that penalties are updated to reflect the potential impact that offences under this act can have on individuals and on the pastoral industry, and to take account of the potential gains which could result, for example, from the illegal movement of a single road train of stock which could be worth in excess of $50 000.

These amendments also provide powers for stock inspectors to take action to alleviate or prevent undue suffering in stock. It is not the government's intention to provide stock inspectors with powers similar to those available to police and RSPCA officers, under the Prevention to Cruelty to Animals Act, to prosecute offenders. The aim is to ensure that stock inspectors, who may be confronted by situations where animal welfare is threatened or where stock are unduly suffering, can take action to ensure that stock are fed, watered, sheltered, treated or destroyed, as appropriate, to prevent or alleviate undue suffering. Mr Deputy Speaker, I commend this approach of ensuring that animal welfare concerns can be dealt with without unnecessary extension of government regulation.

Care has been taken to ensure that the amendments do not go beyond that which is appropriate and necessary. The Stock Diseases Amendment Act will ensure that government effectively can implement major disease control programs, protect individual stock owners by formalising compensation provisions, protect industry by providing appropriate penalties, and help to protect stock from undue suffering. I commend the bill.

Debate adjourned.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTS AMENDMENT (ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY LIVING AREAS) BILL
(Serial 230)

Continued from 18 October 1989.

Mr SMITH (Opposition Leader): Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise, hopefully, to make some brief comments - unless I am provoked - to welcome the recent agreement by the Northern Territory and federal governments which has led to excisions finally being granted to about 3000 Aboriginal people. As I have said on a number of occasions, it is a blight on the Northern Territory and on Australia generally, that we have had so many people living in such appalling conditions. It is encouraging, although somewhat late, that we finally have an agreement between the Northern Territory and the federal government which will lead to those people being provided with secure title.

We have a number of amendments which, we believe, will improve the legislation. Rather than go through them now, we will deal with them one by one in the committee stage. The important thing which needs to be stated at this time is that this is not the end of the line. In a very real sense, it is the beginning. There is not much point providing people with secure title over their land if we do not make available to them or enable them to supply for themselves, the ability to live on that land in conditions which are better than the third-world conditions they have had to put up with so far. That is the key point which has not really been addressed with any great seriousness at either the federal government level or the Northern Territory government level.

In this context, I have to say that the greatest threat to the success of the measures we are taking today would be the election of a Peacock Liberal government. The policy of the federal opposition and the figures it contains