

2559

**Bender, Mary**

**From:** RottsNme4@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2007 3:05 PM  
**To:** mabender@state.pa.us  
**Subject:** Attn. Ms Mary Bender

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

RECEIVED  
2007 FEB -2 AM 9:52  
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

**Dear Ms. Bender:**

I have been a breeder and owner of a "large volume kennel" for many years. We are AKC inspected and licensed by Dog Law but because we do not wholesale, and we deal directly with our many customers we are not licensed federally.

There are many reasons that we see problems with being FDA inspected just like there many reasons that the current proposed changes would hurt our business after 43 years of being open in Pennsylvania at the location. The proposed \$5000 to \$20,000 cost per kennel is steep for most at home businesses and owners who are past retirement age.

We have always prided ourselves on raising happy healthy puppies. We have imported some of Europe's finest bloodlines and many champion studs over the years. Our breeding females are put out on a one litter back contract as a puppy. This allows us to sell home raised, socialized puppies. We found out 40+ years ago that this was the only way to get the kind of temperament check needed on the pups and the mothers.

But houses do not meet the governors requirements and how many families with one pet want to have their home open for inspection? This policy, allowing us to have home raised puppies, would have to be stopped under the new law and a sterile, barren whelping facility built. We prefer our pups be used to kids, backyards, radios, and the family life they are bred to enjoy. 90% of our pups are family members first, then police dogs, handicap dogs, drug detection dogs, competitors in show ring or protection for some one famous.

See there is the problem. The SPCAs and Animal Right Activists scream that commercial kennels are "puppymills" and tell the public that all breeders breed sick, dying dogs and have no concern for anyone or anything but money. The Animal Rights Activists say wire bottomed pens are evil. Spaying and neutering are the healthiest

thing for every dog. Breeding dogs is never done right. But let's see.

We were Ft. Dodge's test kennel and because we sacrificed our pups for the future good of all, all dog owners now have a parvo vaccine that saves millions of dogs every year from a hideous death. Our pups have three parvo, two distemper, a kennel cough shot, wormings and life time satisfaction guarantees when they leave our kennel. We are open to the public seven days a week and no appointments are necessary. We have nothing to hide and our pups love visitors.

As to wire bottomed pens, although we have none let me ask you why do the vets use them? Why do the SPCAs use them? Because they keep the animal out of it's feces and from being contaminated by it's littermate who may be shedding coccidia or a virus from it's last booster shot. Wire bottomed exercise pens are also used by show dog breeders to grow long, unmatted, dry coat and not have the coat stained by concrete or stuck together with food.

We use large paddocks of shredded paper that run down into concrete runs to keep our pups clean because on a flat surface with several puppies in the pens, no one could keep it clean enough that the pups would not get fecal matter on themselves or on littermates while romping. Think about it and then put a row of pens, full of pups in the equation. Is this feasible to do without either the thick coated wire currently required by the regulations or an absorbent bedding? Our experience would say it is not feasible as would anyone who actually does hands on care with animals. Only those looking to make the new law so tight that Pennsylvania loses some of the top Champion producing kennels in the country want the rules like this.

As to neutering, the growing consensus is that it is unhealthy. I will supply articles on the effects that early menopause has on animals but some in brief are 50% increase in bone cancer, 70% more ACL tears in dogs neutered before growth plates close at 18 months, incontinence and increased aggression in females spayed too young. These are just a few of the negatives that neutering can have on dogs. Surprised? Yes, it is true that a dog with testicles will have more testicular cancer than a dog whose testicles were cut off but is that the statistic to base everything on?

The proposed changes are all unnecessary and will close many taxpaying kennels and most hobby breeders for no reason other than certain groups looking down on breeders and pet stores. After the kennels close, how until Pennsylvania loses petstores, veterinarians, groomers, feed mills, doggy daycares and many other viable businesses that need clients and customers to be in business? The ripple effect in 10 years will be too deep to correct.

Please vote down the changes and enforce the current laws.

They have closed many poorly run kennels in the past and would now if enforced.

Sincerely,  
Neda Yarnall  
151 Ford Rd  
Kimberton, PA. 19465

<http://www.caninesports.com/SpayNeuter.html>

<http://www.kerryblues.info/index.html?http%3A//www.kerryblues.info/HEALTH/SPAY.HTML>

<http://www.littleriverlabs.com/neuter.htm>

<http://www.mmilani.com/commentary-200509.html>

These are the four links we use the most.