From:
To: Agriculture and Environment Committee
Subject: Submission on Puppy Protection Bill
Date: Monday, 7 March 2016 9:47:22 PM

I have spent many years rescuing dogs out of the local pound. I have seen many healthy dogs and puppies killed even whilst they are wagging their tail.

I have also seen many dogs and even puppies end up in the pound after being sold at local pet shops or online. I also have experience rescuing dogs from horrendous puppy farms. These vile places are often providing sub standard living conditions and no exercise, stimulation or socialization for the dogs. There are often physical health problems from poor breeding and almost always behavioural problems due to lack of socialization. And this all has a huge cost in time and money to rescue organizations. And for every dog born another poor soul gets to die at the local pound. Personally I think all breeding should stop until there are no healthy dogs being killed in pounds and shelters.

Standards and guidelines for puppy breeding facilities must include: mandatory regular health checks for breeding dogs and all puppies before they are sold.

A breeding female should not have any more than 3 litters.

All puppies sold must be desexed. All retired breeding dogs must be desexed.

A rehoming program should be in place to rehome the retired breeding dogs.

Each dog should have adequate space, clean water, clean dry bedding. A solid floor to their kennel, daily and adequate exercise, daily socialization with humans and enrichment to allow for normal dog behaviour.

There should be no more than 10 breeding dogs per property.

Mandatory record keeping of all litters, health checks etc. And proof that no inbreeding has taken place.

The legislation should cover all dogs (no exemptions for working dogs, for example). My local pound is full of working dogs.

Anyone guilty of animal welfare offences, including having unregistered breeding animals, should have their permit revoked (including the associated property), and there should be a strong financial penalty to act as a deterant, and all animals seized.

There should be compliance checks of all properties before a breeding permit is issued and random checks of these facilities funded by the breeding permit fees.

There should be mandatory vet checks prior to breeding and after each litter. Annual vet checks for males and mandatory vet checks of puppies before they are sold.

Additional resources need to be made available to the RSPCA Qld and/ or Queensland Police to investigate and enforce these animal welfare laws.

The sale of pets in pet shops should be banned (unless sourced from reputable shelters/rescue groups).

Thankyou

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