

MEDIA RELEASE

24th November 2017

Adalita calls for ex-lab animals to be given a chance to find loving homes

Singer/songwriter Adalita has lent her support to the “Right to Release” Campaign – giving ex-lab animals a chance to find their forever homes.

The campaign - a joint initiative between Beagle Freedom Australia and Humane Research Australia - seeks to legislate the mandatory rehoming of animals after their “use” in research laboratories has concluded.

Adalita: *“The Right To Release campaign is an extremely important initiative and one that I feel very strongly about. I want to see these beautiful animals be given a second chance, a loving home and a life away from the pain and loneliness they were bred into. Let’s do all we can to help the The Right To Release bill become a reality for these loyal, loving animals.”*

Nikki Steendam, President, Beagle Freedom Australia : *“We’ve been rehoming ex-lab beagles with great success, however negotiating their release is the tricky part. We get lots of excuses as to why they shouldn’t be released, none of which stand up. The Right To Release campaign is common sense. Let’s get these animals into homes to enjoy their new found freedom. They don’t deserve to end up as a waste product.”*

Helen Marston, CEO, Humane Research Australia: *“Every year in Australia, thousands of cats and dogs are used in cruel experiments. Many die as a result of the procedures, but some do not. Those that survive deserve a second chance. We therefore urge everyone to support the Right to Release campaign – giving ex-lab animals the chance to find their forever homes.”*

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/ytkB78Oi3Pc>

Background:

Latest figures reveal that 7,700 dogs and 3,000 cats were used in Australian experiments in 2015. At the conclusion of their “use” they are killed - even though they may be healthy.

In 2013 the Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes was updated and the following clause was inserted: *“Opportunities to rehome animals should be considered wherever possible, especially when the impact of the project or activity on the wellbeing of the animal has been minimal and their physiological condition and behavioural attributes indicate that they can be introduced to a new environment with minimal, transient impact on their wellbeing.”*

The clause however, does not have any legal standing in that the Animal Ethics Committee need only consider rehoming. There is no legal requirement for them to do so.

See here for further details:

<http://www.beaglefreedomaustralia.org>

www.humaneresearch.org.au

Ends