**WHEAT MARKETING ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1987**

**Legislative Assembly, 12 November 1987, page 1894**

Second reading

**The Hon. M.K. MAYES (Minister of Agriculture)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Wheat Marketing Act 1984. 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 of the Bill inserted in Hansard without my reading it. Leave granted.

Explanation of Bill

In 1983, the Wheat Marketing Act 1980 was amended via the Statutes Amendment (Wheat and Barley Research) Act 1983. That amendment enabled the Australian Wheat Board to deduct from payment to growers in South Australia an amount as gazetted annually for the purpose of payment into the Wheat Research Trust Account. The funds from that account are used to fund cereal research in South Australia. The decisions on the distribution of funds are made by the Wheat Research Committee for South Australia, a committee mainly made up of farmers, and set up under Commonwealth legislation to distribute the Wheat Research Tax collected in South Australia. Any grower who did not consent with this deduction from his payment could, by writing to the Minister, obtain a refund of the money deducted.

In drafting the Wheat Marketing Act 1984, the provisions of the Statutes Amendment (Wheat and Barley Research) Act 1983, were overlooked. However, the Australian Wheat Board has continued to deduct money from grower payments for transfer to the Wheat Research Trust Account without statutory authority since the Wheat Marketing Act 1984, came into effect. During this time, the growers have continued to have the right of seeking a refund if they so desired. The Government has decided to move immediately to amend the Wheat Marketing Act 1984 to incorporate the provisions of the Statutes Amendment (Wheat and Barley Research) Act 1983, into the Wheat Marketing Act 1984, and to make those provisions retrospective to when the Wheat Marketing Act 1984, came into effect.

Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 deems this amending Act to have come into operation at the same time as the Wheat Marketing Act 1984, came into operation. Clause 3 inserts the provision that was enacted in 1983, providing for annual wheat research deductions to be made from the amount payable to wheatgrowers for the wheat of each season. As before, wheatgrowers may, in respect of any particular season, refuse consent to the deduction being made. The committee that recommends to the Minister each year the rate of the research deduction continues in existence.

Mr GUNN secured the adjournment of the debate.