INQUIRY INTO ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Grace Woodward

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To whom it may concern,

I am the second of a family who have bred & shown English Cocker Spaniels. My late mother (first generation in the breed) world renown Judge & kls. bred & showed them, I as an elderly person have been all my life with the breed (second generation) & still occasionally breed a litter & show my dogs regularly. While I went through the personal tragedy of the loss of my first husband (one child & another on the way) then the loss of my youngest son with Cystic Fibrosis, from my second marriage & later the death of that child's father when he took his life, my dogs being there helped me to keep my world together. My daughter who is now middle aged has also been involved with the breed all her life (third generation) breeds occasionally & shows & I have had the pleasure of watching my grandchildren show, one who is mentally challenged & who has grown up learning how to be kind to animals. Will I see my great grand children (12 of them) enjoy this hobby/sport I am not sure if this draconian Bill is past I am submitting this because it concerns me with the draft being submitted by the Animal Liberation Party who want to change so many things about how dogs are kept, not in a house but in pens, fences, how many dogs may be kept & how many times a female can be bred. etc. as a member of DOGS N.S.W we already have many strict rules which we must abide by. I was under the impression this Bill was to control the massive breeding & care of puppy farmers but instead there is no undertaking against these terrible establishments which through over breeding have caused a glut of pups that quite a number end up in the pound or rescue establishments. As a responsible breeder who tests for health problems within this breed & like many others love & care for our dogs who we keep fit by daily walks with them, an essential part in our lives for both dogs & humans to keep healthy I strongly oppose this Bill & ask all Politicians to take our concerns about this Bill into account & not pass it without the necessary changes being made.