From:

Agriculture and Environment Committee

Subject: Submission on Queensland"s puppy protection Bill

Date: Monday, 7 March 2016 4:20:13 PM

While some of the proposed changes are very welcome, the proposed legislation falls well short of what is really needed to protect these animals. Standards and guidelines must include:

- 1 Mandatory regular health checks for breeding dogs and for all puppies before sale;
- 2 Capping litter numbers per breeding female to a maximum of 3;
- 3 Mandatory desexing for puppies sold and retired breeding dogs, as well as a rehoming program;
- 4 Adequate housing/space, exercise and enrichment allowing for normal behaviours, as well as regular human contact;
- 5 Mandatory record keeping; and capping total number of breeding dogs on any property to a maximum of 10.
- 6 The legislation should cover all dogs (no exemptions for working dogs, for example).
- 7 Anyone guilty of animal welfare offences, including having unregistered breeding animals, should have their permit revoked (including the associated property), strong financial penalty to act as deterant, and animals seized.
- 8 Additional resources need to be made available to the RSPCA Qld or/and Queensland Police to investigate and enforce these animal welfare laws.
- 9 The sale of pets in pet shops should be banned (unless sourced from reputable shelters/rescue groups)

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