REGISTRATION OF DOGS ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1968

Legislative Council, 23 October 1968, page 2068

Second reading

**The Hon. C. M. HILL (Minister of Local Government):** I move:

*That this Bill be now read a second time.*

Its main object is to equate the fees charged for the registration of bitches that have been spayed with those charged in respect of the registration of male dogs. It is thought that it is reasonable that persons who have gone to the expense of having their animals attended to in this way should be relieved of the additional charge of 50c applied in relation to the registration of bitches.

At the same time, opportunity has been taken to effect a general revision of the Act and of making decimal currency amendments.

Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 makes a decimal currency amendment. Clause 3 at paragraph (a) removes the necessity for a receipt under the Act to be in the form of the Third Schedule. This will enable councils to adopt the form of receipt most suitable for their accounting procedures and will further ensure that all receipt books or forms do not become obsolete on any change of the scale of fees.

It is, perhaps, to be regretted that the need for receipts to be issued (except on demand) could not be removed altogether to accord with modem business practice but, since a receipt under this Act at section 30 (3) is clear evidence that the dog is registered, it is thought that provision for their compulsory issue should be retained. This clause also effects a decimal currency amendment.

Clauses 4 to 7 make decimal currency amendments. Clause 8 strikes out section 16 (1) of the principal Act which was first enacted in 1887 and which casts a duty on the registrar to cause inquiries to be made on all premises within his district as to the presence of unlicensed dogs. Compliance with this provision is simply not practicable, and the provision should not properly remain in the Act.

Clauses 9 to 17 make decimal currency amendments. Clause 18 repeals section 36 of the principal Act relating to the keeping of up to two unregistered dogs by full-blooded Aborigines, the operation of which has now expired. Clause 19 makes a decimal currency amendment.

Clause 20 amends the First Schedule to the principal Act consequent on the proposal to reduce the fee for the registration of spayed bitches by 50c. Clause 21 strikes out and reinserts the Second Schedule to the principal Act which relates to fees for registration and reduces the fee payable in respect of spayed bitches.

Clause 22 strikes out the Third Schedule and is consequential on the amendment proposed by clause 3. Clause 24 makes certain decimal currency amendments to the Fifth Schedule.

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN secured the adjournment of the debate.