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Senate Rural and Regional Affairs And Transport Committee  
Department of the Senate  
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Canberra ACT 2600  
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2023/060117/word

Dear Committee members

## RE: NATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE BILL (NAWB) 2005 – SARFAC SUBMISSION

Until now, we have resisted commenting on the NAWB preferring common sense to be given the opportunity to prevail, however we are now of the view that interpretation on this issue needs to be crystal clear and we therefore welcome the opportunity to present a late comment.

We have been following the passage of a similar Bill in the UK for the past two years which has recently entered the second reading and it is worth noting here that recreational angling has now been exempted by the Fisheries Minister Ben Bradshaw from the provisions of the Bill. Concerns were raised that the Bill could inadvertently affect recreational angling and commercial fishing and lead to a plethora of drawn out legal challenges from many sectors in the community.

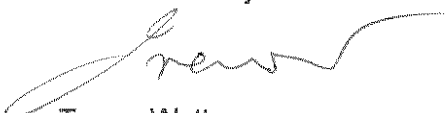
We suspect that the NAWB was but a copy of the UK Bill!

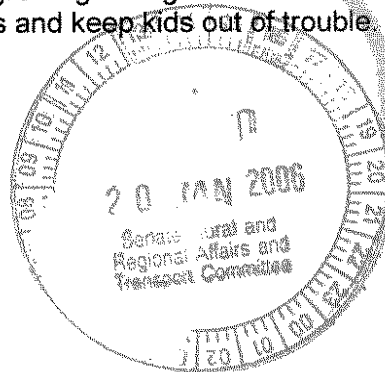
We see the Bill as being more about pets and captive animals and will restrict our comments to recreational angling only.

One submission we noted, referred to the Bill as a modern Trojan Horse and we suspect this may be an accurate analogy. We therefore seek your support to either reject the Bill completely or exempt recreational angling in all its forms and species of capture from provisions of the Bill.

To do otherwise will have far reaching and unwanted implications on society. Please be aware that recreational angling is a social investment with significant social and economic benefits to the community and a growing recognition world wide that this leisure activity has the ability to teach life's skills and keep kids out of trouble.

Yours sincerely

  
Trevor Watts  
Executive Officer



AUSTRALIAN FISHING TACKLE ASS  
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORT FISHING ASS (SA)  
AUSTRALIAN ANGLERS ASS (SA)  
GRAHAM WOOLLARD (LIFE MEMBER)  
BOATING INDUSTRY ASS.  
IOOF TRUST IN ANGLING  
SA SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION  
SA FLYFISHERS ASS.  
SA GAME FISHING ASS  
FLY FISH AUSTRALIA SA

ARDROSSAN SEASEARCHERS FISHING & BOATING CLUB  
BLACK POINT PROGRESS ASS  
DENNIS MASON / JOHN HUMPHRIES  
PORT JULIA PROGRESS ASS  
JAMES WELL & ROGUES POINT PROGRESS ASS  
NORTHERN AREAS HOLIDAY HOMES ASS  
PORT VICTORIA PROGRESS ASS  
TRACY TITO  
WOOL BAY PROGRESS ASS  
JOHN SCHRADER

EYRE PENINSULA RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
INLAND RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
KANGAROO ISLAND RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
IAN FITZGERALD  
METROPOLITAN RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
SOUTH EAST RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
UPPER SPENCER GULF RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
WEST COAST RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
YORKE PENINSULA RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
SHEOAK FLAT PROGRESS ASS.