

TO THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

We the undersigned persons oppose the decision of the Rudd Government to allow the import of beef products from countries that have reported cases of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), or 'mad cow disease', and lack the control and reporting standards of Australia.

We draw attention to the remaining policy of the Australian Red Cross Blood Service (ARCBS) that excludes people from donating blood who have resided in the UK between 1 January 1980 and 31 December 1996 for a total cumulative period of 6 months or more, or have received blood transfusions in the UK since 1 January 1980, and ask why the health of Australians should be put at risk or our local industry damaged were BSE infected meat products to arrive in Australia.

We therefore ask the House to reverse the decision of the Rudd Government and to disallow the import of beef products from countries that have reported cases of BSE.

NAME AND SIGNATURE

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Principal Petitioner

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