INQUIRY INTO HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF KANGAROOS AND OTHER MACROPODS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 15 March 2021

Partially Confidential

To whom it may concern,

My name is , I have lived most of my life in Western NSW though have worked throughout NSW, in Canberra and Melbourne.

I have travelled throughout the Eastern States and more recently in 2019, through Central Australia from Orange to Uluru via Forbes in NSW, the Flinders Ranges in SA, onto Alice Springs and home via Mt Isa & Cunnamulla QLD, Nyngan and back to Orange where I now live and work.

I am very concerned about the way we treat our wildlife and in particular the Macropods (Kangaroos) throughout Australia and most concerningly, NSW.

Throughout my travels I have witnessed first hand the decline in Kangaroo numbers over the past 36 years. There was a time you could not travel anywhere in NSW without having someone on Kangaroo watch, to ensure we did not hit one.

Now you can travel freely throughout this country without hardly seeing a kangaroo. They have been over slaughtered by a completely unsustainable Commercial industry for years, with true numbers being over inflated to justify the continued slaughter.

During my drive through Central Australia in 2019, I saw 6 Kangaroos that were barely clinging to life between Nyngan and Cobar, none between Cobar, Flinders Ranges, Alice Springs, Mt Isa, Cunnamulla and back to Nyngan, and between 7 to 10 between Bogan Gate and Forbes. Less than 20 live Kangaroos in over 6,000kms.

The drought decimated the Kangaroo population, as did the bush fires and yet there are no laws to stop the continued slaughter of our Kangaroos by the Commercial Industry.

I would like to see laws put in place to stop the slaughter of wildlife and in particular Macropods. I would like laws to be put into place to stop the cruel treatment of all Kangaroos regardless of their sex and I would also like to see the complete halting of the slaughter of Kangaroos for any type of commercial gain.

The current laws that ensure kangaroos are slaughtered in a sustainable and cruelty free way, are not adhered to, nor is anyone checking to ensure they are killed without cruelty and that mothers with Joey's at foot and or in their pouch, are remaining unharmed by shooters.

There is evidence of the worst cruelty going completely unchecked by Government departments, not to mention the barbaric way the meat is handled and kept before being chilled.

Laws need to change, our kangaroos need to be protected from cruelty and extinction.