From:

Agriculture and Environment Committee

To: Submission on Puppy Protection Bill Subject: Date: Tuesday, 8 March 2016 1:11:27 AM

Dear Sir/Madam.

I am writing to request stronger reform in regard to changes to the Puppy Protection Bill. The changes I believe need to include the following points;

Standards and guidelines should be met by all breeders and include mandatory health checks on all dogs and puppies. Pregnancies for breeding dogs to be limited to three, desexing of all puppies sold and for retired breeding females, and a rehoming program. Dogs should have adequate housing, space to exercise and enrichment to allow normal dog behaviour, regular human, caring contact, mandatory record keeping and a capped number of breeding dogs to 10 on any one property.

Legislation needs to cover all dogs with no exceptions.

Anyone found guilty of welfare offences including unregistered breeding animals to have their permit revoked including the associated property, strong financial penalty and animals seized.

Additional resources be provided to RSPCA and police to investigate and enforce animal laws.

Sale of pets in pet shops to be banned unless sourced from a shelter or rescue group.

New laws to be well advertised so owners of pets having unwanted puppies are made aware shelters can find homes for those unwanted puppies. The mothers of the puppies then to be subject to mandatory desexing.

If you have ever bought a puppy from a pet shop ignorant of the fate of the parent, or have ever loved a dog, please consider that these changes have to be in place to protect our friends who cannot protect themselves. These friends provide unconditional love to us, and these laws are the least we can do for them in return.

Thank you for your time.

Monica Hanson

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