

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Supplementary Order Paper

Friday, 11 November 1983

ANIMALS PROTECTION AMENDMENT BILL

Right Hon. Mr MACINTYRE, in Committee, to move the following amendment:

Proposed clause 2A: To insert, after *clause 2* on page 2 at line 6, the following clause:

2A. Offences of cruelty—(1) Section 3 (b) of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after the words “or shelter”, the words “, or proper food and water sufficient to maintain the liveweight of that animal within the normal physiological range for its species, type, age, and sex”.

(2) Section 3 (bb) of the principal Act (as inserted by section 2 of the Animals Protection Amendment Act 1964) is hereby amended by omitting the words “wilfully or wantonly”, and substituting the words “without reasonable excuse”.

(3) Section 3 (o) of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subparagraph (i), and substituting the following:

“(i) Permits it to be driven or led on any highway, or permits it to be ridden; or”.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The amendments proposed are to section 3 of the principal Act (which deals with offences relating to cruelty to animals) and have particular reference to larger animals, especially, in the case of the amendment proposed by *subclause (3)*, to horses and other animals capable of being ridden.

Subclause (1) requires the owner or person in charge of an animal to supply sufficient food and water to maintain the liveweight of that animal at an appropriate level.

Subclause (2): At present it is an offence to wilfully or wantonly neglect an animal so that it suffers unreasonable pain or distress. The subclause replaces the “wilfully or wantonly” test with that of “without reasonable excuse”.

Subclause (3) prohibits the riding of any animal while its condition or health is such as to render it unfit to be ridden. The previous limitation of only riding on a highway has been removed.