From:

To:

Agriculture and Environment Committee

Subject: Submission for The protection of dogs and puppies in Queensland

Date: Monday, 7 March 2016 3:12:56 PM

I write to you to please consider my submission regarding the protection, care, and treatment of dogs and puppies on 'puppy farms'.

- 1. I'm a Victorian and aware of the disgraceful conditions that some of our dogs in Victoria in particular, and their puppies are held and treated. There are a sufficient number of investigations and pictures to show the conditions in which these animals are housed. Basically, the conditions and care are abysmal and filthy. One must remember that these dogs and their puppies are produced for one reason only: for the Manager to make money. I have personally seen the shocking condition in which some mothers have been rescued: their teats were, in some cases, touching the ground through overbreeding.
- 2. I urge the authorities who have the power to do something about these animals to consider mandatory health checks, checks on the dogs' environment, mandatory kind and compassionate human contact, a limit on the number of pregnancies the dogs can have, mandatory desexing of puppies, and most important, the monitoring of 'puppy farms' by animal welfare authorities to see that these conditions are respected and maintained.
- 3. Resources need to be made available to inspectors from all animal welfare organisations to ensure adequate monitoring of the 'puppy farms'.
- 4. I would urge the Queensland government to forbid the selling of animals, especially from the 'puppy farms' in pet shops.
- 5. I would urge the Queensland government to foster the attitude in its residents of adopting pets from reputable animal welfare organisations there are hundreds of pets available for adoption either adults who can be given a second chance or puppies retrieved from 'puppy farms'.
- 6. I believe that the managers of 'puppy farms' are not interested in maintaining the 'purity' of breed of the dogs and puppies; they are simply in it to make money.
- 7. Any individuals breeding animals or performing any acts of cruelty should be severely and harshly dealt with.
- 8. It should be mandatory for any person (irrespective of age) found guilty of ill-treating or harming an animal to undergo a program to inform them about the nature of animals; that animals are sentient beings, capable of many emotions.
- 9. Finally, I humbly leave you with this thought by Milan Kundera:

Mankind's true moral test, its fundamental test ... consists of its attitude towards those who are at its mercy: ANIMALS

In good faith always, respectfully, Dr Zevia Schneider Malvern East

VIC 3145