

I, Charlotte Armstrong

in the

State of Western Australia, am the promoter of this petition which contains ~~593~~  
600 signatures. C.A.M.

**PETITION CALLING ON THE STATE GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW THE WESTERN  
AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 2002 AND ENFORCE HARSHER PENALTIES**

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned residents of Western Australia respectfully ask the State Government to review the Western Australian (WA) Animal Welfare Act 2002 and enforce harsher penalties and punishments. In light of the tragic event on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017, in which Luna a beloved family Labrador was fatally stabbed by a 37 year old man at Polyantha Reserve in Apple Blossom Drive, Mirrabooka and other animal welfare cases that have been failed by the system, the WA Animal Welfare Act 2002 does not provide animals with adequate protection. The killing of a companion animal is a serious offence requiring the Act and the judiciary to apply penalties and punishments that more adequately reflect community sentiment. We refer to Part 3 of the Act: Offences Against Animals (under clause 19:1 and 2) which does not include the inhumane killing of an animal as a serious offence, nor does it enforce harsher punishments and penalties to suit.

Currently Luna's offender is on bail for not only killing a family companion animal, but carrying a dangerous weapon. In line with the current Animal Welfare Act 2002, if convicted he is likely to face no more than a monetary fine and if deemed appropriate up to 5 years (maximum) in prison. Current penalties do not match the severity of these crimes and are not considered tough enough to deter animal cruelty and in particular, the inhumane killing of a companion animal.

Your petitioners therefore respectfully request the Legislative Council recommends a review of the WA Animal Welfare Act 2002 and enforce harsher penalties and punishments. Temporary animal bans, community service and monetary fines are simply too lenient. Penalties such as prison time need to be enforced by the judiciary, as well as permanent animal bans.

For the people signing the petition this is the first step in making our voice heard and where animals are silent, it is hoped that justice can be served. In the memory of Luna and the many other animals who have suffered and tragically lost their lives.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE