

**FISHERIES (SOUTHERN ZONE ROCK LOBSTER
FISHERY RATIONALISATION) ACT REPEAL
BILL**

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN (Attorney-General): 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.

This Bill repeals the *Fisheries (Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Rationalization) Act 1987*. That Act provided for the rationalisation of the number of rock lobster licences in the Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery, the establishment of a primarily industry-based Rationalization Authority to administer the rationalisation, the payment of compensation to those licensees who voluntarily left the industry and the repayment of compensation money by remaining licensees.

In June 1989, three months before the expiry of the rationalization scheme, a total of 41 licence holders, holding 2 455 rock lobster pots, had been removed from the Fishery through the buy-back scheme. The scheme was concluded at this time.

The remaining licence holders continued to fund the scheme through licence fees until repayments were completed in March 1995.

The *Fisheries (Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Rationalization) Act 1987* has achieved its objectives and the Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery is now a sustainable fishery with 183 licences and a total allowable commercial catch of 1 720 tonnes.

In line with the Government's regulatory review program it is proposed that the Act be repealed.

I commend this Bill to honourable members.

Explanation of Clauses

Clause 1: Short title

This clause is formal.

Clause 2: Commencement

This clause provides for commencement of the measure on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

Clause 3: Repeal

This clause repeals the *Fisheries (Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Rationalization) Act 1987*.

The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES secured the adjournment of the debate.