

Call for immediate moratorium on Savannah cat

The Country Alliance party has called for an immediate moratorium on the importation and ownership of the Savannah cat, a cross between the domestic cat and African Serval.

Party spokesman, Andrew Jones, said the Savannah was larger than most domestic cats and had an acute hunting instinct. The cat can jump as high as 2 metres.

“All cats are capable of killing wildlife and the Savannah would certainly create an unacceptable risk if it escaped into the broader environment, which it could easily do given its size and jumping ability.”

“Victoria already has a problem with feral cats and breeding the Savannah is likely to add to that,” he said.

“Councils are already bringing in bylaws relating to the roaming of cats at night and there has already been a lot of debate over some breeds of dogs.”

“ We think that more work should be undertaken to examine what damage these cats are capable of doing before we allow their introduction. At the very least, we need an immediate moratorium to make sure we don’t end up with another problem we lose control of.”

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