

**Submission  
No 467**

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

**Name:** Mr Jamie Parker - Member for Balmain

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Legislative Council, Committees  
NSW Parliament  
6 Macquarie St  
Sydney NSW 2000

Wednesday 24 July, 2019

To the Legislative Council Select Committee on the Use of Battery Cages for Hens in the Egg Production Industry,

**SUBMISSION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY INTO THE USE OF BATTERY CAGES**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a view on the use of battery cages in NSW.

Within my electorate of Balmain, animal welfare is a very important issue. Our community believes that all animals deserve to be treated with respect and compassion.

The science shows that hens suffer immensely when confined to battery cages. These intelligent, curious and social animals deserve a better life.

I have collected a total of 729 signatures in support of this submission, the majority of which come from my electorate of Balmain.

Signatories are united in their opposition to the use of the battery cage on the basis that:

- Confining intelligent, curious social egg-laying hens to barren battery cages is **cruel and unnecessary**. In these cages, hens have the equivalent of an A4-size sheet of paper in floor space on which to live for the duration of their lives.
- Battery cages prevent hens from exhibiting **natural behaviours** such as nesting, foraging, scratching, dustbathing and spreading their wings.
- Battery cages have now been **phased out in 28 nations** and a number of international food businesses including major Australian and international brands are also moving ahead.
- It is entirely feasible to produce safe, affordable, nutritious eggs **without the cruelty** of battery cages.

Our community wants to see the NSW Government act on the scientific evidence and the public expectations. We encourage you to consider this submission carefully recommend the commencement of an immediate phase out of the battery cage.

Yours sincerely,

**Jamie Parker MP**  
Member for Balmain