



The Hon Mark Furner MP  
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries  
and Minister for Rural Communities

Our ref: CTS 11589/24  
Your ref: A1296642

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3 July 2024

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Services  
[ClerksOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:ClerksOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 14 June 2024 regarding the petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 11 June 2024 (No. 4011-23) - *Make shade shelter mandatory for farm animals*. The petition requests to amend the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* (ACPA) to include mandatory codes of provision for species specific shade shelter for farmed animals.

The Queensland Government is committed to providing and enforcing legislation and standards that protect the welfare of all animals in Queensland. The ACPA promotes a high level of care and protection for all animals in Queensland. The duty of care provision in Section 17 of the ACPA requires, amongst other things, that people provide appropriate accommodation or living conditions for animals. In deciding what is appropriate, a person must consider:

- the species, environment and circumstances of the animal; and
- what steps a reasonable person in the circumstances could reasonably be expected to have taken.

In deciding how to meet their duty of care to livestock in their charge, the provision of appropriate shade is one of the factors that a person should consider.

The ACPA also adopts mandatory Codes of Practice to establish the minimum acceptable animal welfare standards for particular species including cattle, sheep, pigs, and domestic fowl. These Codes of Practice deal with appropriate accommodation and living conditions. There are also Codes of Practice about livestock transport and livestock at depots and saleyards.

Further to the requirements under the ACPA, the Codes of Practice require a person in charge to take reasonable steps to minimise the risk of harm to livestock from extreme weather conditions, which could include providing shade. The Codes of Practice are available on the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' website at <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/animal/health/welfare/codes/overview>.

If there are concerns about a particular place where animals may not be provided with appropriate shade, please contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) Customer Service Centre on 13 25 23. Where possible, the DAF Customer Service Centre will request the following information:

- the name, address and a contact phone number of the caller
- the address where the animals are located
- the details of the concern, such as the type and number of animals, the problem with the animals and the condition of the animals
- the name, address and phone number of the animal's owner, if known
- any other issues that inspectors need to know, such as whether savage dogs live at the location or if people there are potentially abusive or violent.

If you require further information, please contact my office on 07 3719 7420.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M Furner." The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**MARK FURNER MP**  
**Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and**  
**Minister for Rural Communities**