

Submission
No 98

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE PHASE-OUT OF
AUSTRALIAN LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS BY SEA ON NEW
SOUTH WALES**

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Reasons to keep the ban on live animal exports:

- Animals endure severe suffering during long, stressful sea voyages.
- Ship accidents can result in the drowning of animals and loss of human life.
- Consumers increasingly demand humane treatment of animals.
- Long journeys expose animals to extreme heat, dehydration and illness.
- Consistent animal welfare standards across borders are hard to maintain.
- Banning live exports can improve a nation's ethical reputation.
- Live export harms the environment and contributes to carbon emissions.
- Cruel practices, such as rough handling are common.
- Animals are often subjected to extreme conditions and cruel practices in foreign countries.
- Sheep suffer from heat stress, leading to severe health issues or death.
- Ships are not cleaned during voyages, creating unsanitary and harmful conditions.

Animal welfare concerns related to live export:

- The inherent stress and suffering animals endure during long sea voyages.
- The risks of overcrowding and lack of proper care during transport.

Live export subjects sheep to prolonged stress and discomfort, with little to no relief during long sea journeys. The risks of heat stress, overcrowding, and inadequate care are well-documented and remain a significant concern. I urge the committee to prioritise the welfare of these animals by considering the severe impact these conditions have on their health and well-being.

Animals exported from Australia face extended periods at sea, which increases their exposure to heat stress and other welfare risks. Even with stringent regulatory measures, the long voyages, particularly through tropical regions, pose significant challenges that cannot be fully mitigated.

Alternative markets to explore:

- I support research into and development of alternative industries that do not rely on animal exploitation. This could include plant-based agriculture, which could offer new economic opportunities for communities.
- I also suggest developing lab-grown meat and other animal products as humane alternatives to live export.

The way forward:

Several regions have successfully phased out live exports by investing in local processing and other humane alternatives. For instance, New Zealand's move to end live exports by sea has been met with positive outcomes for animal welfare and the industry alike. We can learn from these examples and develop strategies that both protect animal welfare and support our farmers.