

Submission
No 250

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I am appalled that the draft NSW Animal Welfare Bill 2022 Bill's ban on surgical AI regarding dogs may be withdrawn by the NSW Minister for Agriculture.

This is a cruel and unnecessary practice which is already banned in the UK, Norway and Sweden.

The proposed Bill needs to recognise that all animals are sentient creatures and that people have a moral duty to protect their welfare and this particularly applies to dog bred for commercial purposes.

In particular, when it comes to racing greyhounds, the bill should prohibit euthanasia of these dog when they suffer treatable injuries like broken legs.

To this end, the bill should allow third parties to bring public interest legal proceedings in order to take action on behalf of these animals. As part of the animal welfare reforms, legislation should provide for open standing so third parties are enabled to bring proceedings in the public interest. I submit that a provision should be inserted that is similar to s 9.45 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW) which provides that: "Any person may bring proceedings in the Court for an order to remedy or restrain a breach of this Act, whether or not any right of that person has been or may be infringed by or as a consequence of that breach."

The draft Animal Welfare Bill should also be amended to lower the temperature threshold at which dogs can no longer be kept in a vehicle during hot weather. People that attempt to rescue an animal that is locked in a vehicle and at risk of suffering harm should not be held liable for any damage that they may cause.

And finally, it is essential that anyone involved in live baiting be subject to the heaviest penalties available under the law by way of the bill.