



9th March 2016

[REDACTED] Fortitude Valley
Queensland 4006 Australia

In reply please quote

Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
Brisbane Qld 4000

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Fortitude Valley Qld 4006

Via Email: aec@parliament.qld.gov.au

Subject: Animal Management (Protecting Puppies) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

I refer to the Animal Management (Protecting Puppies) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 and would like to extend to you the thanks of all Dogs Queensland Members for allowing us to be part of the consultative process.

We do take our position as a key industry stakeholder very seriously and to that end acknowledge the guidance and support of Biosecurity Queensland and senior policy advisors within the Department of Agriculture & Fisheries.

I would particularly like to thank;

Mr Ashley Bunce (Director, Animal Biosecurity and Welfare & Chief Inspector of Stock, Biosecurity Qld)
Mr Greg McDougall (Senior Policy Officer, Animal Biosecurity and Welfare, Biosecurity Queensland) and
Mr Ian Rodger (Regional Project Officer, Animal Biosecurity and Welfare, Biosecurity Queensland)

These gentlemen have regularly made their time freely available – most recently being a meeting with Dogs Queensland representatives on 7th March, which once again allowed our organisation to contribute in a meaningful way to the consultative process.

Dogs Queensland would like to congratulate the State Government for their proactive approach in terms of the management of dog welfare and for recognising Dogs Queensland as an approved entity prescribed in the regulations in Section 43W within the proposed Legislation.

As a general principle, Dogs Queensland supports the proposed Legislation in respect of better managing unscrupulous Puppy Farms and on that basis would support the need to provide the information as described within Section 43W Section (1) and (2).

However, our initial suggestion for the scheme was that it not be applied to any owner with less than 20 dogs. We still consider this to be a fair and reasonable position bearing in mind the vast majority of our member breeders and their breeding programs.

We must also insist that an alteration within the proposed Legislation is made to reflect our preferred position in regards to Section 43A of the Legislation.

The “designated details” as prescribed in that section of the proposed Legislation appears below;

designated details, of a person, means the following details-

- (a) the person's name;*
- (b) the address of—*
 - (i) if the person is an individual—the person's place of residence; or*
 - (ii) if the person is a body corporate—the body corporate's place of business, head office or registered office;*
- (c) the local government area in which—*
 - (i) if the person is an individual—the person's place of residence is located; or*
 - (ii) if the person is a body corporate—the body corporate's place of business, head office or registered office is located;*
- (d) the person's telephone number;*
- (e) the person's email address.*

In consideration of those “designated details” listed above, we find that we must insist as a protection for our members and their highly valuable pedigreed dogs that point (b), be altered to reflect that the designated address of all of our member breeders be accepted as being ‘care of’ the Dogs Queensland postal address in Fortitude Valley, Queensland.

As agreed at the meeting of 7th March 2016 with Biosecurity Queensland representatives, we will provide the details of the Local Government Authority applicable to the place of residence of each of our member breeders.

In addition, we will provide the unique Dogs Queensland “breeder prefix” together with the Dogs Queensland membership number for each of our member breeders whose details will eventually appear on a State Government maintained breeder registry.

As the peak industry body for all canine affairs in this State, Dogs Queensland prides itself on the self governance of its Members, we are not prepared to step away from this position of authority, a position that has taken us nearly 70 years to build and develop.

We feel that this compromise would be very well supported by our 7,000 strong Membership and that making just that one alteration would not weaken the intent or the impetus of the proposed Legislation.

We would be more than happy to discuss our proposed alteration in greater detail with members of the Agriculture and Environment Committee.

It is incumbent upon us as a fully affiliated State Controlling Body of the Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC) to protect and safeguard at all times the well being of the highly valued pedigreed dogs owned by our responsible members.

To require that we provide a street address and to then make that information available to all via an easily accessible website is very high risk – put quite simply it is a risk that we are not prepared to take.

In closing, we are confident that you will appreciate the value in this alternative suggestion and that once accepted we can continue to support the objects and purposes of the proposed Legislation as a bona fide “accredited entity”.

Yours faithfully


J R Harrison
GENERAL MANAGER