

[Act 1996 No 11]



New South Wales

Exhibited Animals Protection Amendment Bill 1996

Explanatory note

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

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986* so as:

- (a) to require zoological parks established, maintained or controlled by the Zoological Parks Board (such as Taronga Zoo and Western Plains Zoo) to be licensed as animal display establishments, and
 - (b) to enable the Director-General of the Department of Agriculture to appoint any member of the advisory committee constituted by the Act to be Chairperson of the committee.
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Outline of provisions

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

Clause 2 provides that the proposed Act will commence on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

Clause 3 is a formal provision that gives effect to the Schedule of amendments to the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986* described in the overview of this Bill.

Schedule 1 Amendments

Licensing of zoos

Section 12 of the Act provides that occupiers of certain premises used as animal display establishments are guilty of an offence if the premises are not licensed. At present section 12 (2) exempts from the licensing requirement zoological parks established, maintained or controlled by the Board.

Schedule 1 [1] removes the exemption so that occupiers of premises that are zoological parks established, maintained or controlled by the Board will be required to obtain a licence. The Director-General will only be able to issue a licence for a zoological park if satisfied that it conforms to and will be conducted in accordance with any standards prescribed for such an animal display establishment.

Schedule 1 [2] contains a consequential amendment to omit a power to make regulations to apply standards prescribed under section 14 of the Act to such zoological parks. Such regulations will be unnecessary in view of the proposed amendment to section 12.

Chairperson of advisory committee

Schedule 1 [4] provides for a member of the advisory committee appointed by the Director-General to be Chairperson of the advisory committee.

Schedule 1 [3] and **[5]** provide for the member currently holding office as Chairperson to cease to hold that office on the commencement of Schedule 1 [4].