INQUIRY INTO PROVISIONS OF THE RIGHT TO FARM BILL 2019

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 30 September 2019

Partially Confidential

Submission - Provisions of the right to farm bill 2019

I wish to lodge a submission regarding this bill as I believe this is an aggressive attempt to keep information away from the public, who have expectations for animal welfare. I believe transparency in farming practices should be paramount and that attempts to punish those who seek the truth so severely must indicate there is most definitely something to hide. I think protection of whistleblowers is also important as they are doing a service to the community, a quick search on the internet will reveal the many heinous activities carried out on farms - some even standard practice. The people who consume these products have every right to know what happens before it reaches them.

While the bill focuses on the trespass threat posed by animal advocates, this is inconsistent with a statement by NSW Police last month that "the majority of trespass on rural properties was due to illegal hunting and not animal activism". Id like to ask why this is not being addressed and given an equally severe punishment? Hunters are a menace to everyone.

My family and friends want to know what goes on behind the closed doors of animal agriculture so that we can make informed decisions and I don't believe this bill fits consumer expectations regarding the protection of animals in the agribusiness industry.