An Act to provide for the assistance of primary producers who have suffered loss by drought or frost in the year nineteen hundred and forty-four.

[Assented to 7th December, 1944.]

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the "Drought and Frost Relief Act, 1944".

2. (1) Subject to this Act, the Treasurer may make a grant of money to any primary producer who has suffered loss as a result of drought or frost in the year nineteen hundred and forty-four.

   (2) Every such grant shall be made in accordance with arrangements made between the Governments of the State and of the Commonwealth or between Ministers acting on behalf of those Governments.

   (3) A person shall not be eligible for a grant unless he is one of a class of primary producers approved by or on behalf of the Government of the Commonwealth as being eligible for grants.

3. (1) A grant paid under this Act to any person—

   (a) shall not pass to any other person by virtue of any assignment made before payment of the grant;
(b) shall not be subject to any lien, right of set off or appropriation, or charge, which lien, right, or charge exists or is claimed in respect of any debt incurred before payment of the grant;

(c) shall not be taken or applied by virtue of any legal process, in or towards satisfaction of any debt incurred before payment of the grant.

(2) In this section “grant” means the whole or any part of a grant.

4. (1) Every grant under this Act shall in the first instance be paid out of cash in the hands of the Treasurer and shall be debited to a Suspense Account kept at the Treasury.

(2) The cash paid under subsection (1) of this section shall be recouped to the Treasurer out of—

(a) the money received by the State from the Commonwealth for the purpose of paying grants under this Act:

(b) such amounts of the General Revenue of the State or of loan money raised under this Act, or both, as the Treasurer may apply for the purpose of such recoupment.

The amounts specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall be credited to the Suspense Account.

5. (1) The Treasurer may arrange for a sum not exceeding one-half of the total amount of the grants made under this Act and not exceeding four hundred and fifty thousand pounds to be borrowed in accordance with the Financial Agreement on behalf of the State.

(2) Any money so borrowed shall be applied in accordance with section 4 of this Act.

6. This Act, without any further appropriation, shall be sufficient authority for the Treasurer to make any payment, whether of General Revenue or loan money, mentioned in this Act.

7. Stamp duty shall not be payable upon any declaration or other document made or executed by an applicant for assistance under this Act in connection with his application.
8. The Governor may make regulations prescribing the forms of application and the procedure to obtain grants under this Act and any other matters necessary or convenient to be prescribed for the purpose of the administration of this Act, and may by any regulation prescribe fines recoverable summarily and not exceeding fifty pounds for breach of any regulation.

In the name and on behalf of His Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

J. M. NAPIER, Lieutenant-Governor.