

**Submission
No 343**

COMPANION ANIMAL BREEDING PRACTICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name Suppressed

Date Received: 15/07/2015

Partially Confidential

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Members of the Committee
Mr Adam Marshall [Chairman]

[REDACTED]

As professional breeders for over 20 years we have a breeding complex of approximately 70 breeders including finished breeders. The purpose of my email is to have input and comment on the current parliamentary enquiry.

As a stand out breeder with the field we are seen as a model to other professional breeders endorsed by [REDACTED]. We meet all the criteria with the RSPCA and are members of the Pet Industry Association of Australia (PIAA). We have been accredited by our Veterinary Clinic at [REDACTED] to PIAA. All our dogs are microchipped and registered with our shire council. Our vet visit our complex at least 20 times a year.

This is our profession and main source of income and feel our experience in breeding should therefore warrant input and consideration of our below suggestions.

a] There needs to be a licence for genuine breeders who meet the criteria , authorized by there shire council. The licence numbers should be listed on all adds for sale of dogs or puppies demonstrating compliance and authenticity.

b] There should not be a numbers limit on breeders as long they meet all the criteria s and animal welfare requirements set by the governing bodies. Too much limitation and regulation i believe will cause a market shortage, furthermore providing the opportunity for "back yard breeders"

c] Pet shops should continue selling puppies as long as they are members of recognize industry ,meet all the criteria and are licensed to do so, governed by their council.

e] As accredited micro chipper it would be in the best interest of all concerned if the NSW Companion Animal Register was made national rather than state to state.

f] Breeding bitches there should not be a age or litter limit, for breeding after 6 years. This call should and can be made by a vet who visit the breeding complex. eg some bitches may not start to breed until they are 4 years old and may only breed every 18 teen months. A breeding bitch can still be in a prime if a late starter and one that does not breed very often.

g] The wording puppy mill or puppy farm should be deleted from all documents and not used in any shape or form as it is in poor taste and gives genuine breeders a bad name and should be referred to as Dog or Puppy Breeders.

Lastly there have been comment on the employment of staff versus the amount of breeders you have. I don't believe this industry needs regulations on staffing, if the operations of the business are accredited and approved by the governing bodies of council and animal welfare then it should be left to the decision of the owners to staff as required.

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