

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

JAN 4 2007

Attn: Ms. Mary Bender

Dear Ms. Bender:

My name is Yolanda Cappa, and I moved to Pennsylvania two years ago. I show my dogs and on occasion breed them in order to get a show quality dog.

I am writing with respect to the proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania dog law regulations issued on December 16, 2006. I believe that inhumane and substandard kennel conditions should not be tolerated, but I do not agree that most of the proposed regulatory changes are needed, or would necessarily have a beneficial outcome if adopted. I honestly feel that many are impractical, excessively burdensome and costly, unenforceable, and/or will not improve the quality of life for the dogs in these kennels.

For myself, the following are a few examples that come to mind and will cause problems:

- * As a small residential show and hobby breeder, "temporary housing" would force me to become licensed in which I not possibly comply with the regulations. I feel as a small show and hobby breeder there is no reason to regulate.
- * The obligations of owners of "temporary housing" which are made subject to inspection by the proposal are not enumerated or limited.
- * There is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.
- * As a Smaller breeder and dog owner who maintain my dogs in their own

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION
2007 JAN -9 AM 10:27

RECEIVED

residential premises which is covered by the Pennsylvania dog law, I would be unable to comply with the rigid commercial kennel standards. I feel I provide care and conditions far superior to those required by the proposed new standards,

* The record keeping requirements with respect to exercise, cleaning, and other aspects of kennel management are excessively burdensome and serve no useful purpose, as it would be impossible to verify their accuracy in all but the most egregious circumstances. Such egregious circumstances already violate existing regulations.

* The proposals pertaining to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socialization and training practices.

The above are just a few examples of the deficiencies with respect to the proposed regulations.

The current proposal appears to be merely a laundry list of ideas for improving the environment for dogs that has no connection to specific instances in which the welfare of dogs could not be secured, and no basis in science or accepted canine husbandry practices. I urge that this proposal be withdrawn.

Sincerely yours,


Yolanda Cappa