



Sentencing (Livestock Rustling) Amendment Bill

271—1

Report of the Primary Production Committee

July 2018

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Hon David Bennett
Chairperson

Sentencing (Livestock Rustling) Amendment Bill

Recommendation

The Primary Production Committee has examined the Sentencing (Livestock Rustling) Amendment Bill and recommends that this bill not proceed.

About the bill as introduced

The Sentencing (Livestock Rustling) Amendment Bill is a member's bill in the name of Ian McKelvie, MP. It seeks to deter people from livestock rustling (the theft of livestock from farms or property) by identifying it as an aggravating factor at sentencing. The bill would amend section 9 (Aggravating and mitigating factors) of the Sentencing Act 2002 to add livestock rustling to the list of aggravating factors to be considered at sentencing.

Reason for recommending that the bill not proceed

We consider that the intent of the bill could be better achieved by amending the Crimes Act 1961 to make livestock rustling a specific offence. We understand that the member in charge of this bill intends to withdraw it when it is returned to the House.

Appendix

Committee procedure

The Sentencing (Livestock Rustling) Amendment Bill was referred to the committee on 31 January 2018. The closing date for submissions was 15 March 2018. We received and considered 13 submissions from interested groups and individuals. We heard oral evidence from four submitters at hearings in Wellington.

We received advice from the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Committee members

Hon David Bennett (Chairperson)

Hon Nathan Guy

Jo Luxton

Kieran McAnulty

Mark Patterson

Stuart Smith

Rino Tirikatene

Hamish Walker

Ian McKelvie took part in the consideration of this item of business.

Advice and evidence received

The documents that we received as advice and evidence are available on the Parliament website, www.parliament.nz.