INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 22 February 2022

Partially Confidential

I vehemently oppose puppy farms/factories/mills, small BACKYARD breeders and large scale commercial breeding businesses. I want to make clear up front that I do very much support REGISTERED breeders (I.e. with the ANKC, not just council registered) who breed to keep long standing breeds around, better the breed in health/type/temperament and so forth. If this inquiry moves to passing a bill, I oppose any restrictions on these registered breeders (i.e. amount of breeding dogs they can own) and do not believe they should be lumped in under the term 'micro breeders' (I.e. - that definition needs to change or they are clearly excluded in writing from this definition) - keep these people separate from small scale backyard breeding operations and pet shops.

Dogs in puppy farm/mills/factories most often live in squalid conditions, their health is not paramount and are purely used for their reproductive organs to make the people running these mills profit. The health of the puppies is also often neglected and I have heard multiple stories from the families who acquire these puppies (unknowing to their true origins) who sooner or later have a sick animal on their hands. These establishments not only neglect these animals physically, but psychologically also and for dogs going to domesticated pet homes, they are often simply very unwell behaviourally due to their inadequate care while in the womb (through malnourishment or mistreatment of the mother for example) and then in their first weeks of life.

It is assumed by some that the general public are educated to know where to find a registered, ethical breeder or what to look for when picking up a puppy, type of communication with a breeder etc but the truth is MANY simply do not. Puppy mill breeders take absolute advantage of this naivety (through measures like not allowing access to the TRUE area where the mother and puppies are living, false/misleading communication and marketing on lack of health checks of parents, lack of worming/microchipping etc) which allows their continued operation.

We are one country and if anything, the fact that other states and territories in Australia have taken action to improve this unregulated industry, should propel NSW along. Australians living in NSW and their values are not going to be drastically different from Australians living in VIC for example.

Our laws need to keep up and change as practices and values in our society change. the welfare of animals and what the public expect when acquiring an animal are likely vastly different 50 years ago. Dog ownership has increased exponentially which is and will place more market demand in this area however it is our government that can control exactly how this demand is met -- and it should not be to the detriment of any living thing.

The standard you walk past (I.e. do nothing) is the standard you are willing to accept and I do not accept the operation of these puppy farms in any way, shape, or form. For our ELECTED state representatives to have their name down in history for not taking serious action on this would be shameful.

Please listen to your constituents who you are representing.

Regards,