

**Submission
No 314**

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

Name: Ms Lena Martens

Date Received: 5 July 2019

Dear Committee members,

I write yet again to ask you to simply do what is right and ethical. We elect politicians in the hope they will act ethically and not simply do what is expedient, profitable and answers the loud voices of lobbyists. However we feel increasingly ignored and marginalised by our elected representatives who, once elected, no longer listen to us.

As the RSPCA et al have repeatedly provided advice as to the effects of battery cages on hens, it is unnecessary for me to repeat the scientific evidence. You have it before you so I can only add my voice to the thousands calling for this to end.

I ask you yet again to put an end to the horrific torture of voiceless hens who spend their lives in discomfort and distress because none of our politicians have the courage or ethics to demand an end to this torture. No animal deserves to spend its life in a concentration camp and by refusing to take a stand, this is what you condemn them to. You already have the information about what effect this has on the animals condemned to such a life but still you condone it in the name of profit and supply. Simply unjustifiable and in the words of David Morrison, "the standard you walk past, is the standard you accept".

What a disgrace that our politicians are willing to keep walking past this suffering and ignore the torment. You should all be ashamed that you continue to mutter, debate, discuss, investigate and do nothing.

This practice in Australian agriculture is a scandal and reflects badly on the farming sector in general and producers in particular who know the suffering this practice inflicts on animals without a choice but who continue to enjoy the profits.

I live in hope that my government will act to end this terrible practice in my lifetime - probably a futile hope!

I look forward to seeing decisive action from the NSW Government to end this practice should its members ever discover their courage and listen to their consciences rather than the lobbyists. We should all be so lucky as to have a voice as loud as a lobbyist or a profit maker!

Kind regards,
Lena Martens