

# Media Release



Friday 19 July 2019

## Two weeks left for Victorian animal activism inquiry

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) is calling on all farmers, supply chain businesses, and agricultural professionals to make a submission to the Victorian Parliament's Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Activism before it closes in two weeks.

"This Inquiry is a chance for farmers and supply chain businesses to tell the Government how illegal trespass, interfering with businesses, property damage and livestock theft has already or could affect your business and the industry as a whole," said Mr David Jochinke, VFF President.

"Every farmer, every livestock transporter, every saleyard operator, every abattoir owner and every consumer that supports farmers can and should contribute to this Inquiry.

"Animal rights activists and their supports will also be making submissions. We cannot allow their voices to drown out those of farmers and agricultural professionals who are directly impacted.

"Activists that invade farms and steal livestock threaten the safety of farmers and their families, the biosecurity of the farm, the health and welfare of animals, and the economic viability of farm businesses.

"There is also a significant stress and mental health impact that activists do not consider. You do not have to have experienced an invasion to feel legitimately concerned and stressed about the threat of one.

"I appeal to all farmers and our supply chain partners to make a submission, no matter how long or short, before Friday 2 August so our collective voice can be heard loudly and clearly in the Victorian Parliament," said Mr Jochinke.

The Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Activism on Victorian Agriculture is being conducted by the Victorian Parliament's Economy and Infrastructure Committee. Submissions can be made on the [Parliament's website](#) before Friday 2 August, 2019.

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### About the VFF

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) is dedicated to representing the interests of farmers and making a positive difference to their businesses and communities. We strive to create an environment for our members, our farmers, that enables profitable, safe, sustainable production to ensure an enduring social licence in a community that respects and values the sector.

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