

The Kangaroo Protection Act, H.R. 4995

Commercial shooters kill as many as 2 million kangaroos in their native habitats. The kill includes up to 400,000 joeys found in the pouches or at the foot of their slain mothers. The Kangaroo Protection Act, H.R. 4995, seeks to close a massive market that contributes to the world's largest commercial slaughter of mammals in the world.

Australia's Commercial Kangaroo Kill Is Inhumane at Its Core

- Australia's Commercial Code calls for joeys – up to 400,000 – found in pouch to be killed by blunt force trauma to the head, typically done by smashing the young animal's head into a truck bumper.
- One study found as many as 40% of kangaroos were “mis-shot” and wounded. There is no monitoring of the commercial slaughter.
- Australia's animal welfare groups oppose the commercial kill.

Kangaroos Are Native Wildlife, Uniquely Adapted to Australia's Arid Landscapes

- Kangaroos have lived on the Australian continent for 15 million years and are specially adapted to its arid landscapes.
- Claims about adverse impacts on domesticated animals and the environment are grossly exaggerated. A kangaroo drinks one seventh of the water of a sheep and eats only 1/60 as much as a cow.

We Should Act

The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation does not allow mass killing of wildlife in their native habitats for sale of their parts in global commerce. The U.S. should not contribute to this commercial slaughter through domestic sales of kangaroo parts.

The kangaroo kill is 10 times larger than the notorious Canadian seal hunt. The U.S. bans imports of seal pelts, and, for reasons related to cruelty to animals, we don't allow trade in harpooned whales killed by Norwegian vessels or slain dolphins rounded up in Japan's drive fisheries. The same standards should apply to the slaughter of kangaroos in their native habitats.

Australia can manage kangaroos as it wishes, but the United States should not inadvertently finance kangaroo slaughter through trade.



Major Athletic Shoe Brands Stop Sourcing Kangaroo Skins

- Responding to pressure from the Center for a Humane Economy's “Kangaroos Are Not Shoes” campaign, Puma, Nike, Diadora, and New Balance – four of the five top brands in the athletic shoe sector – have announced policies halting any sourcing of kangaroo skins.
- Sokito, a major new brand based in the United Kingdom, also announced it will stop sourcing kangaroo skins in April 2024. Adidas is the biggest hold-out, but Mizuno also continues to finance the slaughter of kangaroos through their purchasing practices.