**SANDALWOOD ACT REPEAL BILL 2000**

**Legislative Assembly, 26 October 2000, page 301**

Second reading

**The Hon. I.F. EVANS (Minister for Environment and Heritage)** obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to repeal the Sandalwood Act 1930. Read a first time.

The Hon. I.F. EVANS: 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.

History

The Sandalwood Act 1930 is ‘An Act to fix the maximum amount of sandalwood which may be taken from the land within the State, and for purposes incidental thereto.’ The second reading speech of 12 August 1930 stated that ‘the purpose of the Bill is to invest the Government with power to control the output of sandalwood from this State.’ As a largely financial motivation, it therefore represented Government intervention in the form of industry protection on the supply side of the market for sandalwood.

Sandalwood is defined in the Sandalwood Act 1930 as ‘the wood of any tree of the genus santalum or the genus fusanus and any other species of aromatic wood which is or may be used as a substitute for sandalwood.’ The species of sandalwood growing in South Australia is Santalum spicatum. Harvesting of sandalwood was an important industry from before the turn of the century and up to the 1930s. However, virtually no legal cutting of sandalwood has occurred since the 1930s. There is a small but growing sandalwood woodlotting industry in South Australia, however, remnant natural populations across their former range continue to require protection.

General Considerations

The review of legislation under the National Competition Policy Agreement has confirmed that the Sandalwood Act 1930 should be repealed, given that the provisions of the Native Vegetation Act 1991 and National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 provide adequate protection for naturally occurring sandalwood within South Australia. The licensing system, established for the taking of naturally occurring sandalwood under the Sandalwood Act 1930, is therefore redundant.

This Bill has been drafted to repeal the Sandalwood Act 1930. The passage of this Bill will remove an obsolete Act from the statute books as protection for sandalwood is adequately covered by subsequent legislation.

I commend this bill to honourable members.

Explanation of Clauses

Clause 1: Short title This clause is formal.

Clause 2: Repeal This clause repeals the Sandalwood Act 1930.

Mr WRIGHT secured the adjournment of the debate.