

I passionately support the phase out of live sheep export as I believe it is cruel practise with sheep needlessly suffering long periods of heat and general stress at sea and painful un-stunned slaughter overseas. This is one of the main reasons I and many others voted for Labor in the last election.

Sheep farmers can still make money [perhaps more?] by sheep being killed here under often more humane circumstances than abroad, and with the unequivocal mandate given to it by the Australian public.

I would be interested to hear from uninvested experts regarding whether farmers will lose money because of the ban, and there should be education and a free and open debate about this, and support from Government for farmers to grow and diversify through this change.

This will also show that the government will support Australians when they lead the way with real change, as with other important issues such as a move to renewable energy.

Australians that voted in the Labor Government want to be assured that this trade will end as soon as possible by way of legislation and in this term of parliament.

Australia's international reputation will be immensely enhanced by standing beside our compassionate and civilised neighbours and friends New Zealand. It would also greatly enhance Australia's worldwide reputation for being a centre for food excellence and production.

We need to build on this reputation by supporting compassionate farming practices. This will be immensely popular and help make more money for Australia's tourist and farming businesses. This is what the population increasingly wants, and especially the younger generation.