



# TASMANIAN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION INC.

[www.tasmanianbeekeepers.org.au](http://www.tasmanianbeekeepers.org.au)

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## **SUBMISSION IN TO THE EXPORT CONTROL BILL 2017**

The Tasmanian Beekeepers Association is the peak body of the beekeeping industry in Tasmania and includes three branches in the North West, Launceston and Hobart areas.

### 1. Certificates and Authorised Officers –

The Exporters of honey in Tasmania are happy with the current arrangements with submitting signed and scanned certificates for sea freight orders. The major problem for the state are air freight orders which require documents to accompany orders. Certificates cannot be signed without flight and departure details and orders cannot be booked without documentation is ready. Having an authorised officer in the state would be advantageous for air freight orders, we realise a Commonwealth stamp is different to a State stamp. Under the exposure draft Chapter 9 Par4 Division 2 section 287 (1)b – The Secretary may enter into an arrangement with the State or Territory body for officers or employees of the body to be authorised officer or (1c) the person meets the requirements in sub-section (4). As honey is a non-prescribed goods is it possible to have an authorised officer in Tasmania from the Tasmanian Biosecurity Branch or another officer approved by the Secretary to perform the duties to save unnecessary delays. If this is not acceptable can certificates be issued electronically or another form acceptable to the importing countries.

### 2. Trade description and Quotas.

At present Japanese Quotas are available from the 1<sup>st</sup> April each year. Could this be negotiated and changed to the 1<sup>st</sup> July. The present arrangements do not give Tasmania a chance to obtain quotas on new season Leatherwood honey, as requested by customers. Harvest and extraction is completed in March and sometimes into April and honey testing has not been completed at this time to obtain quotas on new season honey.

Yours sincerely,

Lindsay Bourke  
President