

**Submission
No 213**

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

Name: Mrs Anna Quigley

Date Received: 27 February 2022

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to you with great concerns in regard to the Emma Hurst "Animal Justice Party" bill. There is great concern that if this bill is passed the breeding of dogs and cats will be no longer.

I have been an Australia National Kennel Council (ANKC) Registered breeder of Golden Retrievers and, to a lesser extent Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, since purchasing my first dog in 1988.

In my 34 years association with breeding, showing and trialling dogs, I have bred 7 litters of puppies. All raised with great care, all health and temperament tested (both parents and puppies) and placed in homes that I have very carefully chosen. None of the puppies (a grand total of 38 puppies in all my years breeding) have needed to be rehomed, if this was to be the case, all the puppies' owners are well aware I have requested to take any puppy back so as to find a suitable new home if needed.

I have spent 34 years studying animal husbandry, animal behaviour, breeding and all and everything about my chosen breeds. I have made friendships and associations with like minded people, all for the betterment of our beloved breeds and companions. I connect with fellow breeder's world-wide to collaborate information again bettering the future of the breed.

The price of my puppies is considerably less than the price of the same animal sold in a pet shop or by backyard, non ANKC registered breeder. Yet I spend considerable funds on health testing (hip scoring alone is \$700 - \$1,000), general health and wellbeing, breeding methods that best suit the welfare of each individual dog, enrichment, training, traveling (to shows, most suitable stud dog, sometimes interstate), premium foods etc. I do not do this to make a profit, I do it for the love of the dogs.

If the Emma Hurst bill is passed, I will no longer be allowed to breed or show dogs. (Showing of dogs enables the growth and betterment of each individual breed of dogs into the future)

If the Emma Hurst Bill is passed, nobody will be allowed to breed dogs

If the Emma Hurst Bill is passed all dogs and cats will be restricted to being bred in clinical, sterile, large scale (300+ dogs per facility) puppy farms. Where dogs live in the solitary confinement of a 3m x 3m cage and are let out for a half hour supervised exercise once a day. No interaction or stimulation, no

positive human interaction, no engagement, no companionship. Living for one sole reason – to produce puppies. There will not be the passionate people, like myself and thousands of other like-minded ANKC registered breeders who are committed to raising these dogs and puppies and committed to the development of dogs bred in Australia. There will not be educated, informed choices in selecting the right homes for these dogs and puppies. There will be a very large number of poorly homed puppies. They will not be suited to the people who purchased them, will probably need rehoming, or worse, finding their way into pounds and shelters.

One of these Puppy farms has already been approved and is being built as I write this letter, near the town of Deniliquin. Emma Hurst is involved in this facility.

Since the initial writing and application of the Emma Hurst Bill, the bill has changed significantly, recent additions include the banning of imported semen into Australia (stopping the gene pool) and mandating air conditioning to vehicles transporting dogs. What other changes will be made to this bill????

The bill is extremely ambiguous. Is it normal for a bill to state as one of its codes – “Division 2 Standards 20; requirements to comply with standards. (3) In this section – prescribed standard means a standard prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this section”. How do you know what “prescribed standard” will mean? There are no real regulations presented here. On many pages of the Emma Hurst Bill the reader is confronted with confusion and vagueness.

Even the title is ambiguous and not at all what is contained in the bill. As an ANKC breeder I am bound by this and other constitutions (including the DPI - Animal Welfare Code of Practice), so I am very aware of its contents.

What has happened to our country -Australia – with the possibility of not being able to breed or even own a dog or cat in the future, if this bill is passed.

What has happened to our freedoms and rights as Australian citizens, that I may not be able to continue to enjoy my hobby and passion for dogs, nor continue to contribute my in-depth knowledge and expertise.

What will happen to the lesser know breeds that have been around for centuries gone. I am sure these breeds will not be included in Emma Hurst's breeding facilities, only the latest trend, “designer” cross breeds, with no

research whatsoever put into the health, soundness or temperament of each individual dog, will most likely be included. It's all about making money.

Please support me in not allowing this bill to be passed.

Yours Sincerely,

Anna Quigley

Gawsworth

Wagga Wagga