

ENDING LIVE SHEEP EXPORT – SUBMISSION TO GOVERNMENT

Please end the export of live sheep as soon as possible.

This practise is inherently cruel. I believe that animals are sentient beings and to varying degrees experience feelings much as we do. Most of these animals will die in terrifying circumstances, having already endured two weeks packed into pens on a ship, eating, sleeping and defecating in those same pens.

I myself run a small business and know how sudden changes to policy can effect small business. I understand that this practise forms part of farmers' income stream. **Therefore, I am in support of the phase out of live sheep export** done in such a way that farmers and others in the supply chain, can not only adapt their businesses but even expand and profit from new opportunities.

I am also a Labor voter and voted for Labor at the last election based on your commitment to phase out live sheep export. This is an issue I have been following for more than two decades and feel very strongly about. It is a critical issue for me in terms of how I vote.

New Zealand has recently phased out live export – good on them. Public support for an end to live export is strong both there and here in Australia. People do not agree with animals being subject to the conditions on board the ships (no matter how well so-called standards are safe-guarded) and vehemently oppose the way they are slaughtered once they reach their destination. The practise is barbaric. This is not something I expect Australia to be a party to.

Please stand by your commitment to phase out live export and do so in a way that supports farmers and others in the supply chain **at the earliest possible time.**

Respectfully,

Mel Fitzpatrick

