

REPUBLIC OF NAURU
DOG MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL BILL 2017

SECOND READING SPEECH

Hon. David Adeang M.P.

23 November 2017

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I introduce to this House today a Bill for an Act that makes provisions for the registration and control of dogs.

Mr Speaker, we can all recall a few years back the senseless death of a young girl because of injuries sustained from an attack by a pack of dogs. This never should have happened. The community remains concerned about dog attacks and irresponsible dog ownership. The increase in the dog population is also a concern.

Mr Speaker, this Bill introduces reforms in the following key areas:

- improving community safety, through increased controls over dangerous dogs and penalties encouraging more responsible dog ownership;
- enabling nuisance to be more effectively dealt with;
- banning the import, sale, and breeding of banned breeds of dogs;
- requiring owners of dangerous dogs to display signs warning the public of the presence of a dangerous dog on the premises;
- requiring owners of dangerous dogs to notify the Police and the Authority if the dog is missing; and
- requiring owners of dangerous dogs to report to the Authority when they sell or give away their dogs.

Attitudes to dog ownership and behavioural changes are fundamentally important to the success of this legislative reform. Penalties for offences are but one solution. The emphasis in this Bill is responsible dog ownership and community safety.

The Bill is accompanied by an explanatory memorandum explaining the Bill in more detail.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Bill to the House.