

Phase out of live sheep exports by sea submission

The Albanese Government made an election promise to phase out live export of sheep by sea.

The phase out must happen as soon as possible. Why? Because it is cruel, abhorrent and the sheep endure inexcusable suffering, to then be subjected to horrific treatment upon arrival at destinations where there are no standards of animal welfare.

The 'Five Freedoms' were developed by the UK Government as a means for determining the welfare of farmed animals. The Five Freedoms have been adopted by the World Organisation for Animal Health and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. These freedoms are 1) freedom from hunger and thirst; 2) freedom from discomfort; 3) freedom from pain, injury or disease; 4) freedom to express normal behaviour and 5) freedom from fear and distress. If you have watched the videos taken of the suffering endured by sheep on export ships, you cannot ignore the fact, that live export compromises most of the Five Freedoms, if not all.

This horrific practice that Australia allows, is shameful and an embarrassment to our international reputation. We are not brave. We are not bold to stand up and say enough! New Zealand, however was brave to stand up and say enough of this barbaric practice by banning live export. This is how a civilised and decent society should behave. In the World

Animal Protection Index, Australia is ranked as the worst performer, equal to Belarus in 'Producing Cruelty, "Consuming Cruelty' and Sanctioning Cruelty'. This is not something Australia should be proud of!

Bringing live export to an end provides opportunity for growth in local sectors. Such as processing meat locally and plant based meat products which is a booming industry. The supermarket shelves are well stocked with numerous plant based meat alternatives. This industry has come so far in recent years evidenced by the diversity and abundance on supermarket shelves.

This election promise must be adhered to. Australians expect certainty that the end to this trade will be legislated during this term of government.

I thankyou for this opportunity.

Regards

Caroline 