



2nd August, 2019



Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

We need to have penalties for breaches of the NLIS legislation by animal activists. For example, they should not be allowed to remove stock from farms without the appropriate NLIS documentation, which includes a signed vendor declaration form. Any other person would be prosecuted for this breach.

Trespass laws need to be harsher, farms are not only work places they are also dangerous places for people that are inexperienced in the operations of farms. With heavy machinery and large, strong animals on farms that can do major harm to people if handled in the wrong way, trespassers wandering around in the wrong place can be injured, or injure someone else or the livestock they are supposedly trying to protect. Farms are also where the owners and employees live as well as work, which means that you are infringing on personal property as well as a workplace. This makes owners and employees live in fear of being invaded in their own homes. Where else is this condoned?

Animal activists are trying prevent a legal enterprise which is entitled to operate.

Trespass laws are inappropriate in Victoria as they are ineffective in protecting law abiding farmers. We need zero tolerance to anyone that tries to invade or trespass on private property.

Trespass is a major biosecurity risk from people bringing in pests and disease. Animal activists are breaking the biosecurity laws and no action is taken against them. At the very least on the spot fines, that are meaningful should be issued. We need penalties like WA's new laws with \$12,000 fines and jail terms.

Aussie farm maps website is an invasion of privacy of the people that live on the farms, therefore the owners and employees that live on them are being put under extra mental stress by the actions of this website. Farmers are living in fear for the welfare of their families, this cannot be allowed to continue.

Bernie Free

