

**Inquiry into the Animal Care and Protection Amendment Bill 2022**

**Submission No:** 873  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
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**Attachments:** No attachment

**Submitter Comments:**

There are many issues when it comes to animal welfare. There needs to be strong animal welfare laws to protect animals in the intensive farm industry eg no more battery hens, no more sow pigs confined in pens, animals in intensive farm industry need to be able to display their natural behaviour and not suffer. Pigs are highly intelligent and do not deserve to be raised on filthy concrete floors with mothers not free to attend to their piglets in a free and natural way. Dairy cattle are forced to constantly produce calves causing health issues and the male calves are killed or slaughtered as 'veal' meat. When it comes to the intensive farm industry decisions on the welfare of the animals should be made by an independent body not people within the industry. Puppy farms should not be allowed as dogs are kept in terrible conditions and females are forced to breed constantly. There is not sufficient welfare laws to protect female and male dogs and puppies. Pig hunting with dogs is cruel and causes pain and suffering to the pigs. Feral pigs numbers need to be reduced but done humanely. Even the dogs can be treated badly and owners in most cases refuse to desex the females so you have situation of unwanted dogs. As dogs are large breed they are not easily rehomed. I have heard stories from my daughter who worked in the country where pig hunting occurs and the cruelty to the dogs and pigs. Some deliberately cause the dog to be aggressive so they are dangerous to people and other dogs. Rodeos need assessment and better welfare laws in place and calf roping banned. Horses, cattle and calves suffer and get seriously injured often without any medical attention. Watching animals suffer is not entertaining and does not teach children and adults to treat animals with kindness and respect. I don't know what the law is about people surrendering their pet whether reptile, farm animal, birds (native/non native), fish, dogs, cats and illegal "pets". They are often just dumped in the bush, even by the side of the road and in waterways. Apart from the suffering of the animal when they are dumped it also causes problems with wildlife. For example cats kill millions of different species of wildlife every day including ones that have homes not just feral cats. Non native fish dumped in waterways affect the natural ecosystem and wipe out native fish. A bird that has had its wings clipped if deliberately released or accidentally escapes will not survive if it can not fly and will have slow painful death and be attacked by other birds, cats etc. Anyway the surrendering of pets needs to be considered and crack down on people keeping animals, including wildlife illegally. Lastly inhumane traps for rodents/insects need to be banned. This includes glue traps. These are inhumane and indiscriminate. They are currently easily available and people don't use them properly or check them often leaving animals to die a long and painful death. Wildlife eg birds, reptiles, amphibians, small mammals can get caught on them and it is very difficult to extract the animal and in many cases has to be euthanased. There are humane traps available for rodents. Insectivore birds and insect eating microbats is a natural way of reducing insect population. Secondary poisoning of rat poison can occur eg possums, wildlife that eat rodents such as snakes, raptor birds. Apparently there are new baits available with ingredients that stops this from occurring. We should relying more on natural predators for rodents. Issues with grey hound and horse racing (including harness racing) has already been raised. There is enough suffering and cruelty happening in the industry that would take a very long submission but I think the State Government has already been informed of the welfare issues that exist. There are so many other issues including treatment of domestic animals. I thank your Government for banning dog collars such as choke and spike ones. AS with all legislation there needs to be sufficient man power to enforce the laws - there is too much reliance on voluntary organisations such as RSPCA - and sufficient penalties so that cruelty and suffering of the animal does not continue. If a person has been charged with animal cruelty to their pet ( and I have heard

horror stories) he/she should not be allowed to own a pet again. An independent animal welfare commission should be set up. It would be better if there was a national one (for unity for the whole of Australia) but the States can still have their own if a national one is not in place. Thank you taking notice of this submission. We do need strong animal welfare laws that are enforced with adequate penalties.