NOAH W. WENGER 36TH DISTRICT

THE STATE CAPITOL. SENATE BOX 203036 HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3036 PHONE: (717) 787-4420 FAX: (717) 783-3136 TTY: (800) 364-1381 nwenger@pasen.gov

DISTRICT OFFICES: 1248 W. MAIN STREET EPHRATA, PA 17522-1311 (717) 738-1600 FAX: (717) 299-7401

21 E. MAIN ST. MOUNT JOY, PA 17552-1415 (717) 653-9225 FAX: (717) 299-7401



Senate of Pennsylvania

ORIGINAL: 2130

February 23, 2001

Mr. Robert Nyce 14th Floor, Harristown 2 333 Market Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Bob:

This letter is regarding regulations # 2-132 (# 2130) for dog shelters in Pennsylvania. It is my understanding that there have been numerous comments on these regulations. I am in full support of the final form regulations for 2-132. I urge you to consider the proposed changes carefully and I hope for your approval of the final form of these regulations.

Sincerely, Mah

Noah W. Wenger State Senator

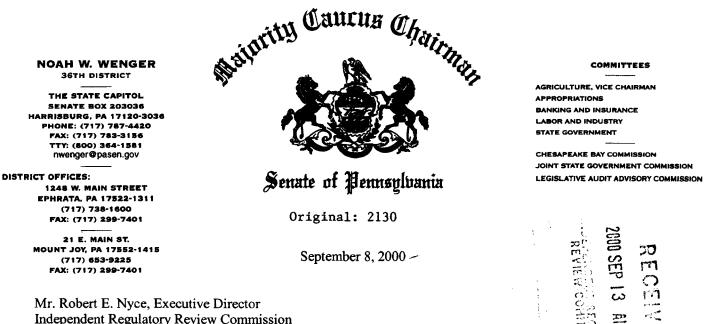
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CC: Amos Zimmerman

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Mr. Robert E. Nyce, Executive Director Independent Regulatory Review Commission 14th Floor, Harristown 2 333 Market Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

> RE: Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking Department of Agriculture Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement 7 Pa. Code § 21.24(d) Amendments to Shelter Regulations – Repealing Rest Board Requirements and Adding Vinyl Coated Wire Requirement I.D. No. 2-132

Dear Mr. Nyce:

The Department of Agriculture has submitted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission. The Department is proposing to remove the requirement in Dog Law regulations, 7 Pa. Code § 21.24(d), that requires kennel owners housing dogs in a primary enclosure with wire flooring to provide a rest board. The change would make Pennsylvania's regulations consistent with the same changes recently made in Federal regulations. The regulations were originally enacted to protect the health and safety of dogs and assure their humane treatment. It has become apparent, however, that rest boards are difficult to keep sanitized at all times, thereby creating a health hazard for dogs. Additionally, the Department is proposing that all wire flooring must be vinyl coated and constructed of significant diameter so that the floor does not sag or bend.

I understand that a there are some concerns with these amendments and I know that you will take them into consideration. After evaluating the proposed changes, however, I have no objections to them in their current form and encourage you to review the submitted proposed rulemaking favorably.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Moth Wenne

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Noah W. Wenger State Senator

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cc: Mr. Richard Burd Mr. Amos Zimmerman