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Sent: Friday, 15 April 2016 10:42 AM

To: Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Subject: RE: Submission for Bill of Rights.

I wish to add an important point to my earlier submission: Under section 3, Freedom from Religion:

Please insert: 'A ban on the religious slaughter of animals without pre-stunning; 'Halal'. Australian's do not want to have to pay money to other countries for such cruel products.'

Pamela Hayse
Sunshine Coast

[REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 15 April 2016 9:15 AM

To: Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Subject: Submission for Bill of Rights.

1. As a Queensland voter, I have been concerned about rights for many years. However, these rights should also extend to the rights of all sentient beings to live a peaceful and cruelty free life. Working in animal welfare for a long time now, I have seen and heard many horror stories about cruelty inflicted upon animals by humans.

Remember the alpacas who were beaten to death at Caboolture with a chain? There are also dog fights where people obtain dogs from Gumtree or Ebay, listed as 'free to a good home', then use those pets as bait. They are then torn to pieces by fighting dogs. These confronting issues are revealed on Facebook every day, but rarely seen on commercial media.

My wish is that Animal Rights be considered too, since they belong to Queensland families, having been born and bred in this state. They deserve to have certain rights.

The penalties for the perpetrators of such acts are far too lenient, many who inflict the most heinous cruelties not even getting any jail time. This should be changed and updated to set an example that humans need to act more responsibly toward other species. After all, we are all cousins in the animal kingdom, and not separate from nature as many like to believe.

2a. Separation of Church and State. This is an important topic to me, as it also relates to our attitudes toward animals. Many from the religious right believe that humans are somehow superior to all other species because, according to their beliefs, humans were

given 'dominion over' other animals. If the bible is true then what it means is that we were given responsibility for their care and guardianship, not a free ticket to treat them poorly.

2b. Religion should not have a say in people's personal choices, ie; same sex spouses, marriage, or women's freedom of choice for her own body.

3. Freedom FROM religion. Australia is a mainly secular country. Many will write on the census form that they are Christian only because they think it makes them seem like a good person when in fact they don't attend church, they don't pray or follow any other of the doctrines of the religion.

Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world today, and it is predicted to overtake Christianity within the next twenty years. Those of non-beliefs are often targeted, vilified and persecuted simply for not believing; even by Christians in this country. Let's not have Queensland turn into another Paris where the streets are blocked five times a day, preventing people from going about their jobs. We don't want communities where women can't walk safely down the street in normal attire, as happens in many towns in England today. This is not a race issue, it is simply about having the right to be free to live a peaceful life free from religious bullying and control.

Thank you for reading,

Pamela Hayse

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