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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSIONSue Cone
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January 25, 2007

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

RE: Oppose changes to dog law regulations

These regulations would have a very harmful effect on responsible breeders – those breeders that produce the carefully bred puppies for families in your state.

The onerous requirements of the proposed regulations would be impossible for good, responsible breeders to comply with, and have no basis in science or good husbandry practices – in fact, your proposed regulations are contrary to good practices. Those who keep and breed dogs in their homes – the best possible way to breed dogs – would be unable to comply with commercial kennel standards. This will lead to the loss of many responsible breeders in your state, and thus reduce the number of well-bred puppies available, sending more business to pet stores and commercial breeders.

Sub-standard, abusive facilities can be shut down on the basis of your animal cruelty laws already on the books – in fact, recently there have been some raids on inhumane kennels in Pennsylvania that did just that. Thus is no need to foist these over-reaching and unnecessary regulations on the good breeders in your state.

While I do not live in Pennsylvania, I have bought wonderful puppies from breeders in your state several times over the years. Both my current competition dogs were bred in your state by a hobby breeder who would come under these regulations. They are both ideal house-pets, plus one is a conformation Champion and an Obedience Trial Champion – the top obedience dog of his breed in the country. The younger dog has just started her career with two scores of 198 out of 200 in the obedience ring. Should these regulations be implemented, my excellent breeder would not be able to pursue her hobby. Is this what you want?

Please withdraw these proposed regulations.

Sincerely,


Susan Cone