

**Submission
No 42**

INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Legislation to prohibit puppy factories is LONG overdue and needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency. The present position in NSW provides no protection whatsoever to the defenceless animals who spend a lifetime being abused by greedy "breeders".

There must be specified controls on the number of breeding animals permitted, limits on the number of litters a bitch is required to endure, a requirement for regular provision of veterinary care, and regular welfare inspections and reports by rangers or vets. If any of these conditions are contravened, there should be prosecution of the breeder with substantial penalties legislated - and applied! The "slap with a wet tram ticket" penalties MUST stop.

Additionally, anyone convicted of cruelty, abuse or serious habitual neglect of animals in their care should NEVER be allowed to own animals in the future.

Too many of these so-called "breeders" are perpetuating serious health issues by mating animals with existing defective breeding traits (deformities of various kinds, such as undershot jaws, respiratory issues, and structural abnormalities and it is the resulting puppies and their owners who pay the price!

I would therefore ask you to implement effective legislation to regulate dog breeding in the State so that only reputable breeders, whose animals are treated humanely, remain in business.