

2559

**From:** Joe Sullivan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2007 1:23 PM  
**To:** PFDC@paonline.com  
**Subject:** 36 Pa.B. 7596

I am privileged to be acquainted with a number of hobby breeder. They dearly love what they do and love their animals. They are committed to placing healthy, well socialized animals in good homes and I will vigorously oppose any legislation that interferes with the good work that they do. However, I am having trouble understanding how this proposed legislation would interfere with it and I ask that you clarify for me how it might. At present I would like to understand your objections in a number of areas. Some of these are taken directly from your draft letter.

#### Application

If I understand the law correctly, then its application attaches only to persons housing, breeding or re-homing more than 26 dogs in a year. That is about 2 litters and 10 or so other dogs or 3 litters and fewer dogs. How many dogs/litters are required to make someone a professional rather than a hobbyist? If the regulation does not apply to hobbyists then the burdensomeness objections should fall away.

#### Space and Exercise Requirements

Your encouraging letter to be written saying, "There is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements." While this may be true, I would be in favor of a felony conviction for a human who only provided a 3'X4' pen and 20 minutes of exercise per day to a 45 lb dog over a long period of time. The current law is much more modest than I think is appropriate.

#### Social Interaction of Dogs of Different Sizes

"The proposals pertaining to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socialization and training practices." I concur. Clearly this should be left to the judgment of the handler. In real life big dogs and little dogs will interact at dog-parks, in vet offices and on the street. They will be much better able to handle it if have experienced this in controlled environments with handler's that understand and can react quickly to animal behavior.

While there may be some areas of improvement possible for this legislation, to my mind it does far more good than harm. Please let me know where my thinking has gone awry.

Respectfully yours

Joe Sullivan  
Media, PA

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