

KANGAROOS KILLED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION — WEIGHT CONCERNS

420. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister representing the Minister for Environment

I refer to the requirement that kangaroos killed for processing plants must be of the prescribed weight of 14 kilograms and ask:

- (a) can the Minister provide a guarantee that no underweight kangaroos are being processed for human consumption;
- (b) does the human consumption kangaroo industry have a Code of Practice for the killing of young kangaroos; and
- (c) what measures are in place to prevent 'boutique processors' from handling underweight kangaroos and placing them in the human consumption food chain?

Dr G.G. JACOBS replied:

- (a) There is no legally prescribed minimum weight for kangaroo carcasses processed either for pet meat or for human consumption in Western Australia. Most kangaroo processors have imposed a voluntary minimum weight for kangaroo carcasses received.
- (b) Yes. The Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos applies to kangaroos of all ages and to all types of shooters, whether they shoot for pet meat or human consumption.
- (c) See the answer to (a).