

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Submission - Animal Management (Protecting Puppies) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Monday, 7 March 2016 6:38:43 PM

I wish to lodge a submission in connection with the *Animal Management (Protecting Puppies) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016*.

I have been an honorary professional with the peak animal welfare organization in Queensland for the last fifteen years; for five years I also worked with cruelty case dogs including those from puppy farms. In 2014, I completed Animal Welfare and Behaviour Studies at the University of Edinburgh (Coursera).

While the government is to be commended in attempting to combat the trade in misery that is puppy farming, unfortunately the bill as it stands does little in this regard.

I ask you to consider seriously the legislation recently introduced in Victoria, which had serious intent to stop puppy farming, and had wide-ranging effective legislation.

Based on my animal welfare experience, I appeal to you to include the following in the Queensland legislation:

1. A Breeder Code of Practice, which must include mandatory standards for physical, mental and social health, mandatory vet checks, capping the number of litters per dog to three (3), minimum housing, feeding, exercising, prohibition of cruel breeding practices, e.g. rape stands, in-breeding, etc., mandatory de-sexing of progeny, re-homing of breeder stock when of no further use, and mandatory record keeping.
2. The legislation and code must apply to ALL breeders of ALL dogs and ALL breeders of ALL cats. Membership of a breeder organization must not grant exemption or dilution from any conditions of the legislation or code
3. Sufficient resources for effective compliance checking of ALL breeders, and where necessary prosecution must be provided as well as sufficient resources for the care and re-homing of seized animals..
4. Appropriate penalties in the legislation for non-compliance of provisions of the legislation or code, e.g. breeder permit revoked, appropriate financial deterrent and seizure of animals
5. Corresponding changes to local government permits and regulations, e.g. limiting number of breeder dogs on any property to ten (10), compliance checks on all breeder facilities before issuing permits and during permit currency
6. The transition of pet-shop sales of animals away from those obtained from breeders to those from responsible rescue organisations. And also the prohibition of sale of animals on-line.

Please consider these recommendations and also the Victorian puppy farm model in order to provide Queensland legislation which has the potential to effectively combat puppy farms.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Graham Carter

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