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MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday, 12 May 2022

To whom it may concern,

Re: Refugee Animals - Supporting the Australian War Animal Memorial Organization (AWAMO)

I write in support of the extraordinary work currently being undertaken by Nigel Allsopp AM and the Australian War Animal Memorial Organization (AWAMO).

Right now in Ukraine, animals are suffering from abandonment or dispossession and need help. We know that around five million Ukrainian refugees are fleeing the country, and many have brought their pets with them, escaping to bordering countries such as Poland.

In this age of social media and the 24-hour news cycle, we're seeing in real-time exactly what war looks like, and its impact on all living beings. We are seeing stories of Ukrainian animal shelters being bombed, and families carrying their companion animals on their backs as they flee the country. It is abundantly clear the animals of Ukraine need our help.

The Australian War Animal Memorial Organization (AWAMO) is a unique and inspiring group now providing hope to the animals of Ukraine, ensuring the distribution and administration of pet food, medicines and other supplies.

On behalf of the Animal Justice Party of Australia, I commend Nigel Allsopp AM and the AWAMO for their brave determination to aid the refugee animals of Ukraine in-situ. This work will save countless lives, and leave a lasting legacy of human compassion to animals in even the most trying of circumstances.

I urge you to support AWAMO's work in the Ukraine by any means available to you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you like to discuss anything further.

Kind regards,

The Hon. Mark Pearson MLC

Animal Justice Party