Legislation to ensure bait meat does not enter the pet or human food chain was passed in Parliament today.

The Bait Meat Amendment Bill ensures that bait meat is produced separately from meat for human or pet consumption.

"In its old form the Act contains two tiers that distinguish between meat produced for human consumption and meat produced for pet food," Minister for Primary Industries Paul Henderson said.

"The purpose of this Bill is to establish a third tier of the meat industry to provide bait meat for industry – mainly commercial crab fishermen."

Mr Henderson said the Legislation established a process for a person to apply for a licence, identify the meat with green dye and establish record keeping to enable meat industry officers to conduct audits to ensure compliance.

"The Bill puts effective legislation in place to ensure that bait meat does not enter the pet or human food chain. It does so without imposing an excessive burden on the industry and fishermen.

"This emerging industry is unique to the Territory and the Legislation is being introduced at the request of the industry."