



Australian Chicken Growers' Council

To: The Hon Vicki Chapman MP, Attorney General of South Australia

Email: Attorney.General@sa.gov.au

Cc: Hon Tim Whetstone MP, Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, SA

Email: Minister.Whetstone@sa.gov.au

12 April 2019

RE: The need for stronger legislation against illegal farm entries and harassment of farmers

Dear Attorney-General,

The events conducted across the nation on 8 April 2019 by animal activists demonstrated both their complete disregard for opinions or values other than their own, and their contempt for the concepts of privacy, property security, animal welfare and a livestock sector.

On behalf of Australian chicken growers, I am writing to you and your counterparts in the other states to urge your soonest attention and efforts toward a coordinated national review of the laws and penalties associated with trespass and harassment, particularly where they relate to the activities of anti-farming extremists.

I also strongly encourage you to consider how the interactive map on the 'Aussie Farms' activist website, showing the location of many Australian livestock farms, may be removed. The primary purpose of this map is to assist extremists to plan illegal farm invasions, with the ultimate aim of putting an end to livestock farming in Australia.

The Australian chicken industry operates under high standards of regulated animal welfare: all commercial birds are raised on farms compliant with national welfare standards, and the majority of chicken meat sold in the nation comes from farms that are accredited above and beyond regulated standards by RSPCA Australia, the Free Range Egg and Poultry Association, or both.

Should extremist action result in the shutdown of part or all of the Australian chicken meat industry, through disease introduction, sabotage or harassment, Australians would quickly find themselves buying chicken imported from countries with welfare standards that cannot compare to Australia's.

The Australian Chicken Growers' Council believes that strong penalties are the best approach to this problem; unfortunately, we do not consider that negotiating with these activists is a realistic option. They have demonstrated that they are dogma-driven and not open to alternative views, and in some ways their behaviour appears to be similar to that of cult members.

Please understand that we do not object in any way to the nutritional and clothing choices of these activists. It is their commitment to the malicious harassment of livestock owners and workers and the illegal invasion of people's properties and homes that we feel must be legislatively brought to an end for the good of the nation.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Yours,

Allan Bullen

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