

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: puppy farming bill input - comment due 9th March
Date: Wednesday, 9 March 2016 11:59:03 AM

To whom it might concern,
Comments regarding input to puppy farming amendments

Under 43EZ- exceptions for supply of a dog- c- the dog is supplied to a pound or shelter, this would appear to encourage all puppies in a litter resulting from inadvertent matings to be surrendered to a shelter rather than the bitch's owner taking responsibility to find homes for all or some of them. This would potentially substantially increase the intake of puppies in to shelters and pounds. Based on an assumption of an average litter size of 6 puppies and the assumption that normally the owner found homes for two puppies and surrendered the rest, but with this legislation they surrendered all 6, then it could increase intake of puppies by 50%. Puppies < 6 mths of age comprise 26% of intake into RSPCA in 2014, so a 50% increase is significant.

It might also be interpreted that puppies have to be surrendered by before 28 days. At this age they require a lot more care, are more prone to disease and at high risk of euthanasia. Puppies typically have high rehoming rates, and therefore encouraging surrender of marginally viable puppies needs to be reviewed on welfare grounds.

What if the owner does not intend to sell or give away any of the puppies? Are they required to register as breeder? This is not clear from the reading of the bill amendments

What is the cost of registration? Do shelters and pounds have pay the cost of registration? This could be very expensive for shelters taking in surrendered puppies and dogs.

Kind regards,

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