



Christine Fyffe M.P. Member for Evelyn



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1 March 2010

Chirnside Park resident and her pooch kicked off V/Line

Liberal State Member for Evelyn Christine Fyffe has criticised the State Government's refusal to withdraw the policy that applies to V/Line trains which prevents pet owners from taking their much loved animals on country rail.

"I was contacted by Ms McNelis after she was told by V/Line that she could not travel with her King Charles Spaniel on her trip to visit family in Bairnsdale," Mrs Fyffe said.

The policy which was brought in on the 1st of January 2008 by the former Minister for Transport Lynne Kosky, forbids animals from travelling on V/Line train and coach services with the exception of guide dogs, hearing dogs and guide dogs in training.

"Dogs are permitted on metropolitan trains as long as they are on leads, muzzled, don't block doorways and owners clean up any mess left behind, which is a fair policy. All we are asking is why can't the same fairness be applied for anyone wanting to use V/Line services?" Mrs Fyffe asked.

"For many residents of the Yarra Ranges, pets are an important part of the family. Placing restrictions on pet travel means that many people will stay at home rather than leave their beloved pet behind. I think a little compassion wouldn't go astray," Mrs Fyffe said.

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