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

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I'm ashamed as an Australian that the atrocities committed against our majestic kangaroo continue in this day and age.

The numbers are horrific and mind boggling - this is the largest land based slaughter of native wildlife in the world. Joeys being decapitated or bludgeoned to death. Kangaroos being shot 3 and 4 times, and enduring having a hole cruelly cut through their beautiful powerful legs to hang them from the ute to continue their slow death while bleeding out from their wounds.

I am appalled and sickened that this mass slaughter is condoned by my state government. I do not support this in any way - I never buy kangaroo meat for my own consumption, I don't buy it for my pets, I don't purchase anything made from kangaroo skin and I certainly do not vote for anyone that supports this atrocity.

I live rurally in the Upper Hunter of NSW and I cannot tell you the last time I saw a kangaroo in the wild - there was a mob living on the hill by my house but I haven't seen those for two years or more. I guess they were hunted and shot in the night. That I cannot as a rural Australian no longer see any evidence of local kangaroo populations is beyond belief and so desperately sad. These animals have millions of years of history of inhabiting this land, and are now on track to be on the verge of extinction in my lifetime.

This needs to end.

Enough is enough.

Let our beautiful kangaroos live in peace - they have more right to this land than we do.