

31 August, 2015

California State Assembly
State of California
State Capitol, Room 4164
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for California Assembly Bill 1188 (Gipson)

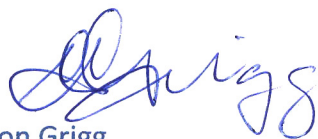
I write with the authority that comes from nearly 45 years direct experience in university based research into the population ecology of kangaroos, 30 of them conducting aerial surveys, and I have written or co-written 29 peer-reviewed research publications on the topic.

All kangaroo harvesting in Australia is carried out under management programmes developed from long running research into kangaroo population ecology by both university and government researchers. Harvest quotas are set annually, based directly on population surveys. Tagging and licensing systems reliably ensure compliance and the requirement for head shooting ensures that animal welfare requirements are met.

The harvested kangaroo species have increased greatly in number as a consequence of control of their natural predators (dingoes) and the installation of many thousands of artificial watering points, both undertaken to benefit sheep and cattle grazing. Commercial harvesting of kangaroos is therefore an important management tool.

After nearly half a century of this scientifically based, 'best practice' management we can be confident that the commercial harvesting of Australia's kangaroos is conducted humanely and sustainably. I urge that the Australia's research and practical efforts to ensure this is so should be recognized and respected.

Thank you for your consideration,



Gordon Grigg
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