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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

September 12, 2000

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

Original: 2130

COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, **MAJORITY CHAIRMAN**

JUDICIARY

LAND USE MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ANIMAL HEALTH & DIAGNOSTIC COMMISSION STATE AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD AGRICULTURE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

ASSIGNMENTS

ALEC-CIVIL JUSTICE TASK FORCE PA AGRICULTURAL LAW RESOURCE & REFERENCE CENTER, BOARD MEMBER DELAWARE RIVER BASIN CAUCUS LOCAL TAX REFORM CAUCUS RURAL HEALTH CARE CAUCUS PA LEGISLATIVE SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES. AGRICULTURAL & INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMITTEE MEMBER COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS, FEDERAL FUNDS TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEMBER

Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking RE:

Department of Agriculture

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement

7 Pa. Code § 21.24(d)

Amendments to Shelter Regulations - Repealing Rest Board Requirement and

Adding Vinyl Coated Wire Requirement

I.D. No. 2-132

Dear Mr. Nyce:

By submission of the above proposed rulemaking, the Department of Agriculture is offering to revise the requirement in current Dog Law regulations, 7 Pa. Code § 21.24(d), regarding the housing of dogs in primary enclosures. It is my understanding that the revisions are intended to make Pennsylvania's regulations consistent with changes recently made in Federal regulations (9CFR3.6) and that a committee of the Dog Law Advisory Board met to make recommendations.

Based on the letters we have both received, it has become apparent that a specific consensus of the "rest board committee" was not met prior to submission of these proposed regulations, despite information to the contrary indicated in the department's analysis of the proposed regulation. Therefore, I urge you to take into consideration the comments submitted by the interested parties. I am certain there was merely a miscommunication and that the department intends to make the changes which would sufficiently and appropriately protect the health of dogs.

I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Raymond Bunt, Jr., Chairman

Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee

Mr. Richard Burd cc: