



Legislation Committee

From:
Sent: Friday, 20 April 2018 9:57 AM
To: Legislation Committee
Subject: WA Animal Welfare Amendment Bill

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

20th April 2018

Dear Sir

Thank you to the committee for giving West Australians the opportunity to submit our comments on the proposed Animal Welfare Bill.

I feel the amendments are vitally important to help improve animal welfare standards of treatment for those animals within the animal industries. The animals in these industries have had limited legal protection to date and have suffered because of it.

- *Australian Animal Welfare Standards & Guidelines for the Land Transport of Livestock*

WA animal industries follow livestock transport Codes of Practice. These Codes are voluntary so it is difficult to prosecute any breaches or acts of cruelty. The Standards and Guidelines will mean that those not doing the right thing can be brought to justice or at least forced to conform to those standards.

It is incredible that WA is the only state that has not adopted the Standards and Guidelines into legislation. Why is this? I am sure West Australian consumers like me would be horrified to know that animals (whether in food production or companion animals) have no real protection under the law in WA at this time.

- *Inspections for Compliance*

I feel that unannounced visits by inspectors into animal business premises is a minimum requirement to ensure that those profiting from animals are transparent and held accountable for any violations. The suffering of animals is not acceptable to a majority of West Australians and should be taken seriously by those who profit in these industries.

The overwhelming public response to the recent Live Export footage taken by a whistleblower is a prime example of how most people feel about cruelty to animals.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment and we hope the committee supports this Bill.

Kind regards

Elizabeth McCasker

Public / Internet

21518 MP