

香港愛護動物協會的信頭

Ref: CS/L088/06/99

28th June, 1999

The Hon Michael Ho Mun-ka
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
Jackson Road
Hong Kong

Dear Mr. Ho,

DANGEROUS DOGS REGULATION

With regard to the proposed Dangerous Dog Regulation, the SPCA would like to make the following comments.

1. The SPCA is pleased to note that the "Potentially Dangerous Dogs" category which was based on selected breeds has been dropped.
This has been replaced by a "Large Dog" category which will consist of dogs exceeding a body weight of 20kg. However a 20kg dog is not a large dog by anyone's standards and we had urged the Bill's Committee not to pass this amendment, or to set a higher weight.

2. Fighting Dogs

The SPCA supports the measures proposed to control the import and keeping of fighting breeds with the exception of the sum proposed as compensation for surrendered animals. The SPCA had already urged the Bills's Committee to substantially lower the amount of compensation on the grounds that HK\$3000 is much too high a figure. It makes it worthwhile for people to deliberately begin to breed fighting dogs when they know that at 5 months old or when they are registered they can be surrendered for destruction and a guaranteed HK\$3000 cash in hand.

The proposal to offer this amount of compensation is very ill advised and has probably already encouraged unscrupulous people to increase the number of fighting dogs in their possession in anticipation of earning money from them. Surely this is against the purpose of the Bill and the amount of compensation should once again be seriously reconsidered.

Yours sincerely,

Cynthia Smillie
Deputy Executive Director