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

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender:

My name is Barb Allison and I reside at 246 Twin Lakes Rd. Latrobe, Pa. 15650. I have been actively owning, training, loving and occasionally breeding Dalmatians for the past 48 years. I belong to The Dalmatian Club of America, The Greater Pittsburgh Dalmatian Club and The Bushy Run kennel Club. In that amount of time I have bred or co-bred 16 litters of puppies which amount to 1 litter every 3 years. As you can see I am not a high volume breeder. I am a responsible dog owner so you would think these proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania dog laws would have no effect on me. Well you would be wrong to think that.

I believe that inhumane, substandard, filthy kennel conditions should not be tolerated, however there are already substantial laws passed that meet all the needed requirements if they were enforced. The problem is enforcement and until that is addressed no amount of regulatory changes will help the suffering dogs. All these changes will do is hurt the small hobby dog enthusiast like me.

I have never had 26 dogs in one year so I don't need to get a kennel license however what if 2 of those 16 litters would have fallen in the same year? It is not unusual for a Dalmatian to produce 12 puppies in one litter. Two litters of 12 puppies and my 3 Champion, Obedience trained housedogs would put me over the 26 dog limit. I could not possibly comply with these regulations. Would I have to gravel or cement my front yard? These regulations would not permit me to let both my male and female dog sleep in my bed with me. My dogs all live peacefully together and my 15 pound puppies run in the front yard with my 65 pound males. Under the proposed rules I would be in violation. Small breeders and hobby dog owners like me provide excellent care and conditions for our dogs which are members of the family, not livestock. Every person who has ever been qualified to purchase one of my puppies has full access to my knowledge and help for the life of that dog and I will take back any of my dogs, no questions asked if it needs to be re-homed.

Although, I hate the fact that there are high volume breeders who look at dogs as livestock and breed commercially, the majority of them are licensed and therefore subject to the existing laws if they were they enforced properly. I feel the proposed changes would be a hardship for many of these breeders who are maintaining there dogs humanely. In the long run the breeders who these new proposed laws are aimed at will go underground and the dogs will suffer more than they are now. I hope this proposal will be withdrawn.

Sincerely Yours,

*Barb Allison*

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DOG LAW ENFORCEMENT

1/11/07

