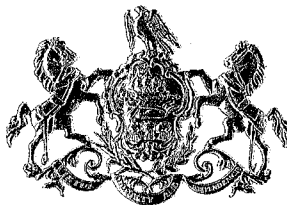


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LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
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CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AIR & WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE DATA PROCESSING COMMITTEE

Senate of Pennsylvania

February 7, 2007

Mr. Kim Kaufman, Executive Director
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
14th Floor, Harristown Building #2
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

Please find attached a letter I received from Terry and Barbara Weiss of Lansdale, Pennsylvania, who are expressing their concerns with the proposed regulations to the Office of Dog Law Enforcement which were published on December 16, 2006.

As owners and operators of a pet boarding facility for 23 years, they believe that many of the proposed regulatory changes are not warranted, impractical and excessively burdensome and costly.

They are particularly concerned that the proposed regulations made no provision for existing facilities and kennels would need to be completely demolished and reconstructed to comply. They are also opposed to the proposal because they do not differentiate between breeding kennels and boarding kennels. Their comments have also been shared with the Department of Agriculture and the Senate Agriculture Committee.

I would appreciate your serious review and consideration of the Weiss' comments as I.R.R.C. addresses these proposed regulations.

Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert C. Wonderling'.

ROBERT C. WONDERLING
STATE SENATOR, 24TH DISTRICT

RECEIVED
2007 FEB -9 AM 11:10
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:15

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Attn: Ms. Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

Dear Ms. Bender:

Barbara and Terry Weiss are owners of Roselynde Kennels, Inc., a dog boarding and grooming facility in Lansdale, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Roselynde Kennels has been operating as a pet boarding facility for 23 years, employing 10 full and/or part-time employees.

We are writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania Dog Law Regulations issued on December 16, 2006. We do not agree with most of the proposed regulatory changes. We do not feel that many of the proposed changes are even needed nor would they have a beneficial outcome if adopted. Many are impractical, excessively burdensome and costly, unenforceable, and they will not improve the quality of care for the dogs in a boarding kennel.

The regulations would require the wholesale renovation of existing kennels already built in compliance with current state standards. The engineering standards proposed are arbitrary, rigid, and are not necessary to maintain sanitary conditions in a boarding kennel.

The record keeping requirements are excessive and burdensome. It would be impossible to verify compliance or accuracy.

The segregation of dogs by sex and size is not applicable in a boarding kennel situation where each dog already has an individual indoor enclosure and access to an individual outdoor enclosure. The wishes of the owner of the boarded pet are not considered.

We agree that inhumane and substandard kennel conditions with respect to "puppy mills" needs to be addressed. Our major complaint is the inclusion of **boarding kennel facilities** within the same spectrum as commercial breeders. We also feel that enforcement of the current regulations would solve the problem. Such enforcement could be implemented with the an increase in the number of dog law enforcement officers. We urge that the proposed changes in the regulations be withdrawn, or revised.

Sincerely,

Terry R Weiss

Barbara J Weiss

January 23, 2007