

**Submission  
No 293**

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

**Name:** Ms Virginia Stalenberg

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The proposed Animal Welfare Bill 2022 falls short of community expectations in a number of areas.

We share this world with many other animals and they need to be respected, protected and preserved.

Animals in NSW need laws that will:

Recognise animal sentience and the intrinsic value of animals.

Please 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