

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Submission on Puppy Protection Bill
Date: Tuesday, 8 March 2016 8:50:16 AM

Whilst I applaud the Qld government for introducing a new bill claimed to end unethical puppy factories, it falls short in some areas. There must also be comprehensive standards for animal welfare which must include.

Maintaining physical health via nutrition, access to water and food and vet checks.

Mental and social health via enrichment, positive human contact, exercise, capping litter & animal numbers, housing & allowance of the ability to display normal behaviours.

Mandatory vet checks prior to breeding, after each litter, yearly for males & after their litter cap is reached. It should also mandate checks prior to sale of puppies.

Breeding rules that would including the ban of inbreeding (ie no breeding siblings/ with parents etc).

Capping of litter numbers to 3 litters per breeding female in their lifetime, and introducing **mandatory desexing**, vet checks and **rehoming plans** on retirement. Fraser Coast has been the first council in Qld to implement changes regarding desexing and we urge all councils to follow suit.

Mandatory record keeping of all information pertaining to every dog must be kept.

Establishing breeding rules that would including the **ban of inbreeding** (ie. no breeding siblings, with parents, etc.) is imperative to both physical and mental health of dogs.

Widening/ changing council rules and responsibilities

Capping numbers of breeding females per breeder - bring in new legislation to only allow council permits to 10 females for all breeders

Compliance checks - of all breeding facilities before ID numbers are approved, with random annual compliance checks made to be paid for by application fees.

Proven compliance to standards - All breeders must abide by the introduced legislative changes and standards of practice; those already belonging to a breeder association should not be exempt, and proof of pre and annual compliance checks of standards, in line with the government standards, must be obtained. Any found illegally housing more animals than permitted, should immediately have them seized by the RSPCA, and given directives on welfare standards and fines issues.

Indefinite ID cancelation if found guilty of any animal cruelty and all animals seized - any person under suspicion of animal cruelty is to have their ID suspended, their animals seized, and removed indefinitely if found guilty. They then must have their permit and ID cancelled indefinitely to both their person, and property associated with where the cruelty occurred.

More funds directed to aid work of RSPCA

Education scheme - ensure public knowledge of the public registry system of ID numbers, and to ask to visit the premises, never at a different meeting point, so as to view the parents first hand, the conditions their potential puppy lived in and where to make complaints when suspicious.

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

Help house seized animals - pounds and shelters are at capacity a lot of the time, that makes the homing of surrenders or seized animals difficult. Use of funds directed at implementing help from private kennels and rescues for potential increased seizure of animals, would be a necessity in this amendment.

Banning the sale of all animals in pet stores, unless supplied from a registered charity or rescue as has occurred in Victoria & overseas.

The legislation should cover all dogs (no exemptions for working dogs, for example).

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

In our "so called" civilised western society in 2012 it sickens & disgusts me that dogs are still being kept in puppy farms/breeding mills in appalling conditions, for the sake of \$\$\$\$\$. Please carefully consider the above standards because a dog is not just an animal. It feels, fear, pain & discomfort like any human & all it wants & needs is to be a loyal loving companion. I am not a member of any organisation just a member of the public who is concerned & appalled by the many animal atrocities in place today (Live Export, Factory Farming etc)

I sincerely thank you if you have taken the time to read this email to the end & hope that some careful consideration will be given to the points outlined.

Thanks & Regards
Dianne Douglass.
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