

**Submission  
No 261**

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

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My submission is brief and simple. Without the public being able to scrutinize how the agriculture industry goes about its' business of producing any kinds of foods (animal, vegetable or fruit), no-one can be certain that appropriate ethical and health-safety standards are being met. Self-regulation manifestly does not work, and to introduce any legislation that prevents seeing what is going on down on the farm, so to speak, is dangerous. Of course, that scrutiny is not a license to interfere with the proper, legal operation of any agribusiness and must occur in a way that does not obstruct; but to achieve this is quite straightforward and happens in factories, for example, all the time.

Lastly regarding what I perceive is at the heart of these sort of ag-gag laws is the knowledge that if consumers actually knew and saw how their food was produced - and I am thinking particular of animal products - they would find it so unsettling that our current methods of animal farming and slaughter would have to be radically overhauled. And no doubt that would cost producers money.