

Submission
No 212

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 27 February 2022

Partially
Confidential

NSW 2756

27 February 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Draft Animal Welfare Bill 2022

I am a member of DogsNSW and have owned, shown and bred my breeds of choice for over 30 years. My dogs are part of my family and I only breed occasionally in order to preserve the rare breeds I own. I am definitely not a commercial breeder having only bred 12 litters in that time, 6 of those litters containing only 1 or 2 pups.

I am very concerned with the vague and broad terminology used in this draft Bill and also the complete lack of any accompanying Regulations to review. There is no reference to exhibiting animals for purposes of competition or for the original reason dog and livestock shows originated – to provide a venue to receive an objective opinion on one's breeding lines and to review other lines to incorporate into one's own breeding programme. There is in Part 5, Section 42(1)(b) reference to requiring a licence to exhibit an animal. I fail to see how a licence applies in these instances.

My litters are all whelped and raised in a home environment, not in some shed stuck out in a back paddock. I screen my prospective puppy buyers very carefully and offer ongoing help and advice for the life of those pups. I bitterly object to being caught up in legislation that covers commercial or puppy mill breeders. This Bill makes no differentiation between the types of breeders.

Having spent many thousands of dollars importing dogs and frozen semen, I am also concerned about the reference to banning surgical artificial insemination (AI) in dogs. My breeds are endangered. They are also giant breeds that have a woeful record with AI that is not surgical. By banning surgical AI you are severely limiting the ability to increase the gene pool of these breeds in Australia.

As a member of DogsNSW which has its own strict Code of Conduct, I am disappointed to see it is not represented in this draft Bill. It is the main Association covering purebred dog breeding in NSW and as such its views should be taken seriously and recognition should be given to the role it provides in policing its members.

I trust that by the time this Bill is finalised, the points I have raised above will be addressed.

Yours faithfully,