

## Trade in live Animal Exports

I would like to make a submission to this live export review on behalf of the millions of animals that have suffered so a privileged few could make money. I have seen graphic evidence that animals exported overseas are routinely subjected to abuse, after which they must endure a prolonged and painful death whilst fully conscious. The live export industry has failed to improve animal welfare standards, or don't try. They have a vested financial interest and no regard for the animals suffering. I have heard arguments that the exporters do not have the right to demand they treat these animals in ways that go against other cultures and religions, as abhorrent as their treatment of these poor animals may seem to us. That we have no real power to change animal welfare outcomes has become quite obvious over the years and was illustrated most recently by the Indonesian's list of demands with regard to live animal export and their refusal to concede that their abuse and slaughter of our "aggressive" cattle was cruel. They have the choice of withholding their 'product'. I hope the Committee have no doubts that the majority of Australians are staunchly opposed to live export and do not trust either the live export industry nor currently the government to safeguard the welfare of our animals overseas. It is an inherently cruel trade that causes immense suffering and should be banned. The New Zealand government banned live export for slaughter despite the inevitable protests from animal farmers (who now support the ban). All involved in and who support this trade should be ashamed, and that includes not only our government, but the farmers, who have shown themselves to be utterly cold blooded when it comes to the welfare of the animals they claim to love. Live export is truly a blight on our international reputation as a civilised nation who cares about animal welfare. Australia has laws protecting the rights of domestic animals, should cattle and sheep be less protected