## Third party certification of food Submission 20

From: Ruth Green

**Sent:** Saturday, 16 May 2015 1:33 PM **To:** Economics, Committee (SEN)

**Subject:** Submission for Certification Inquiry

16 May 2015 Sir/ Madam

Regarding Certification of Items

It is my opinion that the current Halal Certification rort is a sneaky and underhanded way of forcing a particular religious ideology on to Australian consumers. Personally, it is not only the usage of Certification fees to fund Islam-only endeavours, Mosques, schools etc, but I find it repugnant that my choices are being compromised. I find that certification ensures that Sikhs, Buddhists, Christians and other religions are having their food selections decimated as they cannot eat foods dedicated to a false God. Where are their rights? I am not practising any religion, as is my choice, for the moment anyway, my objection to certification is purely because I reject being forced to support an ideology that I despise. And it is not just food, sanitary items, pet food, transport trucks? This is beyond a joke now. People bring up the Kosher label, and the Heart Tick. They are certainly not the same as Halal. I have never had Kosher forced upon me, I have never heard of stand-over tactics being used to force payment for a Kosher label. And the heart tick? Originally it was a way to assist people to make choices that would help their health, everyone has a heart. Halal is for Islam, and Islam only.

I would suggest that there be one (1) Government run certification company. With one (1) logo that must be fully visible on the label, not some tiny little logo, one that people can see without having to get glasses. That certification fees are used to benefit Australia, not just the Islamic communities.

I understand that Muslims have dietary requirements, and I am not suggesting that that be ignored, but as they are a minority, they should not be able to force their beliefs on to us. I have very strong opinions on the Islamic 'faith', which I will not air here, I want to keep this as brief as I can.

The other major issue with Halal certification that has people concerned, is the money trail. Just because our investigators haven't yet found the link to groups like ISIS and Hamas, does not mean it isn't there. Canada found it, other countries have found it. Lets put a stop to it now. The idea that Australian dollars may be funding weapons to be used against Australians is just appalling.

Finally, it has been well documented, if you choose to look, that Halal certification is one of the ways to bring Sharia, very quietly, into non-Islamic countries. Many Islamic leaders have said this. Slow, almost unobtrusive, little things that we accept, that eventually will be our downfall. We are the lucky country, in this case because we can learn from Great Britain, France, Norway, Sweden, Canada and the like. We are lucky that we still have a chance to stop this now. And we must, we need our Government to stop pussy-footing around and being so politically correct, so some people get offended, so what? If the Governments first stand is to curtail Islams quiet push via Halal, then we are on the right track.

Thank you for accepting my submission. I do hope that this enquiry brings about the changes that are needed.

Ruth