

Submission
No 289

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 1 October 2019

Partially
Confidential

The oppressive Right to Farm Bill must not go ahead

I am writing to you to request you do not support the Right to Farm Bill.

The Right to Farm Bill will not only impact the right to peaceful protest and the ability of whistleblowers to report animal cruelty, but it will have significant repercussions on the rights of neighbours to live on their property peacefully.

The Bill seeks to provide protection for farmers against nuisance lawsuits, at the expense of the rights of individual property owners. This means that neighbours who experience issues of noise, odour, chemical spray drift and the use of pest control (including 1080 baits) will have serious difficulty taking legal action against farmers who create these issues.

While the Bill focusses 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 not animal activism.” Aggressively targeting and jailing those who expose animal cruelty is not only failing to recognise the real issue, but it is out of line with community expectations. This added threat to whistle-blowers is stifling the public’s right to know about what goes on behind closed doors in the animal agribusiness industry.