

Submission
No 271

INQUIRY INTO ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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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.

Minimum care requirements for animals, including opportunities to express normal behaviours

The expansion of the definition of animals to include cephalopods and decapods (e.g. octopus, squid, lobsters and crabs)

The inclusion of psychological suffering in the definition of harm to animals