## INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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I think the current state of puppy farming in nsw is atrocious. I have heard of farms with 300+ female dogs pumping out litter after litter, living in horrific conditions. There are so many rescue dogs out there that have come from puppy farms and been abandoned becasue they cant have more litters, and horrific stories of mistreatment, abuse and neglect. There is no way that any farm can properly care for 100s of dogs let alone all the litters of puppies as well. There is also need economic need for this as most puppies are selling for upwards of \$5000 per dog so there no reason at this price that dogs and puppies can not be cared for in an appropriate setting. New South Wales has some of the weakest laws when it comes to protecting dogs from puppy factory cruelty. On top of this, Victoria has recently passed legislation to crack down on puppy farms, with Western Australia set to do the same. NSW needs to follow suit, otherwise we risk being the goto state for the worst offending puppy farms to pump out sick dogs and ship them all over the country. We need to set a limit on the number of breeding dogs in one farm to a reasonable number - preferably 10 but maximum of 20. Dogs need daily human interaction - not just food and water and there is no way to do this with more than 20 dogs. We also need a cap on the number of litters a dog can have, the amount of time per day each dog can be confined for, and most importantly a mandatory vet health check for every dog prior to breeding and post whelping. The fact that this does not already happens is outrageous. This is the absolute minimum we can expect from a breeder - that the dogs are checked by a vet before and after a litter. They will be receiving upwards for \$20,000 per litter in most cases, and can certainly afford 2 vet visits. I strongly urge you to support a change to the laws in NSW to prevent the terrible cruelty that is currently happening in many puppy farms across the state.