

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

**Submission No:** 1450  
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While the Qld Animal Care and Protection Act Amendment Bill attempts to legislate important improvements for animal welfare in Queensland, it does not deliver on contemporary community expectations of animal welfare and ethical treatment of animals, nor is it consistent with the spirit of the Animal PROTECTION AND CARE Act.

Therefore I request the committee to consider the following amendments:

- Rodeos should be more strictly regulated. Calf roping should be banned as gratuitous since calves risk suffering concussion and other injuries that cannot be ethically justified as entertainment. Rather than changing the Act to specifically allow what would be acts of animal cruelty at rodeos, the Bill should instead seek to ban calf roping as a prohibited event.

See new research: 'The legality of calf roping in Australia' (Stonebridge, UQ Law Journal, 2022) which argues that "calf roping would therefore likely not be legal if the standard of unnecessary harm applied". This follows several Australian scientific studies (Sinclair et al, 2016; Rizzuto et al, 2020) that confirm that this event causes concussion and trauma to vulnerable calves.

- Intrusive pregnancy tests should not be performed by untrained laypersons however non-intrusive tests are acceptable.

- CCTV should be mandatory at livestock slaughter facilities and the definition of livestock slaughter facilities should be expanded to include all facilities that slaughter livestock, not only horses. CCTV footage should be independently monitored and incidents noted and visual evidence kept long enough for prosecution of alleged offences.

- Independent animal welfare inspectors must be enabled to enter slaughterhouses and farms without notice and without a warrant or permission from the owner.

- The proposed changes to s178 would be a backward step for animal welfare that would remove the possibility of private prosecution and the ability of RSPCA Qld to independently prosecute without permission from the CEO of the Department.