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Government involvement to protect Livestock Industries a must...says AWGA

“The announcement by Federal Primary Industry Minister Warren Truss that the Federal Government is to seek options to assist livestock producers from ongoing and potential attack by animal activists is welcomed and timely” says the Australian Wool Growers Association.

Currently the sheep and wool sectors are facing significant pressure from overseas based campaigners against the practices of mulesing and live sheep exports, but the reality is that these campaigns have the potential to spread to other livestock industries as well.

“All farming sectors, especially all livestock producers, sheep, cattle, goats, poultry pigs, etc, should be concerned about the influence that these groups have on the fickle consumer” says AWGA Chairman Chick Olsson. This is not a debate just about practises engaged by woolgrowers... It is about the way in which we care for our livestock”.

All livestock producers could be in the firing line in the future and the announcement by the Federal Government is recognition of this looming threat.

“The Federal Government on behalf of all agricultural industries must back up immediately with significant resources, its intent ” says Chick Olsson.

”To date the wool industry has been funding the defence against this unwarranted campaign, and the AWGA would suggest it is time that the financial responsibility of this significant threat be shared by government and all livestock industries: concludes Mr Olsson.

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