

To whom it may concern,

The only argument provided is that RSPCA has decided it looks bad and New Zealand has already done it. That is not a valid argument. Animals Australia is just one small group which has no interest in the industry. This will set a very dangerous precedent for any industry as despite implementing and meeting all Government regulations it is decided to ban the export of sheep by ship with no valid reasoning. New Zealand are still shipping live animals just not for slaughter. If shipping the animal is the issue why is New Zealand still shipping animals considered acceptable but shipping animals to slaughter not acceptable. How is shipping sheep different to any other animal why not ban all animals by ship if there is truly a issue? This is not government. The Department of Agriculture in WA has outsourced independent surveys on live export sentiment and it is very different results to the RSPCA surveys. Also where does it stop, will animals no longer be able to be transported by truck as it is no different conditions. Animals are not humans do not project your emotions on an animal yes respect the animal and the life it has, to then provide the best nutrients for humans. Make sure to care for the animal and keep them well. Ensure slaughter is as quick as possible although no death ever is pleasant and that is just reality. Australia is a leader with our practices internationally, and we have some of the best stock people who could not do their job with out the highest respect and understanding of animal needs. I am a sheep farmer and I have worked on the ocean. The death rate of unwanted cats and dogs is far worse than sheep on a ship why don't we ban cat and dog ownership in cities. Live meat to our international partners is important. This market is important to our wool industry. Western Australia needs to keep live sheep export by ship.