



**Andrew Wilkie MP**  
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR CLARK

Animal Welfare Act Amendment Bill  
Biosecurity Tasmania  
Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania  
GPO Box 44  
HOBART TAS 7001

By email: [AnimalWelfarePublicSubmissions@nre.tas.gov.au](mailto:AnimalWelfarePublicSubmissions@nre.tas.gov.au)

**Submission on the draft *Animal Welfare Act Amendment Bill 2022***

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft *Animal Welfare Act Amendment Bill 2022* ('the Bill'). These amendments are a welcome change to Tasmania's long outdated animal welfare laws and necessary to update legislation in line with community expectations.

Animal welfare inspectors have not had the power to keep animals safe in the way the community expects, and this Bill goes some way to rectifying the problem. The updated property entry and seizure powers in particular are appropriate and will be welcomed by welfare advocates. I also strongly support the ban on use of pronged collars.

However, this Bill is just the start of what needs to be a complete overhaul of Tasmania's animal protection laws, as well as better resourcing of the RSPCA and purpose-built legislation to better protect Tasmanian animals. I support the RSPCA's work in this area and encourage the State Government to continue to work with them to develop a brand new, best-practice suite of animal welfare laws.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Wilkie MP  
Independent Member for Clark

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