

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ANIMAL TRADER REGULATIONS (Cap 139B)

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to:

lkllam

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From:

To:



I wish to add my own personal experience to this proposal. I bought a beagle puppy from a pet shop in Causeway Bay seven years ago. I was assured it came from a good "family" who took good care of its parents. Within 12 hours of bringing it home it was obviously seriously ill and had to be brought to the vet. It died within a few days from parvovirus, despite all that I could do medically. With hindsight it must obviously have come from one of those unethical breeders who keep dogs in inhumane, overcrowded conditions with no concern for their welfare and whose only concern is to sell the puppies, often too young to be separated from their mothers, for money.

I am now a volunteer with Hong Kong Dog Rescue and see for myself the poor condition of these breeder dogs who are abandoned once they are no longer capable for making a profit for their "owners". There is nothing that will prevent so called "Hobby breeders" from cramming cages of dogs in small apartments just like commercial breeders do, Both should be brought under much stricter regulation and the rules enforced, and the penalty for abuse of animals drastically increased. The pet shops who sell animals from dubious sources to unsuspecting customers should be accountable for the ultimate fate of these animals by enforcing the microchip rule strictly. Any breeder/shop should have their licence revoked once they are found to be subjecting animals to abusive conditions, which are also currently already too lax.

In conclusion, Hong Kong lags developed countries in animal protection laws and an obvious place to start is with pet animals, Stricter rules and regulations, as well as effective enforcement of these rules and imposing penalties high enough to be deterrent are urgently needed.

Please do the right thing by pushing ahead with the proposed amendments and more.

Yours sincerely,
Poh Siew Yen