



SENATE RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Over the course of the *Customs Legislation Amendment (Commercial Greyhound Export and Import Prohibition) Bill 2021* inquiry, the committee received approximately 19 submissions as part of a form letter campaign.

The committee agreed that a typical example of the form letter, available below, would be published as example. The remaining letters were accepted as correspondence.

The committee thanks participants for their contribution to the inquiry.

**Submission into Greyhound Exports
Customs Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 (Commercial Greyhound Export and Import
Prohibition)**

As an Australian citizen who is involved in greyhound rescue, I am very concerned about exporting our greyhounds. I would like to have this practice entirely prohibited.

We cannot guarantee their welfare.

These dogs can be exported to countries that have an animal welfare system well below ours. Some countries don't care at all.

Under the Greyhound Australia Rule 124, a greyhound passport must be obtained if exporting a dog. However there have been some breeders/trainers even whilst being suspended from racing, still exporting their dogs regardless without passports. Legal loopholes exist.

Even though some exported dogs are listed to be re-homed as pets, as soon as any dog leaves our country we cannot trace what actually happens to them. Some may indeed become pets, however we have no control over them being sold off to the heartless racing industry or for breeding or even being sold to other countries with much crueller intentions, such as the dog meat trade. These could be the dogs that go "missing".

If our dogs do end up in overseas racing, the conditions they face are horrendous. If it occurred in Australia it would be shutdown. It is known that they are kept in atrocious conditions, are neglected, are cruelly forced to race, known to be injected with a cocktail of drugs including insecticides. This all leads to a painful premature death.

Some of these overseas racing activities are illegal. Organised crime is involved. Our greyhound exports only finance these crime groups further.

Exporting our dogs is just another way our Australian Greyhound Racing Industry can dispose of the unwanted/non-competitive dogs it produces that cannot race and can no longer win. It's another dumping ground which it can unscrupulously make money from.

Conclusion:

As a first world country we should at first seriously examine ways to reduce the over breeding of greyhounds in this industry.

It is our moral obligation to take care of the dogs and puppies our Australian breeders and trainers produce. Exporting greyhounds overseas to dump the excess is not the way. It is heartless, inhumane and un-Australian.it must end, now.