

Racing (Further Amendment) Bill

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Outline

The purposes of the Bill are to amend the Racing Act in order to—

- (a) remove restrictions on the establishment by the Totalizator Agency Board of offices or agencies on licensed premises;
- (b) provide for bookmaker betting on sporting contingencies;
- (c) broaden the basis for the conduct of approved betting competitions by the Totalizator Agency Board.

Notes on Clauses

Clause 1 sets out the general purposes of the Act.

Clause 2 provides that the Act comes into operation on a day or days to be proclaimed.

Clause 3 provides that the *Racing Act 1958* is the Principal Act.

Clause 4 amends section 116M of the Principal Act by—

- (1) repealing the requirement in sub-section (1) that no office or agency of the Totalizator Agency Board shall be established on licensed premises within 15 kilometres of another office or agency of the Board and that no more than 20 offices or agencies of the Board shall be established on licensed premises within 60 kilometres of the General Post Office, Melbourne.
- (2) repealing sub-section (5) which defines a reference to distance for the purposes of sub-section (1).

Clause 5 amends section 4 (1) of the Principal Act to provide for betting on a licensed racecourse during the holding of a race meeting on any sporting contingency approved by the Minister.

Clause 6 deals with approved betting competitions conducted by the Totalizator Agency Board—

- (1) amends section 116BT of the Principal Act by deleting the word “prescribed” from the definition of Approved Betting Competition and adding the word “whatsoever” to the definition of Sporting Contingency.
- (2) amends section 116BZ of the Principal Act by substituting a new sub-section (1) to require that any Tabella totalizator or approved betting competition may be open for investment by the public for such time as the Board determines but any investment on the result of any competition event or contingency must be made before it starts.
- (3) amends section 116CD of the Principal Act by deleting the reference to approved betting competition and inserting a new sub-section (2) to provide for the commission deducted from money invested in an approved betting competition to be equal to the percentage approved by the Minister for that competition

being not less than 12 per centum and not more than 20 per centum of the money so invested.

- (4) amends section 116CG (1) to replace the expression “twelve twentieths” with the words “12 per centum of the money invested”.