

Inquiry into the Animal Care and Protection Amendment Bill 2022

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- Consider making clipping bird wings illegal except in cases where medically required. There is an enormous amount of evidence and research proving that clipping bird wings is a cruel practice, both physically and mentally. A birds respiratory system relies on flight, a birds fitness relies on flight and a birds mental health relies on the ability to exercise and escape from household and/or wild predators. By clipping a birds wings you're taking away their only natural form of self defence, causing them to be submissive towards their owners and increasing the chance of injury due to falling, dog/cat attack and even self harm from frustration. Some countries have already made this illegal, it is time Queensland moves forward and does the same thing. There are many suitable alternatives such as free flight and indoor recall training, simply being aware of a pet birds environment and decreasing risk of injury by turning off fans, covering hot stoves, ensuring doors and windows are closed when a bird is out. In addition, clipped birds who escape are much more likely to be attacked by a predator and be unable to be retrieved, whereas a fully flighted bird will be able to evade and escape a predator and even potentially bring themselves home. Further information on this topic is available on websites such as <https://parrotvolancy.com/> with evidence based analysis on pro's and cons from a professional free flight trainer. Those are not confident to have an unclipped bird (except in medical cases) should consider an animal that does not have to fly. - Cats. Increase penalties for allowing pet cats to roam and decrease normalising this. Encourage owners to get outdoor cat runs for outdoor time. Educate owners on the risk to their beloved pet (theft, injury, attack, hit by car) as most believe cats have a right to hunt and do not care about native wildlife. Educate owners on how a cat can live a completely stimulating life indoors with an outdoor catio if done properly. - Inquiry into Greencross group. Focusing on their vet practices. I've worked in the industry for a very long time and for a while I was working beside a Greencross vet. I'd have customers bring animals in regularly for their checkups each week and give me updates on their progress, usually it was "they're not sure but they're doing more tests" or "they're not sure but we're trying a new medication" - this is a cycle that would repeat for over two years whilst the animals condition continued to decline until eventually it was recommended that they get put to sleep. It broke my heart seeing so many regular customers on this position and unable to do anything about it or say anything, as I didn't want to get involved. Greencross is sadly what happens when you take the love and care out of vet care and turn it into a corporate business, including Pet Barn which is part of the Greencross group. - Inquiry into RSPCA, I cannot say this enough! This group whilst historically has provided great protection for animals, is way too self interested and sure of their trusted position to actually focus on the animals needs nowadays. Unfortunately have so many people who have had some terrible experiences, from having high value animals confiscated for no reason and resold for solely profit (upwards of \$4000, despite getting them for free just like any other dog) to found birds being kept and resold before owners could claim, also for high prices such as \$2500, for a bird with known behavioural issues and health problems as confirmed by owners. This company is not a charity and needs to be seriously looked into. There are many more reputable small local independent charities who are way more trustworthy. RSPCA needs less power and influence over rules and regulations, and way less power to take animals without proof. In the end, some of the Corgis were returned to my friend, however not after being desexed - many had unfortunately already been rehomed.. Allow rabbits to be kept as pets provided that they are desexed or bred by licensed individuals. There is already an excess of rabbits and hares in this state, and many many people keep them as a pet illegally the stats cannot be ignored. A domestic, bright white, dwarf rabbit will not last long in the wild and poses no threat to

agriculture. Cats are a significantly bigger pest to our ecosystem and they are widely kept and even allowed to roam. By making rabbits illegal to keep, you make it nearly impossible to people to have their rabbit seen by a vet which is neglect if they are genuinely suffering, although various vets will still see rabbits and even ferrets. Allow Queenslanders to practice falconry recreationally and keep falcons- especially if for the purpose of hunting non native pest animals. Just have stricter requirements on how they should be kept (flight aviary, no clipped wings, must be flown to keep their mind active) - this is a great sport and birds could be trained to hunt pigeons, mynah birds, wild rabbits and in some cases feral cats. Recommendations; - Introduce penalties for clipping bird wings, and offer alternatives. Offer incentives for experienced individuals to provide paid training services to increase pet bird safety and satisfaction. - Increase penalties for roaming cats and irresponsible cat ownership, including the risk of having their cat rehomed after a second offence of roaming. Increase fines as well.. - Look into Greencross and their practises.. including Petbarn as well. You'll find various customers with bad experiences at this vet. - Look into RSPCA and introduce some kind of accountability for them and less protection as an untouchable animal rescue. Establish a state run not for profit animal protection service which is not self interested. If keeping the RSPCA, introduce limits as to what siezed and found animals can be rehomed for, and enforce times which found animals must be held for. Text ran out at this point. Contact if needed.