

Associated with The WA Farmers Federation (Inc)
And Egg Farmers of Australia (Inc)
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JOHN SIMPSON, PRESIDENT

I, John Simpson, President of The Commercial Egg Producers Association of Western Australia Inc of 28 Thorogood Street, Burswood WA 6100 (Postal address PO BOX 6291 East Perth WA 6892), in the State of Western Australia, am the promoter of this petition which contains signatures.

PETITION IN RELATION TO THE FREE RANGE EGGS LABELLING BILL 2012

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled. We the undersigned residents of Western Australia are opposed to the Introduction of The Free Range Eggs Labelling Bill 2012. The bill is to define and regulate the labelling and sale of free range eggs by imposing standards on egg labelling requirements, labelling of egg packages, displays for retail sale and conditions under which free range hens are kept.

We the undersigned, believe consumers have the right to know about the conditions that eggs they purchase are produced in. Egg labelling for free range eggs should be market driven rather than imposing regulation. Industry wishes to achieve a uniform consistent approach to free range egg labelling across the country that will provide meaningful information to consumers. All free range egg producers have the opportunity to develop branding and packaging that will differentiate their product in the market and give consumers an informed choice in their purchases. The Model Code of Practice for The Welfare of Animals: Domestic Poultry 4th Edition (code) which egg producers adhere to outlines the conditions and stocking densities for free range egg production. We believe the code will soon be reviewed and will ensure the continuance of the highest possible welfare standards for hens in egg production. We the undersigned believe there are sufficient measures and controls in place to ensure that consumers have truth in labelling while maintaining the highest hen welfare standards.

Your petitioners therefore respectfully request the Legislative Council to conduct a full inquiry into this matter and oppose the Free Range Egg Labelling Bill 2012.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

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