

**Submission
No 262**

**INQUIRY INTO ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

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New South Wales animal welfare laws are in serious need of an overhaul. The laws are out of date and as a result farm and companion animals throughout the state are not getting the protection they deserve.

The Perottet Government has proposed a new animal welfare bill to the NSW parliament. It has some positives but overall, but it falls well short of community expectations and, if passed in its current form, will fail our state's animals.

Animals in NSW need laws that will:

Recognise animal sentience and the intrinsic value of animals

Stop carving out exemptions for farm animals which allow continuation of cruel practices such as:

mulesing of lambs

hot iron branding of cattle

carrying out painful procedures without mandatory pain relief

intensive confinement (such as battery cages and sow stalls)

Establish well-funded and independent compliance and enforcement regimes, free from conflicts of interest through an independent NSW Animal Welfare Authority.