

**Submission
No 92**

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF BATTERY CAGES FOR HENS IN
THE EGG PRODUCTION INDUSTRY**

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Chicken farming is farming in cruelty caging chickens/hens is tantamount to cruelty, if anyone on this committee has ever owned chickens they will know that these animals are extremely social, they are very active they love to scratch and move around, they need to eat green grass. By leaving these animals in these horrendous conditions you are a party to animal cruelty and I say this as chicken owner. I say this as someone who lives near and around meat chicken sheds as well egg farm sheds. Chickens come out when the sun is up and go in when the sun is setting they like to roost no lights, not forced to lay eggs constantly be jammed into a space with thousands of other birds, you seriously need to spend some time in these sheds, smelling the bird crap it's bad enough with a small flock but think about it in the thousands. While they have air conditioned sheds, some don't it's not very pleasant in 40 degree heat to drive past these sheds and see these birds jammed standing in the heat imagine the casualties to heat stress, but hey easy come easy go. Then when you're done with them you ship them in plastic bread crates on exposed trucks, jammed together, some fall out on the side of the road some make it Steggles where the smell on a hot day is lovely. I understand it's an industry, but it is an industry in cruelty even "free range" these animals are subjected to not a lot of liberty or doing much free ranging.... it's still in a confined space, the whole industry needs an overhaul. If you treat animals well you get more from them.