

**Submission
No 170**

COMPANION ANIMAL BREEDING PRACTICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Dr Christine Clifton

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Dr Christine Clifton

Joint Select Committee on Companion Animal Breeding Practices NSW
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear committee members,

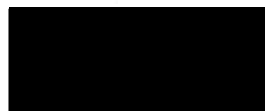
I am writing as a concerned member of the public regarding the ongoing mistreatment of animals in intensive breeding situations. I applaud the decision to initiate the Companion Animal Breeding Practices in New South Wales Inquiry, and I hope that similar action will be taken in other Australian states. I writing with particular regard to item (f) of the terms of reference "Any legislative changes that may be required".

As recommended by the RSPCA, the following points are considered essential to stop inappropriate intensive breeding practices by ensuring breeder identification, traceability and adherence to enforceable standards:

- The NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice –Breeding Dogs and Cats should be revised to ensure that the existing guidelines it contains become enforceable standards. Enforceable standards for other species must also be developed.
- All sellers should be required by legislation to display an animal's microchip number or the licence number of the breeder of the animal in all advertisements, and at the point of sale.
- The Companion Animals Regulation should be amended to remove the existing provision that allows recognised breeders to sell unmicrochipped cats or dogs to pet shops.
- Monitoring and enforcement operations should be shared between local government animal management officers and state and territory RSPCA Inspectors. A targeted inspections regime including both proactive (unannounced) inspections and reactive inspections should be developed.
- State and territory animal management and welfare legislation must provide mechanisms for the relevant prosecuting agency to apply for effective court orders relating to the ongoing ownership of the animals, the costs associated with ongoing care of the animals, and prohibiting the defendant(s) from continuing to engage in breeding activities while the matter is before the courts.

I thank the committee for considering the points above.

Sincerely



Dr Christine Clifton