

Submission
No 190

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 26 February 2022

Partially
Confidential

Issues I have with the proposed legislation:

(1) Powers of officers to enter premises. Under the draft legislation, any officer can enter any premises other than residential for reasonable cause. No notice. Many breeders raise their pups within a home environment, so it seems breeders who raise dogs in their home may be subject to violation of privacy by ignorant unskilled officers claiming the right to enter at any time. Sadly the breeder of my dog has had to deal with such an ignorant fellow who was a bully and breached the law in several aspects. I have no wish to buy any dog if it has been forced to be raised in a shed, because of ill thought out government legislation, because hobby breeders are not going to accept their homes being treated like a thoroughfare for officers claiming a right to enter.

2) "commercial" is defined as any breeder who receives income from a dog. For the last 3 years my breeder's dogs have covered 60% of the costs of breeding, raising, managing and showing them. My breeder's independent salary has covered the remaining 40% plus living costs. Commercial breeders calculate everything based on making a profit with their sheds full of pens, full of bitches whose lives are living in a cage and producing pups only. they have no enrichment, wellness or joy in their lives. Their food and vet care are on a very strict budget.

Breeders who breed occasionally for the continuation of their lineage and the preservation of their breed but not for the pursuit of profits should definitely NOT be treated the same way as large scale commercial operations. Personally I absolutely do NOT want my next dog to be raised in a shed!

3) The Bill refers to regulations, but those regulations have not been drafted yet. I am NOT comfortable that the government has thought through legislation where it does not know the regulations it needs., It also leaves the situation open to speculation that the government, by having no concrete regulations, is avoiding having people commenting on those draft regulations.

4) the Bill did prohibits surgical insemination, because some genius decided that since Europe does not have surgical insemination, Australia should not either. Forgetting that chilled semen only lasts 48 hours, and getting anything to Australia and past quarantine generally takes 7 days. So the only option for importing semen to Australia, unlike Europe and the US who have alot of diseases we don't, is frozen semen. Surgical insemination needs only 100M frozen sperm to succeed, Transcervical insemination needs 150M frozen sperm as a minimum. So our gene pool would have been reduced by 50%, because those of us who have frozen semen for years have relied on surgical insemination.

Personal I am not comfortable that someone with such a poor understanding of simple geography, biosecurity and genetics has prepared a bill that has already had to be amended because they got the part about surgical insemination so very wrong.

5) DOGS NSW, as an organisation, provides a system which registers breeders based on the breeder having sufficient knowledge, abiding by a Code of Ethics, and having suitable premises. My breeder is not a commercial breeder breeding dogs to make a living, they breed them because they value the breed and want people to have access to them. They also try to breed the best dogs they can. Breeders like my breeder do not want to compete with commercial operations, so onerous legislation treating individuals like companies and hobbyists like a commercial operation will force breeders either to stop breeding, or to become less hands on and focus on 'compliance issues' rather than quality of the breeding programme and life of the dogs.