

**Submission
No 5**

COMPANION ANIMAL BREEDING PRACTICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name Suppressed
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Partially Confidential

Attention Parliamentary Committee Inquiry - Breeding Practices of Companion Animals in NSW

I would like to place my submission to this committee from the perspective of a Veterinary Nurse and active member of dog sports in NSW.

I praise the committee for investigating the breeding practices of unregistered, unlicensed and uncontrolled puppy breeders in NSW and my hope would be that this inquiry is followed by other states to establish their own committees.

The practice of breeding multiple litters of dogs and cats in an unregulated system where the prime objective for the breeder is to obtain as much untaxed income as is possible, usually means that the costs of adequate, appropriate and optimal care of the animal is of secondary importance.

I have added below, the thoughts of a fellow registered breeder. I believe these are requirements and objectives breeders in NSW should be asked maintain.

“Support responsible breeders who:

- * Do not sell their pups to or through pet stores. Instead, they personally screen and select homes for their puppies, advise people on caring for the breed, turn away people whose lifestyle, commitment or home situation does not fit the breed, test for and guarantee the health and temperament of their puppies, have detailed documentation of their pups' lineage, demonstrate knowledge about canine health, genetics, socialization and development, and take back their animals at any time and age if the buyers cannot keep them.
- * Do not sell multiple breeds of dogs, since they specialize in one or two breeds.
- * Demonstrate extensive knowledge of the breed's history, traits, temperament, and conformation because they have years of experience with the breed.
- * Are involved in the showing of purebred dogs. This can take the form of respected dog shows, and competitions involving obedience trials, Agility and other dog sports . Show and performance events enable responsible breeders to ensure that their dogs display the desired physical and behavioural traits desired for the particular breed.
- * Value their reputation for seeking to improve the breed. They do not sell pups as a for-profit business. Indeed, many reputable breeders lose money, since breeding and caring for puppies in a responsible, quality-focused manner is typically expensive. They breed only dogs that are themselves good pets and fine representatives of their breed.
- * Evaluate the health of their pups using sound, standardised genetic and other testing recommended for the individual breed. Thorough genetic screening enables responsible breeders to minimize their chances of producing a health-compromised puppy.
- * Provide full, lifetime written guarantees covering genetic disease and temperament problems.
- * Take back the dog at any point in his or her life for whatever reason the purchaser no longer wants or can care for the animal.
- * Place all pet quality animals with a contract requiring the purchaser to spay/neuter the pup.
- * Provide advice and guidance to purchasers, placing pups only with people who demonstrate they can provide safe, responsible homes.

* Breeds from mature dogs only and in accordance veterinary advice on the number of times bred.

* Line up qualified buyers in advance of birth of a litter and rarely ever advertise.

* Do not separate a pup from the mother and litter before 8 weeks of age”

The commercial breeding industry needs to support, endorse and fulfill the standards listed above and regulate and properly audit them. But until these standards are met BAN THEM!!