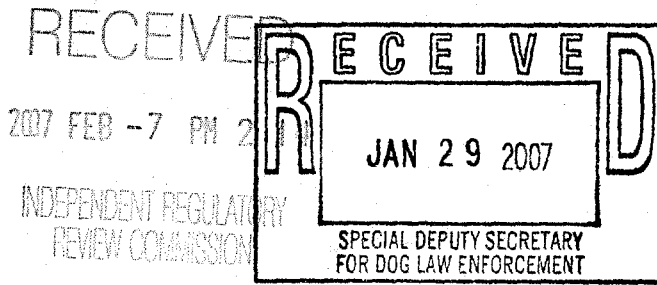


2559

19 Jan 07

Angela Barrett
President, Cobwebs, Inc. dba The Pet Store
1710 Lincoln Way East, #18
Chambersburg, PA 17201



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

Dear Ms. Smith:

My name is Angela Barrett, President, Cobwebs, Inc., dba The Pet Store in Chambersburg. I have been a licensed K5 kennel for eight years. I have NEVER had a dog law violation and I will do my very best to make sure this continues.

I do not want puppies from breeders with substandard conditions. Currently, and for the last several years, I've been using a local broker. I depend upon this person to look at the conditions of the breeder's kennels. I want clean, healthy, socialized puppies for my customers.

Some of the proposals are just silly. They go beyond the realm of reason. For example, the local shelter (CVAS) gets puppies from the same broker I use and for the same reason-to sell to the public. Although, they are exempted as a temporary holding facility and they've had dogs much longer than any puppy has ever resided in this store.

The smart way to write dog law is specific to the situation. There should be separate regulations for shelters, retail operations, brokers and commercial vs. 'hobby' breeders. This would address specific issues in very different situations.

I've watched as Pennsylvania has struggled with the puppy mill issue since I entered into this business. These are deplorable conditions which need eliminated. The law needs to be swift and painful in these cases. Dog Law Officers can do the job under current law IF they have the manpower. Ms. Georgia Martin, Dog Law Officer covering Franklin County must be exhausted at the end of her day!! How can one person effectively inspect all the kennels, respond to complaints, and stay on top of the administrative requirements of a state position? My suggestion is before you change existing law, hire enough dog law officers to enforce the current law and see what happens.

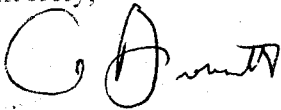
My store is in compliance with all current laws. Now it appears I will need to make major renovations to stay in compliance. I have glass board to a height of eight feet on my kennel walls. Now I will be required to either put up glass board to 11 feet or drop the ceiling to make the surface sanitizable. I assure you, feces does not get on my walls higher than eight feet!!

We maintain a socialization chart ensuring all the puppies get out and play at least five times per day. Some of our larger puppies go outside for walks with our kennel staff. If enacted, we won't be able to take them in the grass behind the shopping center. At times I take puppies home to play in my back yard, especially if they have colds. My veterinarian recommends this. The puppies love it. I have a non-'sanitizable' back yard.

Before opening my store I worked for the federal government for 13 years. I left at a GS-11 grade only to eliminate hours of daily travel into Frederick, MD. I know how to read a regulation and this regulation reads like a nightmare. There are so many loose ends and holes open to individual interpretation that it will only make more work for an already understaffed dog law enforcement bureau.

I urge that this proposal be withdrawn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Angela Barrett'.

Angela Barrett

Copy Furnished
Senator Terry Punt
State Representative Rob Kauffman