

**Submission  
No 394**

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

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## **Submission to the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Battery Cages**

Keeping Hens cramped in battery cages is inherently cruel, and urgently demands that regulators outlaw the practice. Countless billions of Hens have suffered lives of extreme deprivation, boredom and pain caused by being confined for their whole lives on sections of wire flooring about the size of an iPad. Their bones grow weak and osteoporitic from inability to move, and also from excessive, unnatural egg production, which results in severe chronic pain from broken bones.

Moreover, Hens, condemned to miserable lives in battery cages, have no opportunity to practise their natural behaviours, such as stretching their wings, foraging, nest making, raising their young and dust bathing. In the whole of their short lives the only time they get to see the sun is when they are on their way to the slaughterhouse, where they suffer further unspeakable tortures.

Hens are intelligent, emotional creatures famous for tenderly caring for their young, but Hens in battery cages never have the opportunity to raise a brood. Instead, their newborn sons are macerated alive!

The keeping of Hens in battery cages is a horror story of epic proportions. Please take action that leads to the abolition of this cruel practice.