

Our ref: CTS 24892/25
Your ref: 4237-25

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18 DEC 2025

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of The Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
neil.laurie@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie, *Neil,*

Thank you for your correspondence of 18 November 2025 regarding the petition as tabled in the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 18 November 2025 (4237-25) - *Incorporate petting zoos/displayed animals into the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*.

The Queensland Government is committed to setting and enforcing strong legislation that safeguards the welfare of all animals in Queensland and meets community expectations.

The exhibition (display) of native wildlife and non-indigenous animals in Queensland is regulated by the *Exhibited Animals Act 2015* (EA Act). An exhibition licence for the display and use of livestock and domestic animals (except rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)) at petting zoos is not required under the EA Act.

A person in charge of an animal must comply with the duty of care requirements set out in the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* (ACP Act). The duty of care is a legal obligation to provide for an animal's needs in a reasonable way and includes:

- providing suitable food and clean drinking water
- providing good accommodation and living conditions
- understanding the animal's normal behavioural patterns
- treating disease and injury, including seeking veterinary care and humane euthanasia, where appropriate
- handling and transporting the animal appropriately.

Where a person breaches their duty of care or is cruel to an animal, significant penalties of up to \$333,800 or 3-years imprisonment apply under the ACP Act.

There are additional biosecurity requirements under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* that a person must meet when keeping or moving animal species, including camels, alpacas, sheep and other livestock.

If an individual wishes to report specific concerns about the treatment of animals or would like more information about their animal biosecurity and welfare obligations, they are encouraged to contact the Department of Primary Industries on 13 25 23.

I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Perrett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

TONY PERRETT MP
Minister for Primary Industries
Member for Gympie