

Legislation Committee

From:
Sent: Sunday, 15 April 2018 4:58 PM
To: Legislation Committee
Subject: Animal Welfare Act 2017

Importance: High

Dear Committee Members,

I have been left deeply saddened by the latest report from 60 minutes regarding the live animal export industry. This is not the first time and will not be the last that it comes under fire.

I think I speak for all Australians when I say this is an absolute disgrace to the nation and our reputation of good farmers, quality animals and meat, and upstanding citizenship. This industry has time again shown a blatant disregard for animal welfare and the legislation enacted by the WA government. As Gandhi said 'The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way in which its animals are treated' in which case we have a lot to answer for.

I request that you adopt the proposed legislative amendment to our current Animal Welfare Act scheduled to be tabled on April 20th, 2018, including; amendment to allow inspector to conduct unannounced visits on live export ships, and the adoption of the land transport standard and guidelines.

A move to Australian processing plants and a meat trade seems the only humane option for an industry that has time and time again been a national disgrace. This will not only secure protection for these vulnerable animals but could also support Australian farmers and jobs. This is our time to make a change and put morality above economy.

I sincerely thank you for your consideration of this distressing issue.

Kind Regards,

Jemma Ridgeway

Please accept this as my electronic signature – Jemma Lauren Ridgeway

Jemma Ridgeway