

## Inquiry into the Animal Care and Protection Amendment Bill 2022

**Submission No:** 1388  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Make my submission public but keep my name confidential  
**Attachments:** See attachment  
**Submitter Comments:**

31/06/2022

State Development and Regional Industries Committee

Dear Parliamentary Committee,

**Submission on proposed amendments to the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the proposed amendments.

I am writing to you in relation to the proposed amendments to the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001.

My name is [REDACTED] and I am the owner of a beautiful Border Collie dog name [REDACTED], husband of rescue dog foster carer and a concerned citizen who is every day surrounded by dogs that need our help.

As a key community stakeholder, I noted that the process that was undertaken by the Queensland Government in developing the proposed amendments to the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001, did not allow an adequate or thorough consultation process to be carried out.

**SUBJECT MATTER**

I refer to the "REVIEW OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND PROTECTION ACT 2001 CONSULTATION OUTCOMES REPORT", prepared by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and published in October 2021.

I refer to page 37 of the report, section titled "Relevant E-Petitions". It is acknowledged that "there were six animal welfare related e-petitions that were tabled in the Legislative Assembly during the consultation period. Issues raised in these e-petitions (listed below) are also being considered as part of the ACPA review process".

Of these six petitions, the relevant subject matter of three of these petitions was also included as part of the initial discussion paper; as such, stakeholders and the community were provided the opportunity to give feedback on these matters. I have included the 3 relevant petitions below:

- Make suitable shelter mandatory for all farmed animals (Petition no. 3499-21)
- Tethering of dogs must be prohibited (Petition no. 3501-21)
- Continue the use of all methods, including dogs, to control feral pigs (Petition no. 3515-21)

There remains three relevant e-petitions, for which there was no correlating subject matter in the initial discussion paper:

- Ban the use of shock collars on dogs (Petition no. 3526-21)

- Illegal to import - Prohibit the use of prong collars in Queensland (Petition no. 3530-21)
- Prohibit the use of choke collars in Queensland (Petition no. 3531-21)

## STAKEHOLDER CONCERNS

These three petitions were made to the Hon. Mark Furner, with closing dates in May 2021 and a response due date in June 2021. I would like to point out that since the closing of these petitions, there was **no opportunity provided** to relevant stakeholders or the community to be surveyed on these matters. All three petitions listed above closed on 23rd May 2021. The closing date for feedback on the review of the Animal Protection and Care Act (2001), as detailed in the Outcomes Report, was 21st May 2021. I believe that by not conducting a thorough consultation with key community stakeholders and industry professionals, the impacts of a blanket ban on training tools and restraints, have not been considered. I strongly believe that these impacts will negatively affect the welfare of dogs and their owners in our community. I fear that a ban on training tools will lead to a large number of unmanageable dogs that instead of receiving proper training will be ending in animal rescue with the potential of being euthanised.

Not only do these amendments detailed in Division 5, Section 37A, Subsection (1) of the act directly impact my life, as my wife and I care and rehabilitate a number of rescue dogs every year, but also impact the pet industry and rescue organisations, by limiting rehabilitation outcomes with a concerning potential to negatively impact dog welfare.

I'm asking that mine, along with other key community stakeholders' concerns are addressed. Specifically, I ask that a proper and thorough community consultation will be conducted and due process is followed.

I leave you with an excerpt from section 1.2 of Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation: "The depth of analysis and consultation undertaken for a proposal should be proportional to the complexity and significance of the problem and the size of the potential impacts."

Considering the potential impacts have not been considered, I do not believe 'best practice' has been followed.

I encourage the Queensland Government to consult community members and dog owners like myself to properly analyse the complexity of the issue and its potential impacts.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I welcome further discussion should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

