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January 26, 2007

Mary Bender, Director, Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
2301 N. Cameron St., Room 102
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

Dear Ms. Bender:

My name is Lyman Dellinger; and I am writing in support of the proposed new and amended kennel regulations to improve the living conditions of dogs in commercial breeding kennels. I am a dog owner who has witnessed the condition of dogs in both large and smaller commercial breeding facilities.

I firmly believe that changes are needed to address unethical and inhumane kennel conditions and to provide the dogs housed there with a better overall quality of life.

Dogs are neither agricultural products nor is breeding them an agricultural business. It is past time for the agricultural classification to be eliminated. Dog breeding is a for-profit business that needs regulations to insure the interests of the public, their constituents, and the welfare of the dogs themselves.

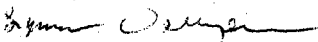
I believe that every dog in a kennel should be provided with at least 20 minutes of exercise daily. The cage size requirements need to be doubled from the current specifications. All dogs should be removed from the cage during cleaning. Heat should be provided when the temperatures drop below 60 degrees and cooling should be provided at temperatures above 80 degrees. Better lighting and frequent air changes are needed for ventilation. Permanent tethering can not be used as a primary enclosure.

All kennels should be inspected more often by reputable inspectors and reputable veterinarians. Infractions must be enforced. And kennel licenses for those convicted of animal cruelty within the past 10 years should definitely be denied.

Humane Shelters should be exempt from any requirements that cause an undue hardship. Shelters are non-profit and typically the dogs are short term residents. Commercial breeders, who profit from the sales of dogs, should be required to uphold all regulations.

Dogs are companion animals and need to be treated as such.

Sincerely,


Lyman Dellinger
933 Hidden Hollow Dr.
Gap, PA 17527

CC: Sen. Michael W. Brubaker
Rep. Gordon Denlinger

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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