



Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Australia

September 27, 2005

Attention: Committee Secretary

**Re: National Animal Welfare Bill 2005: Senate Submission**

Students for Animals are an association of students around Canberra that have an interest in the issues confronting animals. Members of our group come from a range of institutions: from Universities such as the ANU and UC, as well as from Secondary schools, and TAFEs/CIT.

**Our Mission**

• To increase students' awareness of animal rights issues and violations. We shall meet our mission through the following goals:

**Our Goals**

- To conduct campaigns on campus protesting animal rights violations
- To work with other organisations to increase awareness of animal rights

SFA Canberra endorses the National Animal Welfare Bill. We believe that if this Bill is passed it will better the lives of animals in Australia and increase the awareness of animal rights issues, which is the mission of our association. It is of particular merit that the Bill is to apply nationwide, therefore creating a national legislative framework to ensure all Australian animals are consistently treated in the same cruel-free manner.

SFA are particularly supportive of the sections of the Bill that deal with animal scientific experimentation. SFA are continually lobbying universities and research institutes who use animals in their scientific research. SFA strongly supports the Bill's abolition of certain forms of animal experimentation in section 81. Further, although SFA does not condone the use of animals in scientific research in any situation, we believe that if this must take place it must be conducted by authorised officers with licenses (section 5 and 101) who are registered (section 112), adhere to the relevant code of practice and are held to have a duty of care (section 5).

SFA is aware that there are certain parts of the Bill that need to be improved for it to be a success and we support the recommendations of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA). SFA hopes that WSPA's recommendations are taken on board and this Bill is passed. Only with a national legislative framework that is created through this Bill can animal welfare be truly regulated for.

If you have any queries please contact us on [info@sfacanberra.org](mailto:info@sfacanberra.org)

Regards,  
Steph Elliott and Luke Powter  
Founders, Students for Animals Canberra