

Submission  
No 265

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 28 September 2019

---

Partially  
Confidential

I would like to express my opposition to the Provision of the right to farm bill 2019. I believe that as a citizen living in a democratic society “the right to farm” should not violate my right to know. It is thanks to the undercover investigators and whistleblowers exposing violence against animals in the animal agricultural industry that the broader public gains an insight into its operations and influences positive change. It’s the undercover footage that leads to prosecution of offenders who otherwise would never be identified. Public expectation of the agricultural industry is to be more transparent not gifted another veil of secrecy. The Bill is a clear attempt to “shoot the messenger “ , keep consumers in the dark and delay change in farming practices to reflect the rapid shift in consumer awareness and expectations. The undercover footage released by various groups so far clearly indicates that farming practices need more scrutiny not less. The focus of the Bill on trespassing by animal activists is also inconsistent with facts provided by NSW Police stating that majority of trespassers on rural properties are illegal hunters not activists. At the moment undercover footage is the only way for consumers to get real insight into the process of food production. To cite the Amnesty International “ We have no hope of stopping abuses if we can’t even bring them to light”.