

Wednesday 25 August

Maureen Weeks
Secretary
Rural & Regional Affairs & Transport Legislation Committee
Room SG, 62, Parliament House,
CANBERRA ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

Email: rrat.sen@aph.gov.au

Submission: National Animal Welfare Bill

Dear Maureen,

The following is my submission re the NAW, please accept it in the following format.

The NAW as submitted by the Democrats must be brought into reality. There is no reason why this matter should be shelved any longer. As a farmer who works extremely hard to produce a very good quality product, it disgusts me to see the way animals are treated during transport from farm, to market, to abattoir or to ship. I am also a strong believer in banning live export. It also disgusts me to see how intensive farming is taking over from normal grazing practices. If intensive farming is not stopped, we too in this country will start to develop problems relating to new diseases in all forms of farming animals, (poultry, sheep, cattle, pigs, rabbits) etc.

I understand that in transporting pigs, there are very stringent sets of rules in doing so as pigs stress very easily, then why not apply exactly the same rules with improvement to all transport of all animals. Intensive farming must be stopped. Transport drivers must be made to complete all Vendor Declarations at the farm gate before leaving with a load of stock. I personally had a situation earlier this year, when a transport driver was given the declaration to complete and did not do so. My sheep could have been on that truck for much longer than allowed, fortunately it was the morning of the market and I knew they only had 80 kms to travel. I am now currently trying to source a direct selling point for my lambs. No more market.

The cruelties subjected to livestock, cannot be denied, photographic evidence can be provided by all animal groups in Australia, proving cruelty during transport, intensive farming, and live export. The Democrat Party appears to be the only one which is standing alone desperately trying to improve conditions for all livestock. The Cormo Express is one very potent truth in animal cruelty. Feedlots are also another potent cruelty to livestock. The slaughtering methods overseas are abhorrent. Religious necessity relating to a certain way of slaughter is untrue. There is a thriving Halal/Kosher chilled meat export business in this country. Which is fully accepted under true Halal/Kosher standards.

This National Animal Welfare Bill must be passed, Police, RSPCA, DPI authorities, must be forced into doing their job properly, protecting the rights of innocent animals, who cannot speak for themselves and say:-

“Hey that electric prodder is painful, that kick in the stomach hurts, stop hitting me with that iron bar I don’t know which way you want me to go, I feel sick standing in manure and urine for 5 weeks crammed in a pen on a livestock export ship, I am going blind, help me, I cant eat, I cant

breathe because of the fumes from the manure and urine I am standing in. Its so hot, help me, where is my green paddock, where is my young you took away from me too early, to fatten to live through the same conditions that I am going through. I am so weak how can I jump from this truck to the next? Where is the God who created me, where is the RSPCA who's motto is "All creatures great and small". We have been forgotten, we have been tossed aside and all rights taken away from us. Hit a dog, kill a kitten, there may be some justice, but there is no justice for us, we do not ask to be born, you humans mules the young lambs, it is so painful, we are cut so badly by shearers, we have our wool taken off during the extreme cold weather, we are in lamb, and expected to give birth and feed our lambs, there is a drought, there is no feed, its cold, the lambs die after birth they cannot get up, the ewes die from exposure, we need our wool in extremes of cold and hot weather, it protects us. Humans wear sun glasses to protect their eyes, livestock are left out in paddocks in Australia with no trees for shelter. Humans have air conditioners, humans have heaters to keep warm in the winter. Even in Europe the livestock are taken in every night and kept in a barn away from the cold and the predators. Help us"

Please bring in the National Animal Welfare Bill, the animals need it for their protection.

Regards



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