



California Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
<http://www.wildlife.ca.gov>
Law Enforcement Division
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, California 94244-2090
(916) 653-4094

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



September 18, 2020

[Recipient Contact Information]

Re: Penal Code Section 653o and Commercialization of Kangaroo Parts/Products

Dear Retailer:

I am writing to remind you of the existence of California Penal Code section 653o. This law makes it unlawful to "import into this state for commercial purposes, to possess with intent to sell, or to sell within the state, the dead body, or a part or product thereof, of kangaroo."

The law can be found and reviewed at:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=PEN§ionNum=653o

This is a criminal statute, and violations are punished as misdemeanors. You should be aware that this Penal Code section may be enforced by any law enforcement agency, and not just the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Because Penal Code section 653o prohibits importation into this state for commercial purposes, possession with intent to sell, and selling within the state any parts or products of kangaroo, please consider whether these prohibitions might apply to your business.

Thank you for your time and compliance.

Sincerely,

Chief David Bess
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement Division

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870