

ANIMAL WELFARE ACT — REVIEW

920. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to the review of the Animal Welfare Act 2002.

- (1) When will drafting of proposed legislation, which will give effect to the review recommendations supported by the state government, be completed?
- (2) What consultation will be undertaken with the animal production sector prior to the proposed legislation being introduced into Parliament?
- (3) Is the government open to making amendments to the proposed legislation based on matters identified during any consultation process?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(3) I find the last part of the question quite bizarre. It is my intention to have a draft bill ready by the end of this financial year. I just point out that this bill follows an extensive review of the Animal Welfare Act that had consultation with all stakeholders absolutely built into the very fabric of it. Once we have a draft bill, there will be another opportunity for stakeholder engagement. As always, all contributions will be fully considered. However, I am sure that the member agrees that this matter should not be kicked into the long grass.