

June 2, 2021

Attention: Federal Agriculture Committee Considering Bill C-205

At a time when Canadians as a whole are **increasingly concerned** about the treatment of animals raised and slaughtered for food, not only is there virtually no government oversight of the treatment of animals on farms, but now there are Ag Gag laws passing across Canada to further keep consumers in the dark about how animals raised for meat, eggs, dairy, and fur are treated.

Ag Gag laws cover up animal cruelty by making it illegal for an undercover investigator or investigative journalist to get a job on a factory farm. Undercover investigations are one of the **only ways to expose hidden animal abuse, public health threats, unsafe working conditions, and environmental offences at farms and slaughterhouses**. If the animal agriculture industry truly has nothing to hide, and is in fact proud of their practices, then what are they trying to hide behind Bill C-205?

Passing Ag Gag law C-205—which will serve to more severely punish people trying to expose the horrific conditions for animals in the animal agriculture industry—will only condone a further lack of accountability and transparency of the animal agriculture industry. Instead of trying to fix the problem of animal suffering, adopting these laws will be seen as the **government's attempt at hiding, and effectively endorsing, systemic animal abuse**.

At a time when we are seeing the world altering repercussions of zoonotic diseases—threats of which inherently thrive in factory farming situations, and a likely breeding ground of our next pandemic—there is no validity to claims that this law is “protecting the biosecurity of animals and workers”. It should be **an absolute priority to allow there to be eyes on the ground to witness the ongoing conditions across the animal agriculture system—for animal and human health and safety alike**.

Please let it be known that I, as a Canadian, do NOT support Ag Gag Bill C-205. I do NOT support animal cruelty. I do not support the animal agriculture industry being self regulating; protected from public scrutiny. I ask that you will reconsider and ultimately **reject this dangerous law and step up to make Canada a less cruel country for animals**.

Respectfully,

Kristy Carroll