

Submission

Senate Standing Committee on Rural Affairs and Transport

I wish to make a submission to the above-named committee in regard to the live animals export trade.

Recent events have brought this issue to the forefront of the public mind, but this is not the first time the cruel practices of live animal trade have been exposed. The animals suffer through not being able to speak English and tell us of their suffering on long haul voyages, the handling they receive in the destination country and inhumane slaughter methods. I want to speak for them. That such a situation prevails in a modern society like Australia is inexcusable and unacceptable - and the Australian public is appalled.

Chilled and frozen meat export is an option – the export of fresh, chilled and frozen meat is increasing annually and would obviate the need to export of live animals.

If the government is unwilling end live animal transport, it must be guarantee that the animals are stunned before slaughter. Stunning is still a cruelty in itself, but think of animal feeling the pain of having its throat cut and the bleeding out - all for inhumane bronze age religious beliefs - the government **must assure** the Australian public that this **non-stunning slaughter will cease**.

I request that the government immediately reinstate the ban of live trade to Indonesia to end the cruelty there, and support the Live Animal Export (Slaughter) Prohibition Bill 2011 [No. 2] and Live Animal Export Restriction and Prohibition Bill 2011 [No. 2] for the provision of an **end date for all live animal exports within 3 years (preferably sooner.)**

Furthermore, in lieu of a total ban, I support the call for the establishment of an Australian Animal Welfare Council. Such a body would provide accurate, independent, objective advice on animal welfare matters.

Ultimately, a total ban on the export of live animals is the right thing to do and I hope the government will consider this as an option.

Lynne Foley

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