

Submission
No 209

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 27 February 2022

Partially
Confidential

I am writing a submission to request that common sense be used where the draft bill is not passed. The draft bill is targeting a minority of the population that actually do care for animal welfare (Registered Breeder of Dogs NSW) by raising puppies in a home, loving environment after rigorous health testing is done, prior to breeding their animals. Much care is taken by registered breeders who breed to an existing code of conduct with Dogs NSW.

I have been a dog show exhibitor for 24 years and have bred approx. 8 litters during such time in order to preserve my carefully selected breed lines that I have worked very hard over the years to create. Prior to my own 24 years as an owner/breeder of pedigree, purebred dogs, I grew up with purebred, pedigree dogs as my family had the same breed as I grew up. Majority of registered breeders are 2nd and 3rd generation members.

I do not breed for profit, it is purely a hobby, therefore I do not understand why I am being victimised and bundled into the same category as a puppy farm or puppy factory? I spare no expense with my animals as they are my life long responsibility, a commitment. Last year alone I spent approx \$20k on vet bills as that is what was required to care for my older geriatric dogs. I cannot say a puppy farm, or puppy mill would shell out the same for even their breeding 'stock' as it is not profitable for them.

The breed of dog I own is one of the most purest breeds in the world and had been unaltered for hundreds of years and now they are likely to be non-existent if the bill is passed.

I am saddened for all the families that will no longer be able to have a purebred, pedigree Samoyed in the future if this bill is passed.

I am disgusted with the people and organisations who have created this draft bill, clearly money is the agenda behind it.

I agree that hobby breeders need to be held responsible for sound, healthy, well-adjusted puppies and explore the parliament to allow governing bodies such as the existing ANKC and or Dogs NSW to ensure members adhere to existing codes of conduct around animal welfare.

I am not adverse to having restrictions on the number of breeds and the number of litters a hobby breeder can own and breed, but this can be governed by existing bodies as stated above. I do not believe I should be defined as a 'commercial breeder' based on my breeding 8 litters in 24 years!

I feel the people and organisations behind the draft bill are so out of touch with the general public who purchase purebred, pedigree pups from trusted and respected breeders.

I ask the parliament, why am I being targeted as a hobby breeder that does health testing, spare no expense for veterinary treatment and love my animals etc....why are farmers and back yard breeders immune to this ridiculous draft bill who breed litter after litter in unclean conditions, that dispose or dump their pups when an unwanted litter is born or they can't afford proper veterinary care and treatment? Why are back yard breeders immune to this draft bill?

I hope that parliament recognises that pedigree, purebred dogs are so important to Australia and that many families will be adversely impacted if the bill is passed.