

MEAT AMENDMENT BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

THIS Bill amends the Meat Act 1964.

Clause 1 relates to the Short Title.

Clause 2: The effect of this clause is that the Director of the Meat Division of the Department will have all the powers of an Inspector appointed under the principal Act.

Clause 3: Section 73 of the principal Act provides that it is a condition of every licence issued in respect of an export slaughterhouse that the licensee or his subsidiary or any company of which the licensee is a subsidiary shall not acquire any estate or interest in any company which is the licensee of an export slaughterhouse without the consent of the Minister of Agriculture given after consultation with the Meat Producers Board. If any such interest is acquired in breach of that condition, the Minister may refuse his consent to the renewal of the licence of the first-mentioned licensee. There is no other penalty for any such breach.

This clause provides that in such a case the transaction is unlawful and shall have no effect. A similar provision appears in section 72, in the case of a transaction for the sale or disposition of an export slaughterhouse or export packing house entered into in breach of that section.

Clause 4 re-enacts in an amended form section 77 of the principal Act. That section at present authorises the making of regulations providing for the inspection of premises used for the processing or packaging of fish for export and the marking or certification of any such fish, restricting or prohibiting the export of fish unless the fish are processed, packaged, handled, or stored in premises approved for the purpose and in accordance with the regulations, and requiring exporters of fish to be licensed, and applying to exporters of fish, with any modifications thought necessary, any provisions of the principal Act.

The proposed new section 77 is generally to the same effect as the present section, the following being the principal changes:

- (a) The regulations may restrict or prohibit the export of fish unless it has been processed, handled, packaged, and stored in premises licensed under the regulations or in other premises specified in the regulations.

- (b) The regulations may make such provision with respect to premises licensed under the regulations and other premises specified in the regulations, and to the processing, packaging, handling, and storage of fish in any such premises and to the conveyance of fish to or from any such premises as may be made under section 83 of the principal Act with respect to other premises licensed under that Act and to the processing, packaging, handling, storage, and conveyance of meat.
- (c) The definition of "fish" makes it clear that the term includes fish products.

Clause 5 provides that such proportion as the Minister approves of the fees received in respect of the inspection of stock or of meat derived from stock is to be paid into a separate account within the Trust Account of the Public Account. Payments may, with the approval of the Minister, be made out of that separate account to Federated Farmers of New Zealand Incorporated for the purpose of assisting it to defray expenses incurred or to be incurred in the carrying on by its head office of such activities as the Minister specifies.

Hon. Mr Carter

MEAT AMENDMENT

ANALYSIS

Title	3. Acquisition of interest in export slaughterhouse
1. Short Title	4. Inspection of fish intended for export, and licensing of premises
2. Meaning of "Inspector"	5. Disposition of inspection fees

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend the Meat Act 1964

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

1. **Short Title**—This Act may be cited as the Meat Amendment Act 1972, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Meat Act 1964* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

10 2. **Meaning of "Inspector"**—Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding to the definition of the term "Inspector" in subsection (1) the words "and includes the Director of the Meat Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries:".

*1964, No. 71
Amendments: 1966, No. 73; 1968, No. 38

3. Acquisition of interest in export slaughterhouse—Section 73 of the principal Act is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:

“(4) If any licensee or his subsidiary or any company of which the licensee is a subsidiary enters into any transaction for the acquisition of any estate or interest contrary to the provisions of this section, the transaction shall be deemed to be unlawful and shall have no effect.” 5

4. Inspection of fish intended for export, and licensing of premises—(1) The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing section 77, and substituting the following section: 10

“77. (1) Regulations under this Act may—

“(a) Provide for the inspection under this Act of premises used for the processing or packaging of fish for export and for the marking or certification of any such fish: 15

“(b) Prescribe conditions under which premises used for the processing, packaging, handling, or storage of fish intended for export may be licensed for the purposes of this Act, and may restrict or prohibit the export of fish unless the fish has been processed, packaged, handled, and stored in licensed or other specified premises and in accordance with the regulations: 20

“(c) Require exporters of fish to be licensed by the Minister:

“(d) Prescribe conditions under which licences granted under the regulations may be held, renewed, transferred, surrendered, or cancelled: 25

“(e) Make such provision with respect to premises licensed under the regulations and to the processing, packaging, handling, and storage of fish in any licensed or other specified premises and to the conveyance of fish to or from any licensed or other specified premises as may be made by regulations made under section 83 of this Act with respect to other premises subject to this Act and to meat processed, packaged, handled, and stored in any such premises and to the conveyance of meat to or from any such premises: 30 35

“(f) Apply to exporters of fish such of the provisions of this Act, with such modifications as the Governor-General thinks fit, as may be prescribed in the regulations. 40

“(2) For the purpose of this section, all fish which is taken or received into premises that are licensed under regulations made pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be in those premises for the purpose of being processed or packaged for
5 export.

“(3) For the purposes of this section—

“‘Fish’ means all species of fish; and includes crustacea, shellfish, and echinoderms; and also includes fish
10 products:

“‘Fish products’ includes any article of human food and any article intended for or capable of being used as human food, being, in each case, an article prepared or processed in whole or in substantial and known quantities from any part of any fish.”

15 (2) The following enactments are hereby consequentially repealed:

(a) Section 2 of the Meat Amendment Act 1966:

(b) Section 13 of the Meat Amendment Act 1968.

5. Disposition of inspection fees—The principal Act is
20 hereby further amended by inserting, after section 84, the following section:

“84A. (1) Such proportion of the fees received pursuant to regulations under this Act in respect of the inspection of stock or of meat derived from stock as the Minister from
25 time to time approves shall be paid to a separate account within the Trust Account of the Public Account.

“(2) There may from time to time be paid from the said separate account to Federated Farmers of New Zealand Incorporated such amounts as the Minister approves for the
30 purpose of assisting that body to defray expenses incurred or to be incurred in carrying on such of the activities of its head office as the Minister from time to time specifies.

“(3) The powers conferred by this section are in addition to those conferred by section 84 of this Act.”