**CATTLE COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1986**

**Legislative Assembly, 19 February 1986, page 327**

Second reading

**The Hon. M.K. MAYES (Minister of Agriculture)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Cattle Compensation Act 1939. Read a first time.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: I move. That this Bill be now read a second time.

I seek leave to have the second reading explanation inserted in Hansard without my reading it. Leave granted.

Explanation of Bill

The current purpose of the Act is to provide compensation for cattle compulsorily slaughtered because of certain diseases, or when they are found diseased in the abattoir. Finance for the fund under the Act from which compensation is paid comes from an industry stamp duty on the sale of cattle. The purpose of this Bill is to widen the use to which funds collected into the fund may be applied for the benefit of the cattle industry and to provide for a committee to advise the Minister on the management of the fund and the use to which moneys are put.

Similar amendments have already been made to another Act, the Swine Compensation Act. Funds made available other than for compensation as a result of those amendments have proved to be of great benefit to the pig industry. Widening of the use of funds and the formation of an advisory committee has been widely canvassed with the cattle industry and has included consideration by an industry/Government working party especially formed to consider amendments to the Act. The changes proposed have strong industry support.

Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 amends the interpretation provision of the principal Act to insert a new definition—that of the Cattle Compensation Fund Advisory Committee.

Clause 3 provides for the insertion of new sections 11a, 11 b and 11 c into the principal Act. New section 11a provides that where, in the Minister’s opinion, the amount standing to the credit of the fund on 30 June in any year is sufficient to meet any claims likely to be made upon the fund in the ensuing 12 months, he may direct that the amount of the excess be allocated to such programs for the benefit of the cattle industry in the State as he thinks fit.

New section 11b establishes the Cattle Compensation Fund Advisory committee. The Committee is to be comprised of six persons: the chief inspector, three persons who represent the interests of the cattle industry, and two persons holding positions in the Department of Agriculture.

New section 11c sets out the functions of the committee. They are to advise the Minister on the management of the fund, to recommend to him the manner in which allocations are to be made under new section 11a and to report to him on matters referred for advice.

Mr GUNN secured the adjournment of the debate