

**Submission
No 19**

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

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I recently moved to Qld but lived in Sydney for 16 years, my family is there. And will probably return soon. There are animal welfare laws, and these disproportionately protect companion animals. But laws can only work if there is evidence and witnesses capable of denouncing the offender. Therefore, a person can lodge a complaint against their neighbour if they have a dog tied in the backyard all day, whimpering, but a breeder in a puppy mill in the middle of nowhere can easily get away keeping their breeding dogs in tiny cages all their life. The situation is more dire for animals bred to be slaughtered, or milked or skinned or sheared and eventually slaughtered. In the farms there's no one to witness any atrocities, and farmers can and do get away with all kinds of these, sometimes claiming "standard practices" (as if what farmers standardise would not be subject to the law), sometimes tradition. And then marketing departments of packing and processing deceive the public with the illusion of green pastures and happy animals, and that deceit is the very engine of the whole business. I'm writing this because I believe that some transgressions in order to obtain evidence for much more serious crimes (either legal or due to gross deception of the public) are important in a democracy, from whistleblowers breaking NDAs to hidden cameras violating privacy laws. The public has the right to make informed choices, and this bill is an affront to that, further perpetuating the deceitful strategies of the animal industry to sell cruelty disguised as delicacy and sophistication.