

Jasmin Cooper

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jasmin Cooper and I am writing this letter to protest against the proposed horse levy that the government is trying to impose on every horse owner. I am a hobby rider that only has one horse in work and competes in showjumping when time and work permit. I recently purchased an ex-racehorse and got him register with EFA and also registered myself with the EFA and on the first week end that we where to compete there was a ban on all horse movements in Queensland.

Please find below some points on why I feel it is unfair to impose the levy on all horse owners.

- I was not re-inburst for the registration fee's that are payed annually for myself and my horse as we where not permit to move for well over 12months. Please not that I was also put in a buffer zone and was not allowed to move for even longer.
- I am not registered for tax reason with my horse so all expenses I incurred while the horse industry was in lock down and I could not compete is money lost, eg float registration, ute registration, shoeing expenses and the cost of feeding the horse.
- I am not a big company with money to burn and to out lay a large amount of money so my horse to compete can be a struggle at times and to have him sit in the paddock and not even be able to have lesson is a huge financial burden on someone like me and now the government want to increase my financial out lay to ride my horse.
- It was not me how asked for the horse to be brought into the country in the first place. I did let the infected horse leave a country and allow it to fly into a country that has not ever seen this disease. I did not let the horse leave the quarantine facilities to go and infect innocent people's horse and send this country's horse industries into turmoil.

- Then once the movement ban is lighten I have to purchase a book so I can move my horse anywhere and keep records of this encase this diaster happens again.
- Yes my horse was vaccinated for free as I am in the buffer zone, but please not that I did pay for my horse to have his third needle which now is rendered useless has at the very least he needs a booster every 6 months for it to work if we where to get the disease in the country again, but the government dose not see fit to continue to import the vaccine encase people would like to continue vaccinating their horse.

In all I fell that it is unfair to expect pleasure riders or anyone not from the racing industry to pay this levy as we had nothing to do with the request to import this horse. Quarantine is but in place for a reason it is not our fault that the people in charge of the permits to import this horse or the quarantine facility did not do there job. It is unfair to ask people that had nothing to do with this major failure to do ones job to help repay the bill for it.

I thank you for your time in this matter.

Regards,

Jasmin Cooper