



The decision to introduce tail-docking in Scotland will be going to the Scottish Parliament chamber **tomorrow** for a full vote and we urgently need your help. This is a critical time for our campaign and unless MSPs understand why they should not vote in favour of this cruel practice, it will be introduced to Scotland once again.

How can you help

We believe that tail-docking should not be reintroduced in Scotland and we need our voices to be heard by MSPs across the country. The quickest and most effective way of doing that is to email your MSPs now. It would be great if you could write in your own words, but here's some key points you might like to raise.

- Puppies experience severe pain when their tails are docked as the procedure involves the cutting or crushing of skin, muscles, nerves, bone and cartilage.
- Dogs can suffer lifelong behavioural effects because of tail-docking.
- While tail-docking removes risk of tail injury, there's no evidence of a net benefit for dog welfare.
- Limiting docking to two-thirds of the tail does not significantly reduce the risk of suffering.
- A 2016 opinion poll showed that 70% of people in Scotland believe a ban on the docking of puppy tails should be maintained for all dogs.
- To prevent one tail amputation in a Spaniel, 320 Spaniel puppies would need to be docked.

You might want to include information from the [OneKind report](#) or refer your MSPs to this powerful evidence from the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in Edinburgh, which says

“The provisions would be an unscientific attempt to appease the working dog lobby, rather than an evidence-based and rational progression of animal welfare science. We propose that these provisions propose an unnecessary risk both to animal welfare and also to veterinary professional conduct.”

http://www.parliament.scot/S5_Environment/Meeting%20Papers/059_Dick_Vet.pdf

How to contact your MSPs.

To find your MSPs, simply use this link <http://www.parliament.scot/msps.aspx>, enter your postcode and click on the Find MSP button. You will see the full list of one constituency MSP and seven regional MSPs who represent you. Please send an email to each one if you can.

Please can you also let me know if you have written to your MSP? You can email OneKind's Campaigner on sarah.moyes@onekind.org or call the office on 131 661 9734.

This is a huge opportunity for us keep the tail-docking ban in Scotland. We need your help to let the MSPs know that the people of Scotland do not want tail-docking to become practise in Scotland once again.