

**Submission  
No 277**

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

**Name:** Ms Sarah Lyons

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Dear Committee members

Thank you for taking public submissions on this inquiry into the use of battery cages in NSW.

Consumers are becoming more and more aware of the conditions that animals and birds that are bred for consumption are subject to. The majority of Australian consumers want to see an improvement to these conditions. One change that would dramatically improve the lives of layer chickens is to ban the use of battery cages. These cages are inherently cruel. They prevent these birds from being able to express natural behaviours, they are incredibly small and the statistics show that they lead to higher rates of brittle bones and bone fractures.

I note that many countries have already phased out the use of battery cages. Australia must keep up with other countries in our standards of animal welfare or it could be damaging to our reputation, both in terms of agricultural business, but also as a society.

I implore the NSW Government take positive action on this issue.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Kind regards

Sarah Lyons