

Submission  
No 385

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 30 September 2019

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Partially  
Confidential

## SUBMISSION: PROVISIONS OF THE RIGHT TO FARM BILL 2019

I write as an active voter. I am deeply concerned about the Right to Farm Bill.

I am not alone in my concern that the Right to Farm Bill will adversely impact ordinary people and civil liberties, in my concern that the Bill is an overreach, and that it is manifestly out of line with community expectations in regards to animal welfare. The public's knowledge and concern regarding animal agriculture is growing exponentially, and this piece of legislation is NOT what we want. We care deeply about civil liberties, and about improving the lives of our fellow non-human animals.

Why is agribusiness opaque? We know, increasingly, how cruel conditions are for animals held on farms. People know and are acting on the information they have. Sales of animal products are declining. People are aware of what goes on. Why would we want to protect the people and businesses behind these cruel conditions? Why would anyone support an erosion of whistleblowers' rights in an environment where federal law is only strengthening general protections? There is no evidence to support the proposition that increasing punishments for trespassers deters them (and may we acknowledge NSW Police's very own assertion that it is illegal hunters not animal activists who are most likely to trespass onto farms). Instead, how about we look into the conditions that are so bad we can't be shown them? Public concern for the conditions behind the production of products from tortured animals' bodies is only increasing day by day.

Individual property owners will also take issue with these laws – individuals unfortunate enough to share borders with farms will have their own rights eroded. Consumers too will suffer – consumers have the right to know what goes on, and to make informed decisions.

I speak as someone who consumed animal products until 2 years ago. My eyes were opened, and more and more, other people's eyes are opening too. I urge anyone reading this submission to take a minute to consider what you're trying to hide and why on earth we would protect the people engaging in it? We will not tolerate a world where abject cruelty is commonplace, and protected by law. This legislation is out of step with what people want.

Why on earth would anyone want to eat something that they can't bear to watch being produced? The most cursory search for information on the production of animal products will uncover information that can't be unknown; the horrors can not be overestimated.

Thank you, thank you, for considering my submission.