

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

cc: IRRRC
Attn: Mr. John H Jewett
14th Floor Harrisstown 2
333 Market
Harrisburg, PA 17101

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Dear Ms. Bender:

While I do applaud your efforts to improve the Pennsylvania Puppy Mill situation, I must protest the manner in which you propose to do it. Please take a moment to consider my situation.

My husband and I designed and built an energy efficient boarding kennel on our property in 2001-02. We are now in our fifth year in business. Please check our extensive website: www.pinecreekpetresort.com. We currently have 22 rooms (runs) inside and outside and are still working on new areas of development, including an area to offer training and all kinds of information to pet lovers. We also own six Great Pyrenees and do breed occasionally. We know our breed well. Our occasional litters are bred for standard and temperament and we pick our puppies owners very carefully.

George and I run a legitimate small business. Every day we take all dogs out four times a day, feed them twice, clean the kennels, clean the yards, take care of dog baths, special activities, additional services, medications, extra time for timid pets, mow the lawns, maintain the painting, floors, doors & runs, spend time on the computer doing taxes, budgets, payroll, advertising, in house information, order supplies, spend time with customers and showing our facility, building solar panels from scratch to run radiant heat, and then, hopefully eat and clean up our own home on a fairly normal schedule.

I'm trying to show you that we work very hard on a daily basis to be able to own a small business, contribute to society and protect our environment. We take very good care of our clients and have built a reputation to prove it.

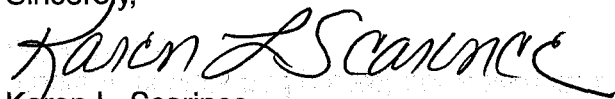
We love dogs and are responsible owners, handlers and occasional breeders. Pennsylvania does have a real problem with poorly cared for animals in puppy mills. I just cannot believe that proposed changes will make a bit of difference for these poor animals. Boarding kennels, breeding kennels, show breeders, and the dog owners who breed are all different operating entities. Our businesses are run differently and they should be. To place a whole group of new regulations on all of these dog related activities is an expensive and huge burden on the average business.

The people that already mistreat animals will just be spending more time faking your documents than caring for the animals. And we, the small businesses and breeders that are responsible will be burdened spending valuable time writing and typing useless or duplicate information.

Please do make an effort to fix the puppy mills and poor pet stores. Please offer education to those who want to do it right. GO AFTER THE PEOPLE WHO SELL SICK PETS. This can certainly be documented and proven. You already know who causes the worst problems. Give your officers the ability to stop the atrocities that they can clearly see.

But PLEASE do not punish the rest of us for the ones whom create the real problem.

Sincerely,



Karen L. Scarince
Pine Creek Pet Resort
37 Pine Creek Rd
Benton, PA 17814

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