

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 30 September 2019

Partially
Confidential

I oppose Right to Farm Bill 2019 on the following grounds;

1. It interferes in the generally good relationship between farmers, customers and the general public (some of whom contribute drought aid to farmers).
2. The present trespass laws are perfectly adequate, and putting usually young and sometimes misguided people behind bars is waste of public money.
3. It appears to protect a small number of 'rogue' farmers and corporations from action by their own neighbours. I have already heard of instances where rogue farmers make their neighbours' lives so miserable that neighbours sell in desperation, often at below the market price, to the very neighbour that caused the problem. To restrict a neighbour's right to take action for nuisance is an attack on right-thinking farmers.
4. As a primary producer I believe that agriculture needs more scrutiny, not less, in both animal welfare and landscape management.
5. Vegans eat food like everybody else, and primary producers need to engage with them rather than fighting them.
6. The photograph used by NSW Farmers to justify this legislation shows a group of 'vegans' at a feedlot in Queensland. Bloated animal corpses are lying in one yard, and in the next are a couple of very sick looking animals. For me this picture represented an animal welfare and public health issue; NSW Farmers didn't regard the carcasses or the sick animals as an issue, whereas an ethical producer would never have allowed this to happen.
7. There is no right to farm, and anything that creates such a right is deeply dangerous. I would like to see a charter of responsibilities to the planet for farmers instead.
8. The tone of Adam Marshall's newsletter about this subject is also deeply worrying; aggressive, hate-filled, emotive language about farming families under threat, when some of the worst agricultural performers are corporations, and the concerns of protesters are very valid (see attachment below)
9. In summary the proposal seems to create an agricultural super-class who exist slightly outside the framework of existing law. This proposal has all the hallmarks of the far right, excessive punishment for protest, assumptions about 'them and us' and so on.
10. As an Australian citizen I am becoming ever more concerned about attempts to restrict protest at many levels.