

Dear Committee,

The humane treatment of animals is a mark of our own decency. The increasing industrialization of animal husbandry produces a number of serious abuses of livestock. In particular the treatment of pigs in industrial piggeries, battery hens and cattle raised in boxes, especially for veal, is a blight on our society.

It is one thing to eat animals for protein and sustenance. That seems an inherently human thing to do. It is quite another to abuse and mistreat these same animals on an industrial scale in order to limit the costs to producers of rearing the animals.

In a market economy, those producers who incur extra costs by way of labour and capital in raising their animals humanely will be penalized and forced out of business by less scrupulous (or more economically exposed) producers who can save money by providing less humane treatment to the animals under their protection.

I therefore urge the committee to recommend sensible, humane and mandatory provisions for the raising of livestock and support the Bill.

Regards,

David Shoebridge

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