

House of Representatives

Supplementary Order Paper

Thursday, 12 February 2015

Animal Welfare Amendment Bill

Proposed amendment

Mojo Mathers, in Committee, to move the following amendment:

Clause 56

In *clause 56, new section 183A(4A)*, delete “on a particular sector” (page 37, line 25).

Explanatory note

This Supplementary Order Paper addresses a significant potential loophole in the Bill, where the Minister could recommend the making of non-complying regulations on the basis of an unreasonable impact on New Zealand’s wider economy without being required to consider the animal welfare impact of the regulations. *Section 183A(4)* provides that the Minister must not recommend the making of non-complying regulations unless satisfied that either or both of *section 183A(4)(a) or (c)* apply. *Section 183A(4)(c)* refers to an unreasonable impact on any of 3 things: a particular industry sector within New Zealand, a sector of the public, or New Zealand’s wider economy. However, *section 183A(4A)* states that the Minister must have regard to the welfare of any affected animals only in deciding whether any impact on a particular sector is unreasonable under *section 183A(4)(c)*. The words “a particular sector” could be interpreted as applying only to a particular industry sector or a sector of the public. The proposed amendment would clarify that the Minister must have regard to the welfare of animals when considering any impact under *section 183A(4)(c)*, including an impact on New Zealand’s wider economy.
