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Parliamentary Summary

Bills Assented To

Government Bill

23 July 1990

Education Amendment Bill

Assent No.

60

Bills Introduced

Government Bills

(Minister/Member in Charge Shown in Parenthesis)

17 July 1990

Commodity Levies Bill. (Hon. Jim Sutton.)

Primary Production

Referred to Select Committee

19 July 1990

Occupational Safety and Health Bill. (Hon. Dr Michael Cullen.)

Labour

Private Member's Bill

18 July 1990

Vietnam War Veterans' Health (Commission of Inquiry) Bill. (Mr Braybrooke.)

Foreign Affairs and Defence

Summary of Bills Introduced

Commodity Levies Bill

This Bill enables the making of "levy orders" by Orders in Council empowering organisations representing the producers of primary commodities to impose a levy in respect of the commodity. Such orders must be made on the recommendation of a Minister of the Crown who must be satisfied that there has been adequate consultation with the persons affected and that the proposal has the support of the majority within the industry. Any levy must be used for the benefit of the industry, and it must be shown that the things for which the levy is to be used could not be accomplished by the imposition of voluntary contributions. When levies are imposed, the organisation receiving the levy must account properly to the industry for the use of that levy. In relation to this the Bill specifies how levy money may and may not be spent, provides for special arrangements for conscientious objectors, the opening and operation of bank accounts, confirmation of levy orders by Act of Parliament and the expiration of orders after 5 years unless renewed by Order in Council. Industry organisations must prepare annual statements relating to the collection and use of levy money and include these in an annual report to be given to the Minister and tabled in the House of Representatives.