

# WILDLIFE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

(ACN 134 808 790)

Formed in 1909 and dedicated to the conservation of Australia's wildlife  
Patron: His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia



31 August 2015

The Honorable Mike A. Gipson  
Member of the Assembly  
State of California  
State Capitol, Room 4164  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Gipson:

I understand you are authoring Assembly Bill 1188 to allow the ongoing sale of Australian products from non-endangered species of kangaroo.

I wish to express our strong support for this initiative and write to give this proposal our every encouragement.

The AWS (Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia Limited) is an independent, voluntary, non-profit wildlife conservation organisation, formed in 1909, and is committed to the preservation of Australia's precious flora and fauna. We act as a watchdog and provide advice to government agencies and institutions regarding environmental and conservation issues concerning all aspects of wildlife preservation. Our Mission is to conserve our unique fauna and flora through education and involvement with the community

Australia has developed a comprehensive and rigorous management program for the four overly-abundant species of kangaroos. This program permits just these four species to be commercially harvested. We believe these management programs represent world best practice and responds to our policy of 'wise use' of an abundant native flora and fauna.

These programs ensure the abundant species of kangaroo populations remain sustainable and that the rangelands environment is not threatened by unregulated kangaroo numbers, which could lead to serious bio-diversity loss and the destruction of much of our local grasslands habitat.

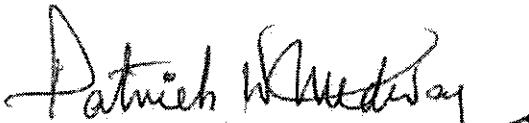
Australia's kangaroo management programs have as their corner-stone humane and sustainable harvesting, whether for commercial or non-commercial purposes. This is a tightly regulated procedure especially with regard to animal welfare. Adherence to The Code of Practice for the Humane Harvesting of Kangaroos is an enforced condition of every kangaroo harvesting license. It details best practices in all aspects of the harvesting process of kangaroos and is rigidly enforced by the Agency responsible. Thus kangaroos, and indeed rangeland environment management as a whole, is dependent on markets for the products from commercially harvested kangaroos. It is on this basis that we support AB 1188 because it aligns with Australian efforts to responsibly manage our wildlife and environment by enabling on-going access for kangaroo products to California.

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Apart from these guidelines the state and federal government routinely review and monitor the numbers harvested each month and our Society sits on this Advisory Panel to review and monitor these processes.

We are grateful that you have introduced this critically important measure and encourage you to communicate our concerns and our urgent request for support to your fellow legislators. With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick W. Medway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Patrick W Medway AM  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

cc: Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins  
Senate President pro Tempore Kevin De Leon  
Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.