

**INQUIRY INTO PROVISIONS OF THE RIGHT TO FARM
BILL 2019**

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

The 'Right to Farm' Bill is an oppressive piece of legislation that effectively aims to silence whistle blowers and animal activists from exposing the living conditions and treatment of animals exploited for the flesh, hair and bodily fluids. It is unthinkable that this Bill proposes to punish trespassers, who act in the public interest by publishing undercover footage, with a maximum fine of \$22 000 or 3 years' in prison, respectively, when New South Wales' Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 imposes a maximum penalty of 6 months' imprisonment or a \$5 500 fine. This discrepancy highlights a clear intention to safeguard industry interests and a failure to take animal interests seriously. It is also concerning that this Bill effectively instantiates a 'right to farm' protecting animal exploiters from nuisance complaints and third party complaints. This is far-reaching and undemocratic. This legislation further obscures the violence and suffering meted out to animals by framing animal farmers as victims in need of protection.