **Export of game**—No game packaged or processed in New Zealand shall be exported from New Zealand except under the authority of a game exporter’s licence issued under this Act and in accordance with regulations under this Act.

“46c. **Issue of licences**—(1) All licences under this Part of this Act shall be issued by the Minister in accordance with regulations under this Act and the Minister may grant or withhold the issue or renewal of any such licence on any grounds prescribed in the regulations. 5

“(2) Regulations under this Act may apply to game packing houses such of the provisions of this Act, with such modifications as the Governor-General thinks fit, as may be prescribed in the regulations.

“(3) Where the definition of the term ‘game’ is extended 10 in accordance with this Act, regulations under this Act may apply special provisions in respect of premises used for the packaging or processing of any game to which this Part for the time being applies.”

8. Inspection of stock and meat in slaughterhouses— 15

(1) Subsection (2) of section 47 of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows:

(a) By omitting the words “and intended for human consumption”:

(b) By omitting the words “as being fit for human con- 20 sumption, and, in the case of meat intended for export, as being fit for export”.

(2) Subsection (3) of section 47 of the principal Act is hereby amended by omitting the words “he shall cancel or remove the brand, and thereupon the meat shall be dealt with 25 as if it had never been branded as aforesaid”, and substituting the words “he shall brand the meat accordingly, and thereupon the meat shall be dealt with as if it had never been branded as being fit for human consumption or for export”.

9. Mode of dealing with diseased or defective stock— 30

(1) Section 48 of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows:

(a) By inserting in subsection (1), after the words “is diseased”, the words “or defective”:

(b) By omitting from subsection (2) the words “so as to 35 render that part unfit for human consumption, the diseased”, and substituting the words “or by any defect so as to render that part unfit for human consumption, the diseased or defective”:

(c) By inserting in subsection (3), after the words “any 40 diseased”, the words “or defective”.

(2) Section 48 of the principal Act is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection:

“(4) Any person who, without lawful excuse, deals with any such diseased or defective stock or meat otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of this section commits an offence against this Act.”

5 **10. Offence to sell diseased or defective meat**—Subsection (1) of section 49 of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows:

(a) By inserting, after the words “is diseased”, the words “or defective”:

10 (b) By adding the words “or defective”.

11. Regulation of processing and export of casings—The principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after section 57, the following section:

“57A. (1) After a date fixed in that behalf by the Governor-General by Order in Council, no person, other than the licensee of a meat export slaughterhouse, shall use any premises for the packaging or processing of casings for export and no person, other than the licensee of a meat export slaughterhouse or the holder of a meat exporter’s licence, shall export any casings from New Zealand, unless he is authorised in writing by the Minister:

“Provided that any person who is authorised under this section to pack or process casings for export shall be deemed to be authorised to export casings.

25 “(2) The Minister may grant or withhold any authorisation under this section on any grounds prescribed by regulations under this Act.

30 “(3) Regulations under this Act may apply such of the provisions of this Act, with such modifications as the Governor-General thinks fit, as may be prescribed in the regulations to premises used for the packaging or processing of casings for export and to the export of any such casings.

35 “(4) For the purposes of this section the term ‘casings’ means any products derived from the intestines of stock and intended for use as containers of any edible meat product.”

12. Regulations—Subsection (1) of section 71 of the principal Act is hereby amended as follows:

(a) By inserting in paragraph (e), after the words “of ships”, the words “or aircraft”:

40 (b) By inserting in paragraph (hh), after the words “accommodation for”, the words “keeping and drying”.