

Abolition of Live Animal Export

I support the proposed ban on live animal exports from Australia for the following reasons.

- The cruelty that sheep are subject to during the long sea voyage and the conditions that they have to endure onboard the vessels, particularly the heat, is totally inhumane.
- Once the sheep have left the farm it is of no relevance to the farmer where they go – slaughterhouse or dockside. He gets his money.
- The fate that awaits the poor creatures on arrival in some middle-eastern countries is abhorrent. This has been made public many times over the last few years via videos taken surreptitiously. Requirements that the animals have to be slaughtered in the country where they will be eaten whether for religious, political or economic reasons should not influence Australia. We have our own standards [not always the best] to adhere to.
- Considering the aforementioned slaughter requirements. It would seem that the demand from these countries for *packaged and/or processed meat is increasing steadily* so the religious argument is weak.
- I cannot see who will be affected by this change other than the ship owners – get over it and find other markets. Not our problem. Conversely, the Australian slaughterhouses and processing factories should see an increase in production.
- The panel will present it's findings by 30 September 2023 so the minister can consider these and implement a phase out commencing 1 January 2024 with a 50% reduction in live sea departures coming into effect as of 1 June 2024 and complete cessation on 1 November 2024. It would be good to see a positive outcome and a minister that can act on the overwhelming evidence that supports the banning of this practice.
- This is a barbaric system that belongs back in the middle-ages. We are a modern world -leading nation in many things but exporting live sheep under the aforementioned circumstances is not good. Does it take New Zealand to show us the way?

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