



Centre for Companion Animals in the Community

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Dear Member of the NSW Legislative Assembly,

Re: Animals (Regulation of Sale) Bill 2007

I am writing on behalf of the NSW Division of the Australian Veterinary Association and the Centre for Companion Animals in Community (CCAC).

The *Animals (Regulation of Sale) Bill 2007* has a laudable aim – to reduce impulse buying of pets and so to reduce dumping of these animals in pounds and shelters. But it will not, in our opinion, make any significant difference to pound and shelter admission and euthanasia rates and will have a number of perhaps unforeseen and very negative outcomes. We are very concerned that its premise cannot be supported by available data and science.

The attached paper outlines our position in detail.

The AVA and the CCAC share community and community group concerns about the euthanasia of so many animals in pounds, shelters and veterinary clinics across Australia. After all, it is members of our profession who most commonly have to perform the euthanasia, with the assistance of our colleagues the veterinary nurses, and pound and shelter staff. We work for effective ways to reduce the number of animals dying, especially where these animals are healthy and re-homable.

Representatives from the AVA will be delighted to meet with you to discuss these matters in person. Please contact

AVA NSW Division  
President Dr Nigel Scott  
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AVA CCAC  
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The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) is the professional association representing veterinarians in Australia. Members of the AVA include veterinarians in all aspects of veterinary practice (companion animals, farm and production animals, performance and pleasure horses, zoo and other exotic species, and wildlife), federal, state and local government service, research and academia, and the animal welfare sector, amongst others.

The CCAC brings together the experience and expertise of companion animal veterinarians, non-veterinary senior state and local government policy makers and administrators dealing with animal management, a town planner specialising in planning for animals in the community, and industry. Our mission is "the successful integration of companion animals in the community".

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a vertical line and a small dot at the end.

Dr Michael Hayward BVSc CMAVA  
Chair, Centre for Companion Animals in the Community  
31 March 2008  
[Michael.Hayward@gunhalinvet.com.au](mailto:Michael.Hayward@gunhalinvet.com.au)