

**Committee Secretary**

**SUBMISSION TO SENATE ENQUIRY INTO LIVE EXPORTS:**

The Labour government position is totally unacceptable to Australians. Our values in animal welfare, as leaders in the Asia Pacific and in demonstrating humanity have been betrayed by Julia Gillard, Joe Ludwig and Kevin Rudd.

They have agreed to allow the torture of cattle to continue as there is no change to the previous state of slaughtering. There is no logical, rational or economical reason why stunning cannot be enforced and in fact be our bottom line. In fact we are being dictated to by another government that does not share our culture.

I write to express my opposition to Australia's live export trade and to urge you to support the bills that were introduced in parliament on June 20th and that will completely ban live animal export.

As you will be aware, numerous investigations have exposed the brutal treatment of Australian animals in countries in Asia and the Middle East. The recent uncovering of the cruelty inflicted on Australian cattle in Indonesia further evidences the complete failure of the live export industry to improve the treatment of our animals overseas.

The Australian public is fed up with industry spin. The damning evidence from countless investigations makes it abundantly clear that the industry cannot be trusted to uphold animal welfare or be honest with the Australian public. The only appropriate course of action now is to ban this trade and prevent any more animals suffering such a needlessly cruel fate.

These bills are an important opportunity to right a grievous wrong that has hung over us as a nation for decades. It is an opportunity to send a strong message to those who would harm animals that we do not condone animal abuse, and to establish ourselves as a compassionate and ethical society in the international community.

It is worth noting that independent economic reports by ACIL Tasman also predict positive benefits to our economy from an end to the live trade.

The Australian public does not need to see any more gruesome footage of this trade on TV, we simply need to see this trade stopped.

I implore you to support the bills that were submitted to parliament on June 20th and do everything you can to stop the suffering of animals in the live export industry as soon as possible. You have the support of the Australian public behind you. Please make the right decision!

Sincerely,

Associate Professor Anne Wilson

Glenelg, SA 5045