PETITION in support of:

Free-range eggs – truth in labelling

To the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly New South Wales Parliament,

This petition of certain citizens of New South Wales brings to the attention of the House the absence of a legislated definition of *Free-Range* eggs sold in NSW. This allows the term 'free-range' to be used as a marketing tool rather than to denote an ethical approach to egg production.

Consumers seeking to avoid participation in unacceptable animal cruelty are being deceived and exploited by some unscrupulous retailers and producers who falsely or misleadingly claim their eggs to be "free-range."

The efforts of genuine free-range egg farmers are being undermined as producers with weak animal welfare standards adopt the term "free-range".

The credibility of current egg labelling systems has been tainted and there is a lack of faith in the industry to serve consumer needs with accurate and transparent egg labelling.

Your petitioners request that the NSW Parliament:

1. Support a legislated definition for free-range eggs that respects the rights of laying hens to live a decent life,
2. Create penalties for the false labelling or advertising of eggs, and
3. Require eggs that do not meet the definition of free-range eggs to be clearly labelled as 'barn eggs' or 'cage eggs'.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE

Please return this form to John Kaye, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie St. Sydney NSW 2000