

**Submission
No 159**

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

Name: Mr Mark Hansen
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Shutting down dissent is the goal of this bill, and it should be defeated.

"The Inclosed Lands Protection Act 1901 defines inclosed lands as a school, child care service, hospital or nursing home, or any other public or private land that is inclosed or surrounded by a fence or wall or other erection or natural feature, and includes a building"

The definition of Inclosed Lands is so overly broad as to criminalise almost any protest movement: picketing a business, sit-ins in corporate buildings, unions on worksites. It's ridiculous. How would we have ever won the 40 hour week and a minimum wage if protesting a worksite was outlawed. The bill talks a lot about farms, but that definition doesn't match up: this bill would criminalise a broad swathe of peaceful protest.

Where's the justification for this? There's no crisis. Animal activists on farms are performing an important role for civil society, peacefully shining lights on cruel and illegal practices.

We already have trespass laws. The proposed punishments of years of jail time are way out of proportion. This will hurt all of our civil liberties. Shut this bill down.