

From: [REDACTED]
 To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
 Subject: KEY ISSUES ABSENT FROM THE CURRENT AMENDMENTS
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KEY ISSUES ABSENT FROM THE CURRENT AMENDMENTS

I cut and paste the key amendments as these animal welfare organisations know exactly what needs to be done to protect animals from this vile industry what is the point of doing half measures when spending tax payers money to amend a bill why do we have to do your work for you, why do you make it easy for these people to exploit animals and let them suffer, why do you ask the key agencies to comment on your proposed changes when you don't take these comments on board and legislate to effectively STOP ANIMAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE AND NEGLECT AND SUFFERING it is unconscionable to make it easy for this industry to escape punishment for animal abuseit is about time YOU listen to the experts telling you what has to be done not a watered down ineffective waste of our time and energy every investigation by animal welfare organisations costs money, time and effort where they could spend this time caring for animals using donations from the public for veterinary care for animals instead they are using these resources to prove the current law is ineffective the **RSPCA** and other animal welfare organisations waste valuable resources going to courts and the perpetrators get off with a slap because the laws are useless unless they address the issues of this **incidious** trade.

It is bad enough we have Barnaby Joyce watering down **ESCAS** to the Middle East we don't need to water down laws to protect defenseless animals we need to make it harder for offenders what about loop holes in the greyhound industry that allows these dogs to be sent to china where they are living in terrible conditions and then killed if Animal welfare agencies didn't bring this to the attention of Australians these animals would still be left at the mercy of people who have no animal welfare laws at all.

Victoria is leading the fight thanks to the tireless efforts of [Oscar's Law](#) and has made major changes to legislation that will effectively [end puppy farm cruelty](#) there. Why don't you take a leaf out of their cap and do the same.

1. A puppy farm stand alone code of practice/ standards - to ensure comprehensive standards are upheld for animal welfare it must include:

Maintaining physical health via nutrition, access to water and food and vet checks, and **mental and social health** via enrichment, positive human contact, exercise, capping litter and animal numbers, housing and allowance of the ability to display normal behaviours.

Provision for **mandatory vet checks** prior to breeding, after each litter, yearly for males and after their litter cap is reached. It should also mandate checks prior to sale of puppies.

It is **imperative** to both physical and mental health to establish **breeding rules** that would including the ban of inbreeding (**ie** no breeding siblings/ with parents etc).

Capping of litter numbers to 3 litters per breeding female in their lifetime, and introducing **mandatory desexing**, vet checks and **rehoming plans** on retirement. Fraser Coast has been the first council in **Qld** to **implement changes regarding desexing**, and we urge all councils to follow suit.

Mandatory record keeping of all information pertaining to every dog must be kept.

Establishing breeding rules that would including the **ban of inbreeding** (ie. no breeding siblings, with parents, etc.) is **imperitive** to both physical and mental health of dogs.

2. Widening/ changing council rules and responsibilities

Capping numbers of breeding females per breeder - bring in new legislation to only allow council permits to 10 females for all breeders, whether Government ID or Dogs **Qld** entity registration to ensure standards are upheld.

Compliance checks - of all breeding facilities before ID numbers are approved, with random annual compliance checks made to be paid for by application fees.

Proven compliance to standards - All breeders must abide by the introduced legislative changes and standards of practice; those already belonging to a breeder association should not be exempt, and proof of **pre** and annual compliance checks of standards, in line with the government standards, must be obtained. Any found illegally housing more animals than permitted, should immediately have them seized by the **RSPCA**, and given directives on welfare standards and fines issues.

Indefinite ID cancellation if found guilty of any animal cruelty and all animals seized - any person under suspicion of animal cruelty is to have their ID suspended, their animals seized, and removed indefinitely if found guilty. They then must have their permit and ID cancelled indefinitely to both their person, and property associated with where the cruelty occurred.

3. More funds directed to aid work of RSPCA

Education scheme - ensure public knowledge of the public registry system of ID numbers, and to ask to visit the premises, never at a different meeting point, so as to view the parents first hand, the conditions their potential puppy lived in and where to make complaints when suspicious.

Extending the reach of the RSPCA or task force, and allow employment of more officers, to aid complaint handling, and investigations.

Help house seized animals - pounds and shelters are at capacity a lot of the time, that makes the homing of surrenders or seized animals difficult. Use of funds directed at implementing help from private kennels and rescues for potential increased seizure of animals, would be a necessity in this amendment.

4. Banning the sale of all animals in pet stores, unless supplied from a registered charity or rescue

This would effectively change pet stores into adoption centres, thus helping to minimise the

exhaustive numbers through shelters and pounds, and aid in minimising euthanasia rates across the state. This change has occurred overseas, ([Las Vegas](#) very recently changed these laws) and also in [Victoria](#). With optimal laws in place, an issue of increased number of animals seized could put an exhaustive load on pounds and shelters as mentioned above. Making pet shops new "adoption centres" would help to house rescued animals.

This would also limit the necessity to rely on pet shops "here-say" information on standards at a breeders business, and allowing only reputable rescues and shelters would offer more safety to consumers and animals alike. More social, healthy puppies with happier owners means less end up in pounds and shelters!

Regards Hazel foote

Prestons NSW