

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission - Animal Management (Protecting Puppies) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016  
**Date:** Wednesday, 9 March 2016 9:36:25 PM

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I wish to lodge a submission in connection with the *Animal Management (Protecting Puppies) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016*.

About 10 years ago, I visited a pet shop in my local area to buy gold fish. During my visit, I noticed a small fluffy puppy in a glass cage. It was love at first sight and I bought him, there and then. It was an impulse buy. I took him home and called him Monty. He was the love of my life. I knew nothing of puppy farms then and was oblivious to the horrors that surrounded them. We had a name of the breeder on a form that came with him. They asked for a photo to be sent to see how he was going. All very nice, giving the impression that they were a reputable breeder. It was only when Monty went suddenly blind and became very sick with Cushing's that I decided to research the breeder. It turned out they were a puppy farm and had court action to close them down. The judge said because it was their livelihood, they would reduce the fine and allow them to keep two dogs. Monty continued to get worse and then contracted diabetes and finally kidney failure. The vet said his immune system had failed and that puppies in these farms do not get the care needed in the early weeks to support their immune system. Their parents are malnourished and kept in squalor. It is cruel and barbaric. These puppy farms need to be shut down. We do not need any more puppies for sale. People who want a dog need to rescue the ones from shelters and rescue organisations.

I ask you to consider seriously the legislation recently introduced in Victoria, which had serious intent to stop puppy farming, and had wide-ranging effective legislation. I appeal to you to include the following in the Queensland legislation:

1. A Breeder Code of Practice, which must include mandatory standards for physical, mental and social health, mandatory vet checks, capping the number of litters per dog to three (3), minimum housing, feeding, exercising, prohibition of cruel breeding practices, e.g. so called "rape stands", in-breeding, etc., mandatory de-sexing of progeny, re-homing of breeder stock when of no further use, and mandatory record keeping.
2. The legislation and code must apply to ALL breeders of ALL dogs and ALL breeders of ALL cats. Membership of a breeder organization must not grant exemption or dilution from any conditions of the legislation or code.
3. Sufficient resources for effective compliance checking of ALL breeders, and where necessary prosecution must be provided as well as sufficient resources for the care and re-homing of seized animals.

4. Appropriate penalties in the legislation for non-compliance of provisions of the legislation or code, e.g. breeder permit revoked, appropriate financial deterrent and seizure of animals.

5. Corresponding changes to local government permits and regulations, e.g. limiting number of breeder dogs on any property to ten (10), compliance checks on all breeder facilities before issuing permits and during permit currency.

6. The transition of pet-shop sales of animals away from those obtained from breeders to those from responsible rescue organisations. And also the prohibition of sale of animals on-line.

Please consider these recommendations and also the Victorian puppy farm model in order to provide Queensland legislation which has the potential to effectively combat puppy farms.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Christine Sloman.

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