First print



New South Wales

## Agricultural Livestock (Disease Control Funding) Bill 1998

## Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

## Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to enact a general scheme to assist the agricultural industry to provide and fund agricultural services to control diseases in livestock.

Under the Bill, the Minister may declare that services for the control of any particular disease in livestock are to be funded under the proposed Act (a *designated disease control service*). Once such a service is designated, the Minister may establish an industry contribution fund for voluntary contributions from the relevant livestock producers to fund the service. If that funding may be insufficient, the Minister may establish an industry levy fund from a compulsory levy on ratable land used by the relevant livestock producers based on the livestock carrying capacity of the land. Appropriate exemptions are provided from the compulsory levy for persons who make a minimum contribution to the industry contribution fund to fund the designated service concerned. The Bill establishes an industry advisory committee for each designated service to advise the Minister on the funding of the service under the proposed Act.

Explanatory note

## Outline of provisions

## Part 1 Preliminary

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

**Clause 3** defines certain words and expressions used in the proposed Act. In particular:

- (a) *Director-General* is defined to mean the Director-General of the Department of Agriculture,
- (b) *industry fund* is defined to mean an industry contribution fund or industry levy fund under the proposed Act.

Clause 4 provides that notes in the text of the proposed Act do not form part of the Act.

## Part 2 Disease control services

**Clause 5** defines a *disease control service* for the purposes of the proposed Act. Such a service may include programs for the detection of a disease, for the control of the disease, for research into the disease and for assistance to livestock producers adversely affected by the disease.

**Clause 6** authorises the Minister, by order in the Gazette, to approve the funding of a disease control service under the proposed Act for the purpose of assisting the relevant sector of the agricultural industry to control a disease that is a significant risk to the livelihood of livestock producers. Any such service is a designated service, the disease is a designated disease and the producers are designated livestock producers.

**Clause 7** requires the Minister to establish an industry advisory committee (comprising a majority of designated livestock producers) for each designated service. Such a committee is to advise the Minister on the funding of the service under the proposed Act.

## Part 3 Voluntary industry funding

Clause 8 requires the Director-General to establish an industry contribution fund for each designated service.

**Clause 9** provides that the purpose of an industry contribution fund is to provide a means by which the relevant livestock producers can make appropriate contributions to fund the disease control service provided to them.

Explanatory note

Clause 10 requires voluntary contributions of livestock producers and others to be paid into the industry contribution fund.

**Clause 11** provides for the payment from the fund of costs to fund the designated service (as approved by the Minister after consultation with the relevant industry advisory committee). The clause also authorises the payment from the fund of the costs of the administration of the fund and of the industry advisory committee.

## Part 4 Compulsory industry funding

**Clause 12** authorises the Minister to impose, in respect of a designated disease control service, an industry levy under the proposed Act to assist the funding of the designated service if the relevant industry contribution fund may not be sufficient for that purpose.

**Clause 13** provides that the industry levy is a special rate levied on the occupiers of ratable land under the *Rural Lands Protection Act 1989* on which designated livestock is raised. The special rate is to be levied according to the carrying capacity of the land. The clause provides that a levy is not payable if the person liable to pay the levy has made a contribution to the industry contribution fund during the levy period of the relevant minimum amount determined by the Minister.

Clause 14 specifies the period for which industry levies are payable.

Clause 15 provides for the Minister to fix the rate of an industry levy.

**Clause 16** gives a person who has made the relevant minimum contribution to an industry contribution fund an entitlement to a refund of any industry levy that has been paid by the person during the relevant levy period.

**Clause 17** requires the Director-General to establish a separate industry levy fund for money collected from an industry levy.

**Clause 18** requires money received from an industry levy to be paid into the relevant industry levy fund.

**Clause 19** provides for the payment from the fund of costs to fund the designated service (as approved by the Minister after consultation with the relevant industry advisory committee). The clause also authorises the payment from the fund of the costs of collecting the levy and the costs of the administration of the fund.

Explanatory note page 3

Explanatory note

## Part 5 Collection of industry levies

Clause 20 provides that the Part applies to the collection of industry levies.

**Clause 21** enables the Director-General to obtain from rural lands protection boards the information required for the purposes of imposing and collecting an industry levy.

**Clause 22** provides for collection of industry levies by the relevant rural lands protection boards and the payment of the money collected to the Director-General.

**Clause 23** applies the provisions of the *Rural Lands Protection Act 1989* relating to the collection of rates under that Act to the collection of industry levies.

**Clause 24** enables livestock producers to seek a review by the Administrative Decisions Tribunal of decisions of the Director-General with respect to industry levies.

## Part 6 General provisions relating to industry funds

Clause 25 provides for the investment of money in the industry funds, including their investment as a common pool.

Clause 26 authorises internal loans between industry funds.

**Clause 27** enables the Director-General to appoint the Rural Assistance Authority or any other body as an agent to administer any expenditure from an industry fund.

Clause 28 provides for the audit of industry funds by the Auditor-General.

Clause 29 requires the Director-General to prepare annual reports for the Minister and Parliament on the operation of industry funds.

## Part 7 Miscellaneous

Clause 30 provides that the proposed Act binds the Crown.

Clause 31 provides for the summary disposal of proceedings for offences under the proposed Act.

Clause 32 empowers the making of regulations for the purposes of the proposed Act.

Clause 33 gives effect to the Schedule of savings, transitional and other provisions.

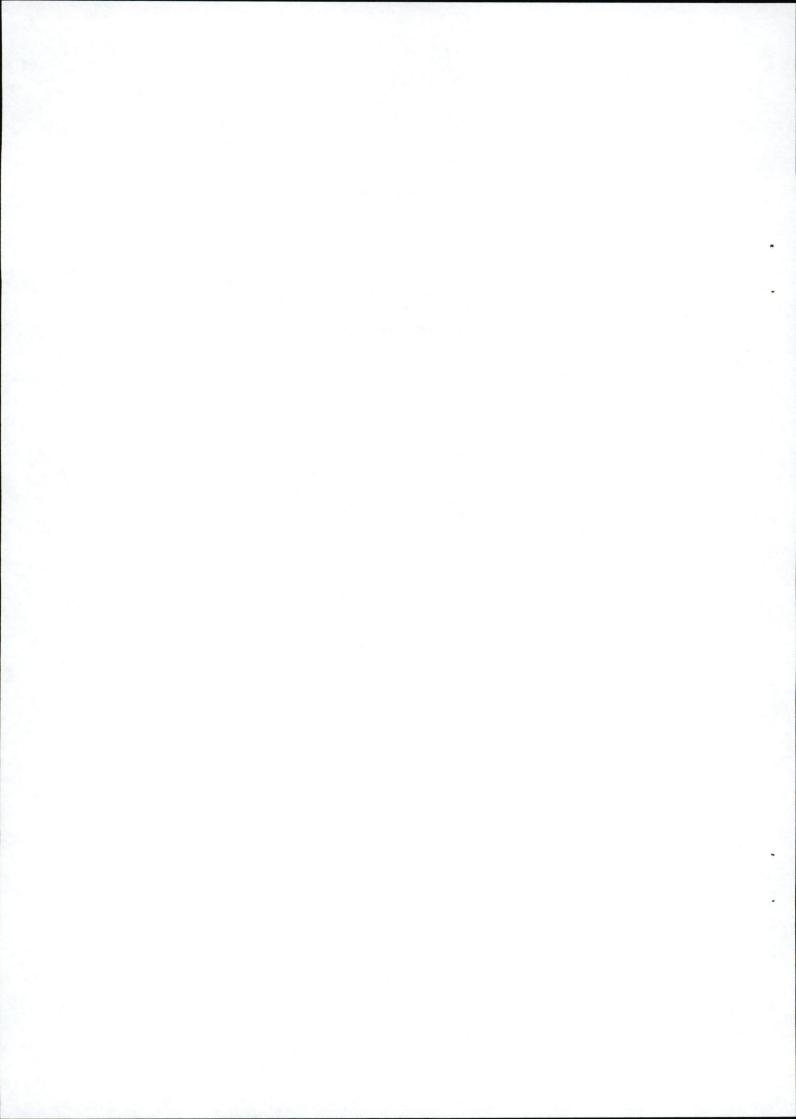
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Explanatory note

Clause 34 provides for a review of the proposed Act after 5 years.

Schedule 1 sets out machinery provisions relating to the constitution and procedure of industry advisory committees.

Schedule 2 contains savings, transitional and other provisions. In particular, the Schedule empowers the making of savings and transitional regulations and makes consequential amendments to the Act on the commencement of legislation that replaces the *Rural Lands Protection Act 1989*.



First print



New South Wales

# Agricultural Livestock (Disease Control Funding) Bill 1998

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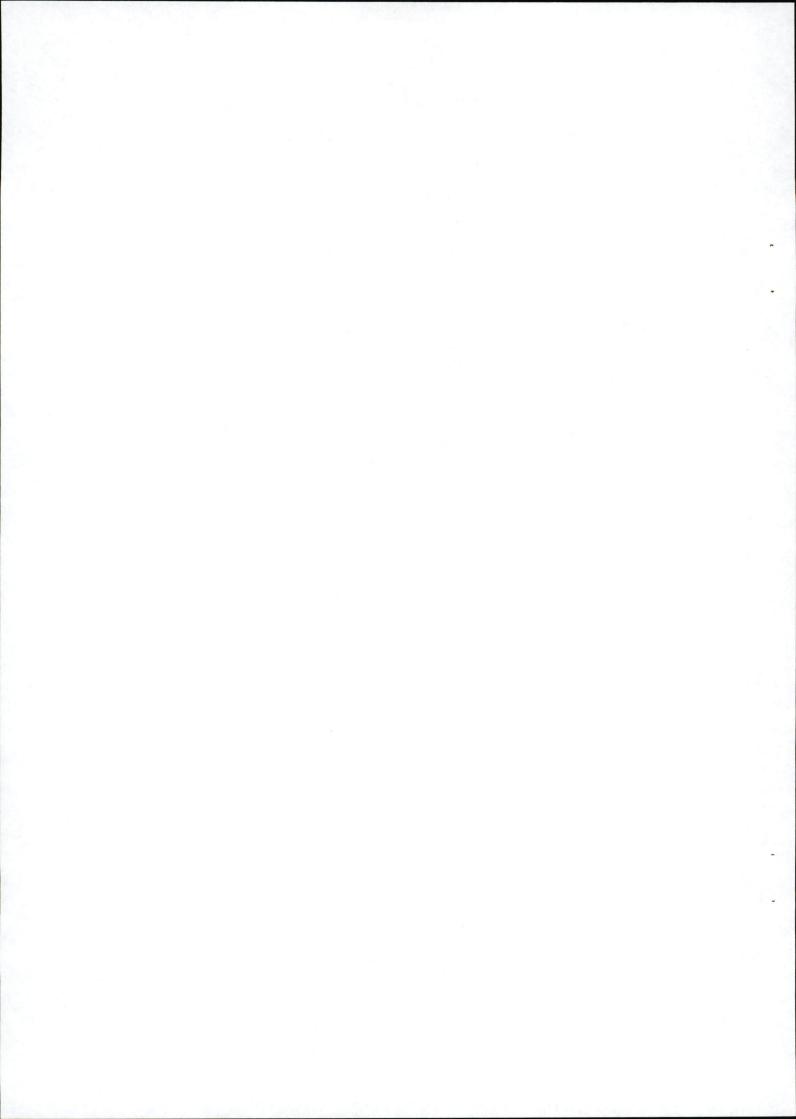
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New South Wales

# Agricultural Livestock (Disease Control Funding) Bill 1998

No , 1998

## A Bill for

An Act to assist agricultural industries to provide and fund services to control diseases in livestock; and for other purposes.

Part 1 Preliminary

The Legislature of New South Wales enacts:

## Part 1 Preliminary

## 1 Name of Act

This Act is the Agricultural Livestock (Disease Control Funding) Act 1998.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

#### 3 Definitions

In this Act:

*carrying capacity* of land has the same meaning it has in the *Rural Lands Protection Act 1989*.

*control* a disease includes prevent or eradicate the disease.

designated disease, designated disease control service, designated livestock producers—see section 6.

*Director-General* means the Director-General of the Department of Agriculture.

*disease* means any disease within the meaning of the *Stock Diseases Act 1923* or any exotic disease within the meaning of the *Exotic Diseases of Animals Act 1991*.

disease control service—see section 5.

*exercise* a function includes perform a duty.

*function* includes a power, authority or duty.

*industry advisory committee* means a committee established under section 7.

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*industry contribution fund* means a fund established under Part 3.

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Agricultural Livestock	(Disease	Control	Funding)	Bill	1998	
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## Clause 3

Preliminary

Part 1

*industry fund* means an industry contribution fund or an industry levy fund.

industry levy means a levy imposed under Part 4.

industry levy fund means a fund established under Part 4.

levy period—see section 14.

livestock means any stock within the meaning of the Stock Diseases Act 1923.

livestock producer means a person:

- who raises livestock on the person's own behalf, or (a)
- on whose behalf livestock is raised, or (b)

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who is a party to a share-farming or partnership agreement (c) under which livestock is raised.

occupier has the same meaning it has in the Rural Lands Protection Act 1989.

ratable land has the same meaning it has in the Rural Lands 15 Protection Act 1989.

#### Notes 4

Notes included in this Act are explanatory notes and do not form part of this Act.

Part 2 Disease control services

## Part 2 Disease control services

## 5 Nature of disease control service

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, a *disease control service* is an agricultural service for livestock producers comprising a program, or series of programs, for the control of a particular disease in livestock.
- (2) Any such program extends (without limitation) to the following:
  - (a) measures to detect the presence of the disease in livestock,
  - (b) measures to control the disease,
  - (c) research into the disease,

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- (d) measures to assist livestock producers adversely affected by the disease.
- (3) Any such program may be limited to this State or may be a part of a program in other parts of Australia or in other countries.

## 6 Approval of funding under this Act for disease control service 15

- (1) The Minister may approve the funding under this Act of a disease control service with respect to a particular disease.
- (2) The Minister may give such an approval if the Minister has consulted representatives of producers of livestock liable to be infected by the disease and is satisfied that:
  - (a) the disease is a significant risk to the livelihood of those livestock producers, and
  - (b) the disease control service is being provided or supported by the relevant sector of the agricultural industry, and
  - (c) the funding of the disease control service under this Act is appropriate in order to assist that sector of the agricultural industry to provide the service.
- (3) Any such approval is to be given by an order of the Minister published in the Gazette.

Page 4

Agricultural Livestock (Disease Control Funding) Bill 1998	Clause 6
Disease control services	Part 2

(4) While any such approval remains in force:

- (a) the service is a *designated disease control service* for the purposes of this Act, and
- (b) the disease is a *designated disease* for the purposes of this Act, and
- (c) the producers of livestock liable to be infected by the disease are *designated livestock producers* for the purposes of this Act.
- (5) A statement in an order giving any such approval that the Minister has complied with the requirements of subsection (2) is 1 conclusive evidence of compliance with those requirements.

#### 7 Industry advisory committees

- (1) The Minister is to establish an industry advisory committee for each designated disease control service.
- (2) An industry advisory committee is to be called the "[*name of* 15 *designated disease*] industry advisory committee".
- (3) An industry advisory committee is to consist of:
  - (a) a person appointed by the Minister, who is to be the Chairperson of the committee, and
  - (b) such other members (being not fewer than two) as the 20 Minister determines after consultation with representatives of the designated livestock producers concerned.

A majority of the members of a committee is to comprise members who are designated livestock producers.

- (4) The functions of an industry advisory committee are as follows: 25
  - (a) to advise the Minister on the funding of the designated disease control service (including the programs to be funded and any industry levy that may be imposed under this Act).
  - (b) such other functions with respect to the designated disease 30 control service as the Minister directs.
- (5) Schedule 1 has effect with respect to the constitution and procedure of an industry advisory committee.

Page 5

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Part 3 Voluntary industry funding

## Part 3 Voluntary industry funding

# 8 Establishment of industry contribution fund for designated disease control services

- (1) The Director-General is to establish an industry contribution fund under this Part for each designated disease control service.
- (2) An industry contribution fund is to be called the "[name of designated disease] industry contribution fund".
- (3) Money in an industry contribution fund is under the control of the Director-General and can be expended by the Director-General only for the purposes authorised by this Act.

## 9 Purpose of industry contribution fund

- (1) The purpose of an industry contribution fund is to provide a means by which the relevant designated livestock producers can make an appropriate contribution to fund the designated disease control service provided to them.
- (2) Contributions to an industry contribution fund are voluntary.

## 10 Payments into industry contribution fund

- (1) There is payable into an industry contribution fund:
  - (a) monetary contributions to the fund by the relevant designated livestock producers, and
  - (b) monetary contributions to the fund by any other person or body, and
  - (c) money required by law to be paid to the fund.
- (2) Rural lands protection boards. local councils and other public or local authorities are authorised by this section to make contributions to an industry contribution fund if they wish to do so.

## 11 Payments out of industry contribution fund

- (1) There is payable from an industry contribution fund:
  - (a) the costs of the relevant designated disease control service 30 (as approved by the Minister), and

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Agricultural Livestock (Disease Control Funding) Bill 1998	Clause 11
Voluntary industry funding	Part 3

- (b) the costs of administration of the fund (including allowances payable to members of the relevant industry advisory committee and any other expenses of the committee), and
- (c) money required by law to be paid from the fund.
- (2) Before approving the payment from the fund of the costs of the relevant designated disease control service, the Minister is to have regard to the advice of the relevant industry advisory committee about the policies and priorities for expenditure from the fund.

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Part 4 Compulsory industry funding

## Part 4 Compulsory industry funding

## 12 Imposition of industry levy

- (1) The Minister may (but need not) authorise the imposition of an industry levy to assist the funding of any designated disease control service.
- (2) The Minister may give such an authorisation if satisfied that the relevant industry contribution fund may not be sufficient to fund the necessary service.
- (3) Any such authorisation is to be given by an order of the Minister published in the Gazette.
- (4) The Director-General is to impose industry levies in accordance with this Act if authorised to do so by any such order of the Minister.
- (5) A statement in an order giving any such authorisation that the Minister has complied with the requirement of subsection (2) is conclusive evidence of compliance with that requirement.

## 13 Liability for industry levy

- (1) An industry levy is a rate levied on the occupiers of all ratable land on which livestock in respect of the designated disease control service concerned is raised by or on behalf of designated livestock producers. The rate is to be levied according to the carrying capacity of the land.
- (2) However, an industry levy is not payable by a person in respect of a levy period if the person has, during that period, contributed at least the relevant minimum contribution to the industry contribution fund established for the designated disease control service.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, the *relevant minimum contribution* is the amount specified, or determined in the manner specified, in the order imposing the industry levy or in a subsequent order of the Minister published in the Gazette.

#### 14 Levy period

(1) An industry levy is payable in respect of each financial year commencing 1 July.

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Agricultural Livestock (Disease Control Funding) Bill 1998	Clause 14
Compulsory industry funding	Part 4

- (2) However, the Minister may, by the order imposing the levy or by a subsequent order published in the Gazette, direct that the levy is payable in respect of a different period.
- (3) The period in respect of which the levy is payable is called the *levy period* for the purposes of this Act.

## 15 Amount of industry levy

- (1) The amount of an industry levy is to be calculated by the Director-General at the rate fixed by the Minister in the order authorising the levy or in a subsequent order of the Minister published in the Gazette.
- (2) The rate fixed by the Minister may provide for a minimum or maximum amount of levy to be payable, or for no amount to be payable if the carrying capacity of the ratable land does not exceed a minimum carrying capacity.

## 16 Refunds of levy to contributors to industry contribution fund

- If a person has paid an industry levy in respect of a levy period and has also made a contribution during that period, of at least the relevant minimum contribution referred to in section 13. to the industry contribution fund established for the designated disease concerned, the person is entitled to a refund from the industry levy fund of the amount of the industry levy paid by the person.
- (2) The Director-General is responsible for making refunds under this section.
- (3) Applications for, and payment of, the refund are to be made in 25 accordance with such procedures as the Director-General determines.

## 17 Separate fund for industry levies

- (1) The Director-General is to establish a separate industry levy fund for money collected from each industry levy.
- (2) An industry levy fund is to be called the "[*name of designated disease*] industry levy fund".

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Page 9

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Part 4 Compulsory industry funding

(3) Money in an industry levy fund is under the control of the Director-General and can be expended by the Director-General only for the purposes authorised by this Act.

## 18 Payments into industry levy fund

There is payable into an industry levy fund:

- (a) money received from an industry levy under this Part for the designated disease control service concerned, and
- (b) money advanced by the Treasurer for the fund, and
- (c) money appropriated by Parliament for the purposes of the fund, and
- (d) money required by law to be paid to the fund.

## 19 Payments out of industry levy fund

- (1) There is payable from an industry levy fund:
  - (a) the costs of any part of the relevant designated disease control service that is not funded from the relevant industry contribution fund (as approved by the Minister), and
  - (b) any refund of an industry levy to persons who have contributed to the relevant industry contribution fund as provided by section 16, and
  - (c) the costs of collection of the industry levies payable to the fund and of the administration of the fund, and
  - (d) money required by law to be paid from the fund.
- (2) Before approving the payment from the fund of the costs of the relevant designated disease control service, the Minister is to have regard to the advice of the relevant industry advisory committee about the policies and priorities for expenditure from the fund.

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Page 10

Clause 20

Part 5

Collection of industry levies

## Part 5 Collection of industry levies

### 20 Application

This Part applies to the collection of industry levies imposed by the Director-General under Part 4.

## 21 Obtaining information from boards

- (1) The Director-General may, by notice in writing, require a rural lands protection board to supply to the Director-General such information with respect to ratable land and other matters as the Director-General requires for the purposes of the imposition and collection of industry levies.
- (2) Any such board is required to supply that information within the time and in the form required by the Director-General despite any restriction imposed by law on the disclosure of that information by the board.

## 22 Boards required to collect industry levies

- (1) The Director-General may, by notice in writing, direct a rural lands protection board to collect the industry levies imposed by the Director-General in respect of ratable land in the district for which the board is established.
- (2) A rural lands protection board is to collect any such industry levy
  20 in the same manner as it collects a rate imposed under the *Rural Lands Protection Act 1989*.
- (3) Any amount collected by any such board is to be paid to the Director-General within such time and in such manner as the Director-General directs.
- (4) Any such board is to be paid such amount for the collection of industry levies as the Minister determines having regard to the advice of the board and the relevant industry advisory committee. The arrangements for that payment may include the retention by the board of a percentage of industry levies collected by the board.

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Part 5 Collection of industry levies

(5) A failure by any such board to collect or pay the levy, or to comply with any requirement made by or under this Act with respect to the levy, is taken to be a contravention by the board of the *Rural Lands Protection Act 1989* and may be dealt with accordingly.

## 23 Application of Rural Lands Protection Act 1989

- (1) The *Rural Lands Protection Act 1989* applies, for the purposes of the collection of an industry levy, as if the industry levy were a rate imposed by a rural lands protection board under that Act.
- (2) That Act so applies with any necessary modifications and with 10 such modifications as are prescribed by this Part or the regulations.
- (3) The regulations may provide that a function exercisable by a rural lands protection board under that Act may be exercised by the Director-General in connection with industry levies under this Act.
- (4) In this section, *modifications* includes additions and omissions.

## 24 Reviews of decisions of Director-General by ADT

- (1) A person who is required to pay an industry levy under this Act may apply to the Administrative Decisions Tribunal for a review of any of the following decisions of the Director-General with respect to the levy:
  - (a) a decision that the person is liable to pay the levy.
  - (b) a decision as to the amount of the levy that the person is liable to pay,
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- (c) a decision not to make a refund to the person under section 16.
- (2) A decision is not subject to review under this section on the grounds of a dispute about the carrying capacity of ratable land.

Agricultural Livestock (Disease Control Funding) Bill 1998	Clause 25
General provisions relating to industry funds	Part 6

# Part 6 General provisions relating to industry funds

## 25 Investment of money in industry funds

- (1) The Minister is to invest money in an industry fund:
  - (a) in the manner authorised by the *Public Authorities* (*Financial Arrangements*) Act 1987, or
  - (b) if that Act does not confer power on the Minister to invest the money—in any manner approved by the Treasurer.
- (2) The proceeds of investment of money in an industry fund are to be paid into that fund.

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(3) Money in all or any of the industry funds may be invested as a common pool. The proceeds of investment are to be distributed among the industry funds that contributed money to the common pool according to the amount contributed.

## 26 Internal loans between industry funds

- (1) Money held in any industry fund (being money that is not yet required for the purposes of that fund) may be lent (by way of an internal loan) to any other industry fund if the Minister approves.
- However, money in an industry contribution fund cannot be lent to an industry levy fund and money in an industry levy fund
   cannot be lent to an industry contribution fund.
- (3) The terms of the loan (including the time for repayment and any additional amount, in the nature of interest, that is to be paid) are to be as determined by the Minister.
- (4) Before any such loan is made, the Minister is to have regard to 25 any advice of the industry advisory committees concerned.

# 27 Appointment of agents to administer expenditure from industry funds

The Director-General may appoint the Rural Assistance Authority, or any other body, as an agent to administer any expenditure from an industry fund.

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Part 6 General provisions relating to industry funds

## 28 Audit of industry funds

- (1) The Auditor-General is to inspect and audit the accounts and records of financial transactions of the industry funds.
- (2) Any such inspection and audit is to be conducted under section 45 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*.

## 29 Annual reports by Director-General

- (1) As soon as practicable after 30 June, but on or before 31 December, in each year, the Director-General must prepare and forward to the Minister a report on the operation of industry funds under this Act. The report is to include any report of the Auditor-General under section 45 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983* with respect to the audit of the industry funds for the reporting year.
- (2) The Minister must cause each such report to be laid before both Houses of Parliament as soon as practicable after receiving the report.
- (3) A report under this section need not be separately prepared but may form part of the report prepared for the Department of Agriculture under the Annual Reports (Departments) Act 1985.

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Clause 30

Miscellaneous

Part 7

## Part 7 Miscellaneous

## 30 Act to bind Crown

This Act binds the Crown in right of New South Wales and, in so far as the legislative power of the Parliament of New South Wales permits, the Crown in all its other capacities.

**Note.** This section does not make the Crown liable to pay an industry levy because the levy is only payable in respect of ratable land (as defined in section 3).

### 31 Proceedings for offences

Proceedings for an offence against this Act or the regulations are 10 to be dealt with summarily before a Local Court constituted by a Magistrate sitting alone.

#### 32 Regulations

- The Governor may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, for or with respect to any matter that by this Act is required 15 or permitted to be prescribed or that is necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.
- (2) A regulation may create an offence punishable by a penalty not exceeding 20 penalty units.

#### 33 Savings, transitional and other provisions

Schedule 2 has effect.

### 34 Review of Act

- (1) The Minister is to review this Act to determine whether the policy objectives of the Act remain valid and whether the terms of the Act remain appropriate for securing those objectives.
- (2) The review is to be undertaken as soon as possible after the period of 5 years from the date of assent to this Act.
- (3) A report on the outcome of the review is to be tabled in each House of Parliament within 12 months after the end of the period of 5 years.

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Schedule 1 Constitution and procedure of industry advisory committees

# Schedule 1 Constitution and procedure of industry advisory committees

(Section 7)

## 1 Definitions

In this Schedule:

*Chairperson* means the Chairperson of an industry advisory committee.

member means any member of an industry advisory committee.

## 2 Terms of office of members

Subject to this Schedule, a member holds office for such period 10 as is specified in the member's instrument of appointment, but is eligible (if otherwise qualified) for re-appointment.

## 3 Allowances

A member is entitled to be paid such allowances as the Minister may from time to time determine in respect of the member.

## 4 Deputies

- (1) The Minister may, from time to time, appoint a person to be the deputy of a member, and the Minister may revoke any such appointment.
- (2) In the absence of a member, the member's deputy may, if 20 available, act in the place of the member.
- (3) While acting in the place of a member, a person:
  - (a) has all the functions of the member and is taken to be a member, and
  - (b) is entitled to be paid such allowances as the Minister may from time to time determine in respect of the person.
- (4) For the purposes of this clause, a vacancy in the office of a member is taken to be an absence of the member.

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Constitution and procedure of industry advisory committees

Schedule 1

## 5 Vacancy in office of member

- (1) The office of a member becomes vacant if the member:
  - (a) dies, or
  - (b) completes a term of office and is not re-appointed, or
  - (c) resigns the office by instrument in writing addressed to the Minister, or
  - (d) is removed from office by the Minister under this clause, or
  - (e) is absent from 4 consecutive meetings of the industry advisory committee of which reasonable notice has been 10 given to the member personally or by post, except on leave granted by the committee or unless the member is excused by the committee for having been absent from those meetings.
- (2) The Minister may at any time remove a member from office. 15

## 6 Filling of vacancy in office of member

If the office of any member becomes vacant, a person is, subject to this Act, to be appointed to fill the vacancy.

## 7 Effect of certain other Acts

- (1) Part 2 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1988* does not apply 20 to or in respect of the appointment of a member.
- (2) If by or under any Act provision is made:
  - (a) requiring a person who is the holder of a specified office to devote the whole of his or her time to the duties of that office, or
  - (b) prohibiting the person from engaging in employment outside the duties of that office.

the provision does not operate to disqualify the person from holding that office and also the office of a member or from accepting and retaining any remuneration payable to the person under this Act as a member. 25

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Page 17

Schedule 1 Constitution and procedure of industry advisory committees

## 8 General procedure

The procedure for the calling of meetings of an industry advisory committee and for the conduct of business at those meetings is, subject to this Act, the regulations and any direction of the Minister, to be as determined by the committee.

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## 9 Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of an industry advisory committee is a majority of its members.

## 10 Presiding member

- (1) The Chairperson (or, in the absence of the Chairperson, a person elected by the members present to chair the meeting) is to preside at a meeting of an industry advisory committee.
- (2) The presiding member has a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of votes, has a second or casting vote.

## 11 Voting

A decision supported by a majority of the votes cast at a meeting of an industry advisory committee at which a quorum is present is the decision of the committee.

## 12 Transaction of business outside meetings or by telephone

- (1) An industry advisory committee may, if it thinks fit, transact any of its business by the circulation of papers among all the members of the committee for the time being, and a resolution in writing approved in writing by a majority of those members is taken to be a decision of the committee.
- (2) An industry advisory committee may, if it thinks fit, transact any 25 of its business at a meeting at which members (or some members) participate by telephone, closed-circuit television or other means, but only if any member who speaks on a matter before the meeting can be heard by the other members.
- (3) For the purposes of:
  - (a) the approval of a resolution under subclause (1), or
  - (b) a meeting held in accordance with subclause (2),

the Chairperson and each member have the same voting rights as they have at an ordinary meeting of the committee. 30

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- (4) A resolution approved under subclause (1) is. subject to the regulations, to be recorded in the minutes of the meetings of the committee.
- (5) Papers may be circulated among the members for the purposes of subclause (1) by facsimile or other transmission of the information in the papers concerned.

## 13 First meeting

The Minister may call the first meeting of an industry advisory committee in such manner as the Minister thinks fit.

Schedule 2 Savings, transitional and other provisions

#### Schedule 2 Savings, transitional and other provisions

(Section 33)

#### **1** Regulations

(1)The regulations may contain provisions of a savings or transitional nature consequent on the enactment of the following Acts:

This Act

- Any such provision may, if the regulations so provide, take (2)effect from the date of assent to the Act concerned or a later 10 date.
- (3)To the extent to which any such provision takes effect from a date that is earlier than the date of its publication in the Gazette, the provision does not operate so as:
  - (a) to affect, in a manner prejudicial to any person (other than 15 the State or an authority of the State), the rights of that person existing before the date of its publication, or
  - to impose liabilities on any person (other than the State or (b)an authority of the State) in respect of anything done or omitted to be done before the date of its publication.

## 2 Amendment of this Act following commencement of Rural Lands Protection Act 1998

On the commencement of the Rural Lands Protection Act 1998, this Act is amended as follows:

- by omitting from the definition of occupier in section 3 (a) 25 and from sections 22 and 23 "Rural Lands Protection Act 1989" wherever occurring and by inserting instead "Rural Lands Protection Act 1998".
- (b)by omitting the definitions of *carrying capacity* and ratable land in section 3 and by inserting instead the 30 following definitions:

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Savings, transitional and other provisions

Schedule 2

carrying capacity means notional carrying capacity within the meaning of Part 7 of the Rural Lands Protection Act 1998.

*ratable land* means rateable land within the meaning of section 60 of the *Rural Lands Protection Act 1998*.