

From: Joan Gray
Sent: Monday 18th May 2015
To: Economics, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Food Certifications

Dear Senator

I am very angry that I have to purchase goods and food that are Halal Certified. I am not a Muslim and take offence that we who are not have to purchase Halal Certified products. For 12 to 18% of our Australian population why do we have to cover the cost of Halal Certification?

I had been purchasing Vegemite all my life, as did my parents and this Halal Certification has stopped that now. That is just one of hundreds of products that we purchase that are affected. How come this Certification only came in to being in the 80's and now we Australians have to pay for it? I am sure the Muslim population ate prior to this and used goods and food that were not Halal Certified.

This is getting out of control and I am glad that the Government are now looking at it and I hope they are looking at it seriously. It is a scam and I have seen some members of the Muslim faith say so themselves. It is bullying and against our laws.

As for the so called export reason for Halal Certification, what happened prior to the bringing in of the Certification? They still purchased goods and food from other countries. Surely they know what they can and cannot eat. We are Australian and if they want our produce good, but not at the expense of our growers and producers who have to follow these strict and ridiculous rules. If you really looked into it you would find out that they only follow their own rules when the inspectors are coming to see them.

Thank you for looking into this.
Regards
Joan Gray