

Sheep export submission

I am writing to express my strong support of the phase-out of live sheep export. This action should be legislated and should begin as soon as possible so that this horrific practice is brought to an end.

I, like many Australians, are still understandably haunted by the images that exposed the inherently cruel conditions that sheep are subjected to in this abhorrent industry. Every delay in commencing the phase-out means more sheep are subject to overcrowding, heat stress and the lack of proper access to food and water. It is not only the daily stresses of sea transport but many of these sheep are also subjected to fully conscious slaughter by the importing countries.

It's time for the government to stop supporting an industry that has demonstrated time and time again that it has no concern for animal welfare.

To allow this trade to continue is also damaging to Australia's international reputation as a compassionate nation. New Zealand has set a precedent in ending live export and has demonstrated that it is an achievable step for progressive nations. It is time for Australia to take a stand and prioritize the well-being and safety of our animals.

The sole reason I supported Labor at the last Federal election was Labor's promise to end live export. I marched with my parents in the 1980s to protest against live export and will keep advocating for these animals until live export is banned.

