

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission - Animal Management (Protecting Puppies) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016  
**Date:** Wednesday, 9 March 2016 10:18:26 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*.

I am writing to express my overwhelming support for the below amendments to bring an end to the inhumane practices involved with puppy farms. I have experienced firsthand the devastating effects imposed on dogs born in a puppy factory. Unbeknown to me, and masked by the loving nature of the pet shop staff, I purchased a puppy born in a puppy factory. Throughout his life, he was fraught with illness which not only did I have to see him suffer, but incurred significant vet costs. I then started to research why these illnesses could have occurred, and was surprised to hear from several veterinarians that the appalling conditions of puppy factories have a significant and detrimental effect of the development of the dog's immune system, which often results in a variety of medical issues. In recent years I have been involved with a number of rescue organisations, which all too sadly are flooded with dogs who have been surrendered due to medical issues that the owners are either unable or unwilling to spend money on vet fees. This is the same across both rescue organisations and council funded pounds alike. I feel that the puppy factories are the originators of vicious cycle, ultimately placing the moral and financial burden on rescue shelters and council funded pounds. So we ALL end up paying the 'price' so these businesses can maximise their profits at the expense of animals suffering. This is simply not good enough!

I make a passionate plea for you to carefully consider 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.

Christopher Sloman.

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*Christopher Sloman*

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