



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE USE OF BATTERY CAGES FOR HENS IN THE EGG PRODUCTION INDUSTRY

Inquiry into the use of battery cages for hens in the egg production industry

Terms of Reference

1. That a select committee be established to inquire into and report on the use of battery cages for hens in the egg production industry, and in particular:
 - (a) whether or not the use of battery cages to contain or accommodate hens in the egg production industry is:
 - (i) associated with poor animal welfare outcomes or is accompanied by poor animal welfare practices,
 - (ii) justified by any other consideration, and
 - (iii) consistent with community standards and supported by the public,
 - (b) what legislative measures should be taken to:
 - (i) prevent poor animal welfare outcomes to hens in the egg production industry of New South Wales, and
 - (ii) set appropriate minimum standards of accommodation for the accommodation and treatment of hens in the egg production industry,
 - (c) the impact of egg producing commercial operations that use battery cages, on:
 - (i) the environment, and
 - (ii) health of workers,
 - (d) trends in relative consumer demand for egg and egg-containing products derived from commercial operations that use battery cages and commercial operations that do not,
 - (e) the protection of consumer interests, including the rights of consumers to be fully informed of the sources of eggs in egg-containing products,
 - (f) the economic and social effects on New South Wales of:
 - (i) banning, or not banning, the use of battery cages to contain or accommodate hens in the egg production industry, and
 - (ii) legislating, or not legislating, to prevent poor animal welfare outcomes to hens in the egg production industry of New South Wales and/or to set appropriate minimum standards of accommodation for the accommodation and treatment of hens in the egg production industry,

- (g) the advantages, disadvantages and issues of different egg farming production methods,
 - (h) what measures should be taken to assist businesses that may be adversely affected by any proposed changes to the law,
 - (i) what scientific literature says about the above matters, and
 - (j) any other related matter.
2. That the committee report by 31 October 2019.

Committee membership

Hon Emma Hurst MLC	Animal Justice Party	<i>Chair</i>
Hon Courtney Houssos MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Hon Lou Amato MLC	Liberal Party	
Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Greens	
Hon Ben Franklin MLC	The Nationals	
Hon Rose Jackson MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Taylor Martin MLC	Liberal Party	
Hon Mark Pearson MLC*	Animal Justice Party	
Hon Rod Roberts MLC	Pauline Hanson's One Nation	

* Mr Pearson is a participating member for the duration of this inquiry.