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PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF
DOG CLUBS, Inc.

A Statewide Organization for the Benefit of
Dogs and Dog Owners

June 23, 2003

Honorable Thomas P. Gannon, Chairman
House Professional Licensure Committee

Dear Representative Gannon,


We are writing you in regards to the Rules and Regulations that are being proposed for the Veterinary Practice Act. As dog owners in Pennsylvania, we were active in the drafting of some of the provisions of this Act that effects dogs and the thousands of citizens who have them.

We strongly endorse the suggestion that veterinarians be required to notify clients that they have the option of receiving a written prescription that can be filled elsewhere. Just as in the case of the human owners who have their choice of pharmacies or other outlets for their medications, there are places other than a veterinary office that can provide medications for our pets. You may have seen advertisements on TV for companies that will send you such medications as Heartworm or flea and tick preventatives. These do require a prescription. We would also like to have the opportunity to shop through pet catalogs or even at a regular drug store for some of the drugs needed by our animals.

At the present time we must generally purchase any medications from our veterinarian and we must pay whatever they choose to charge, as we have no way to make comparisons. Some owners may continue to purchase from their vets, due to the convenience, but we certainly should have the freedom to make that decision.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this change. Please let us know your thoughts on this subject.

Sincerely,



Dotsie Keith, Legislative Chairman

cc: Mr. John Jewett, Independent Regulatory Review Commission

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