

Kangaroo Protection Act

H.R. 1992

In Australia, commercial industry shooters kill over 1.3 million kangaroos in their native habitats. An additional 400,000 joeys, collateral of their slain mothers die from blunt force trauma, starvation, or predation after being orphaned. The Kangaroo Protection Act seeks to close the massive market that contributes to the largest commercial slaughter of wild, land-based mammals in the world.

Australia's Commercial Kangaroo Kill Is Inhumane at Its Core

- Australia's Commercial Code calls for joeys found in their mother's pouches 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 "misshot" 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 farm 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.

Major Athletic Shoe Brands Cease Sourcing Kangaroo Skins

- Responding to pressure from the Center for a Humane Economy's "Kangaroos Are Not Shoes" campaign, major athletic footwear brands — Puma, Nike, Diadora, New Balance, and Sokito —



announced policies halting the sourcing of kangaroo skins.

- In May 2025, Adidas and ASICS confirmed they will end the use of kangaroo leather in their athletic footwear.
- Also in May, Mizuno Corporation pledged to phase out kangaroo leather from its shoe production lines. With Mizuno's commitment, the top seven athletic shoe brands globally have pledged to eliminate the use of kangaroo leather, marking a significant shift in the industry's approach to ethical sourcing and animal welfare.

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.

Australia's kangaroo kill is 10 times larger than the notorious Canadian seal hunt. The U.S. bans the imports of seal pelts, and for reasons related to cruelty to animals, it doesn'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.