

**Submission
No 186**

**INQUIRY INTO ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

Name: Ms Julie Deem
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DogsNSW Member No.

Standing Committee on State Development Parliament of NSW

Inquiry into Animal Welfare Policy in NSW: Submissions on the draft Animal Welfare Bill 2022

To The committee members,

My name is Julie, as a member of DogsNSW I welcome the opportunity to provide feedback to the Draft Animal Welfare Bill 2022.

I do have concerns on a number of sections of this bill but am of the view that DogsNSW will be able to address most of those more adequately so I will comment on just a few.

My number one concern is the use of powers of officers to enter premises:

I like many of my breeder friends raise our pups in our homes, this is to ensure the health, welfare and socialisation in their physical and mental growth so going to a new home is a happy situation for both pup and new family.

The stress of never knowing when someone might feel the need to intrude on my personal premises under the guise of "animal welfare" is quite overwhelming. Not because I am concerned about what they will not find as my adored animals a very wellpampered. BUT! this is my personal abode and the thought of this kind of intrusion into my personal life and property takes away my basic right to live without fear in my own home.

So my question here is:

WHY will our HOMES be subject to "powers of entry" at any undefined time?

Another concerns is in the definition of "Commercial"

This wording is placing anyone who breeds/grows anything and sells/trades for any amount are acting "**commercial**".

I breed a very rare breed of dog occasionally (3 litters (10 pups) in 15yrs). I have carefully studied this breed, I have exhibited this breed at exhibitions/shows (another contentious matter) and I have imported semen for artificial insemination (another contentious issue),

as the lines in this country are very small. I do this for the continuation of this breeds lineage and the preservation of this breed but NOT for the pursuit of profits.

I spent more on the parents welfare and that of the 10 pups produced than it cost to produce the 10 pups. If I were to be answerable to taxation I would be written off due to the amount I have spent on food, vetting, bedding, grooming, required equipment, accommodation, petrol and transportation. This does not take into account the importation costs.

I view a commercial breeder as one that seeks a council DA to have approval for a purpose built accommodation to house a significant number of breeding animals for the sole act of earning an income from this enterprise.

So my question here is:

Why is there no separation of “Commercial” to that of a “Hobby” breeder?

The “Exhibition of Animals”

It appears from the draft that exhibitions/dog shows are/maybe included with zoos, wildlife, parks etc. This if my reading is correct also includes a licensing system.

As a member of DogsNSW I often have my dogs entered in exhibitions/dog shows. I have also participated in the organising committees of several exhibitions/dog shows. Agricultural Shows also include exhibitions of many varied animals, including dogs. In fact in many smaller Districts the dog show section forms the main income for the Agricultural Show allowing them to continue the following year. These shows bring the local community together, bringing a relief to the daily running of their properties which in turn assists in the mental health of the community.

So my question here is:

What distinctions are being proposed for the “exhibition of animals”?

Regards

Julie Deem