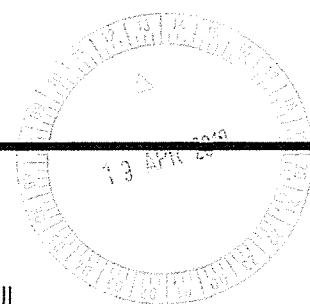


Legislation Committee

From:
Sent: Thursday, 19 April 2018 12:46 PM
To: Legislation Committee
Subject: re: support for WA Animal Welfare Amendment Bill



Mr Mark Warner
Committee Clerk
Standing Committee on Legislation
Parliament House, 4 Harvest Terrace
West Perth WA 6005

19 April 2018

WA ANIMAL WELFARE AMENDMENT BILL 2017 - SUBMISSIONS TO COMMITTEE

Dear Sir

There is a groundswell of public interest in, and a high level of distress about, the welfare of animals. The WA Animal Welfare Amendment Bill 2017 offers a chance for the WA parliament to show leadership to the rest of Australia. I am grateful to the committee for giving the public the opportunity to comment on the proposed Bill.

I fully support the amendments which would make a vast improvement to the lives of thousands of animals who currently live in abject misery. We need strong transparency and accountability in human dealings with animals.

Livestock transport

We have seen countless examples that prove that voluntary adherence to livestock transport Codes of Practice is resulting in tragically poor outcomes when it comes to prosecuting cruelty. The Amendment Bill will allow the adoption of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards & Guidelines for the Land Transport of Livestock* into law, including the more recent *Sheep Standards*, *Cattle Standards* and *Saleyard Standards*.

Inspections

The Amendment will allow Inspectors to randomly, and without notice, routinely check to ensure that animal welfare legislation is being followed. We desperately need this in the light of shocking live export revelations. The public wants to know that all animals in our society - as pets or for agriculture have come from animals who have been housed and reared in conditions most reasonable people would find acceptable.

I urge this committee to recommend that the Bill is passed in the Upper House.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jennifer Harris