


**Submission
No 132**

COMPANION ANIMAL BREEDING PRACTICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name Suppressed
Date Received: 11/06/2015



June 1, 2015

Joint Select Committee on Companion Animal Breeding Practices in New South Wales
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

To Whom it May Concern

RE: Companion Animal Breeding Practices in New South Wales (Inquiry)

As a long term dog breeder based in NSW, I am a stakeholder in the inquiry currently underway regarding Companion Animal Breeding Practices. My interest is in ensuring that dogs are bred and raised in a humane and regulated manner, in line with the NSW Companion Animal Breeding Code of Practice, and that the appropriate mechanisms are in place to enable the dogs to go to loving homes with responsible owners. During the course of the inquiry, I would regard that the following topics should be addressed to ensure a workable and just industry.

- Implementation of a robust breeder licensing system, applicable to all dog breeders no matter the scale or purpose of breeding
 - Breeders to be recognized based on reputation and ability to manage a facility effectively
 - Alignment for registration , desexing, breeding etc procedures under one umbrella for all recognised breeders as wells as owners of non-desexed dogs
 - Clarify exceptions such as farmers and graziers that may also need to keep numerous animals
- Guidelines / limitations for number of breeding dogs in any one facility
 - Breeding dog to be clearly defined. Is it one kept for specifically for breeding purposes, and should it include dogs that are not desexed and therefore capable of breeding?
 - Needs to take into account breeding dogs currently in existence
 - Available capacity (size of facility, number of staff) to be key factors in determining number of breeding dogs allowable
 - Focus breeding on more popular breeds to limit euthanasia for unwanted dogs
- Ensuring industry Code of Practice is followed with regards to managing breeding facilities and managing dogs (from birth to final owner)

- Reliable breeders strive for a common high standard, as required and monitored by NSW Code of Practice.
- Mandatory microchipping and record keeping to ensure dog trackability throughout system. Proper process of microchipping reduces likelihood of dogs needing to be rehomed or euthanised.
- Careful consideration of appropriate point of sale
 - Compare euthanasia rates of dogs acquired from various sources to identify where problem with unwanted dogs is really coming from.
 - Mechanisms are already in place (including cooling off periods) to ensure pet shop purchases are based on genuine desire to have a pet, making this a viable ongoing point of sale.
 - Consider impact of limiting purchase from breeder only – besides the increased administration, this is not ideal as unmanaged visitors to property can compromise health on the facility by bringing in diseases.
- Enabling appropriate access to a dog as a companion animal
 - The benefits of dog ownership on human wellbeing are well documented. It would be sad if access to a dog became prohibitive for some who want or need a pet for companionship, such as pensioners, due to the implications of increased regulation on cost and availability.

Consideration of the above points would be much appreciated in the course of the inquiry. If any further clarification or information is required, I would be very happy to assist you to provide perspectives as a long term breeder.

Best regards,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Contact Information]