Legislation Committee

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 18 April 2018 3:28 PM

To: Legislation Committee

Subject: WA Animal Welfare Amendment Bill 2017

Dear Sir,

Thank you to the Committee for opportunity to comment on th proposed Bill. The amendments will dramatically improve the lives of animals and introudce desperately needed transparency and accountability for those have businesses involving animals.

In my profession as a Safety Advisor I have the right to walk into work areas to inspect works being conducted to ensure that persons are performing their tasks accordingly, to not cause harm to themselves or others. This makes people accountable and responsible for their work and their actions. There should be unannounced inspections, not just when a complaint is received. It should not take a 'whistle blower' or someone who is not happy with the treatment of animal/s to be subjected to an inspection.

Whilst there are many victims who should receive the help they deserve, animals don't seem to have their own voice in how they are treated. Actually, they do have a voice, as they scream in pain, whince in fear and have close nit family networks, their vocies are just not recognised when it comes to the law. This is where I feel I need to speak up on behalf of animals. My first priority would be to cease live trade as it's conditions are not acceptable, however with the expectation that inspections can occur at any time, perhaps persons who operate and own businesses involving animals will feel more accountability to 'do the right thing' rather than cutting corners. The victim here is the welfare of the animals, and the victims need to be protected from harm.

I urges this committee to recommend that the Bill is passed in the upper house to statisfy communication expectation and trust in the pet and agricultural industries.

Kind regards,

Kelly Hodges

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