

**Submission
No 142**

INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Dear members on the inquiry committee,

Intensive puppy and kitten farming is a cruel business, that makes profit of the often severe suffering of animals.

The laws and regulations governing puppy and kitten farms are woefully inadequate.

The dogs and cats inside these farms are often kept in the most basic conditions that deprive them of everything that makes their life worth living. Investigations by the Animals Australia team have uncovered dogs living in barren and putrid pens without adequate food, water, exercise, vet care, or socialization -- their only 'purpose' is to produce puppies and kittens for breeders to sell. If they can no longer do this, they are killed.

There is no state-wide licensing or registration scheme in place, no minimum staffing requirement to ensure proper care, no limit on the number of litters dogs or cats are forced to have, and no qualification requirement for breeders.

Beyond the direct cruelty involved in using animals in these facilities, puppy and kitten farms contribute to the constantly growing issue of companion animal overpopulation and abandonment.

I very much welcome the bill introduced by the Animal Justice Party that could help putting a stop to this sorry business.

Dear members on the inquiry committee please note that many caring people across NSW want to protect companion animals and end intensive breeding cruelty.

Each year in Australia, thousands of healthy dogs and cats are euthanised in pounds and shelters, simply because there aren't enough homes for them. Consumer demand for buying companion animals rather than rescuing strengthens a market for unscrupulous operators and the cycle of suffering continues.

Moreover, I personally know several dog owners who bought their puppy from a pet shop. All their animals have developed serious health issues related to overbreeding or inbreeding.

Victoria was the first state to take a stand against these large-scale breeding operations in 2017, and Western Australia followed in 2021. Although a huge win for animals within the borders of those states, many breeders simply relocated, capitalizing on the lack of laws in NSW.

NSW needs to urgently follow Victoria and Western Australia's lead in stand against these large-scale breeding operations.

Companion animals deserve better protection, and there is no place for puppy farms in our community.

PLEASE HELP TO CREATE BETTER OUTCOMES FOR CATS AND DOGS IN AUSTRALIA. THANK YOU !!!!