

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

January 22, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposals referencing housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Furthermore, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

In addition, the proposed regulations call for the temperature of the kennel floor to be 50F° in the warm weather. Many kennels are air conditioned to a comfortable 70F°. A dog sleeping on a 50F° floor can develop hypothermia and become ill or die. For temperature, lighting, cleaning, exercise, housing, and veterinary care, the attending veterinarian should set forth and approve procedures specific for the kennel buildings and breeds of dogs.

The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Weaver

Emma Weaver
1736 Tuscarora Path
Ickesburg, PA 17037

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:17

RECEIVED

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

January 19, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,

Esle C Yoder

*Esle C Yoder
 515 Maple Grove RD
 Bellenille Pa 17004*

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
 COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:17

RECEIVED

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

January 19, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,

Hettie S. Godel

*Hettie S. Godel
 515 maple Grove Rd
 Belleville PA 17004*

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
 REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:17

RECEIVED

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

January 22, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposals referencing housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Furthermore, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

In addition, the proposed regulations call for the temperature of the kennel floor to be 50F° in the warm weather. Many kennels are air conditioned to a comfortable 70F°. A dog sleeping on a 50F° floor can develop hypothermia and become ill or die. For temperature, lighting, cleaning, exercise, housing, and veterinary care, the attending veterinarian should set forth and approve procedures specific for the kennel buildings and breeds of dogs.

The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,



Village Pet Shoppe
1150 Carlisle St
Hanover, PA 17331

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 9:13

RECEIVED

LEVI K. LAPP
2952 IRISHTOWN ROAD
RONKS, PA 17572

JANUARY 18, 2007

BUREAU OF DOG LAW ENFORCEMENT
PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ATTN: MS. MARY BENDER
2301 NORTH CAMERON STREET
HARRISBURG, PA 17110-9408

DEAR MS. BENDER,

I AM WRITING IN RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DOG LAW ACT 225 WHICH WAS ISSUED ON DECEMBER 16, 2006.

WITH A FULL UNDERSTANDING THAT THE BUREAU IS TRYING TO IMPROVE SUBSTANDARD KENNEL CONDITIONS, I AM NOT IN AGREEMENT THAT MOST OF THE CHANGES ARE NECESSARY.

THE PROPOSED RECORD KEEPING WOULD REQUIRE ME TO WRITE DOWN THE DATE AND TIME I WASHED EACH FOOD AND WATER BOWL, EVERY TIME A PEN IS CLEANED; EACH INDIVIDUAL OUTSIDE RUN IS CLEANED, ETC. IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR ME TO HAVE MY GENERAL DAILY PROCEDURES THAT I ROUTINELY FOLLOW, IN WRITING. THIS IS SIMILAR TO HOW THE USDA REGULATIONS ARE WORDED.

THE PROPOSED CHANGES WOULD ALSO REQUIRE THE DEMOLITION OF PENNSYLVANIA'S LICENSED AND INSPECTED KENNELS. YET, THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR THE CHANGE. IN ADDITION, THE AVERAGE COST TO REBUILD KENNEL WILL BE BETWEEN \$30,000.00 AND \$500,000.00 EACH.

I SINCERELY URGE THAT THIS PROPOSAL BE WITHDRAWN, AS THE BENEFICIAL OUTCOME WILL BE IN QUESTION IF THE PROPOSAL IS ADOPTED.

YOURS TRULY,

Levi K. Lapp

"Pleasant Kennels"

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:13

RECEIVED

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

January 24, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,

Levi H. Lepp

Pleasant Kennels
2952 Irishtown Rd
Ronks, PA 17572

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:13

RECEIVED

**AMOS K KING
223 REFTON ROAD
NEW PROVIDENCE, PA 17560**

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

January 23, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to oppose the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 recently issued on December 16, 2006. The current regulatory proposals in general are unenforceable and extremely onerous when put into practice.

The proposed regulations call for kennels to be specific in regard to exercise and cleaning records. These would require a substantial increase in manpower and time dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports, and it would be impossible to verify their accuracy. This change would also divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

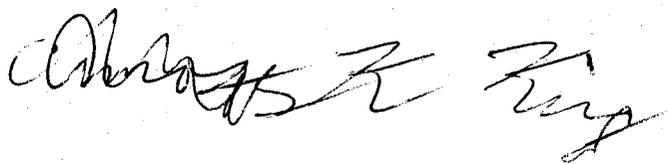
The bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.

Additionally, kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded and the USDA standard be adopted in Pennsylvania.

Yours Sincerely,



RECEIVED
2007 FEB - 2 AM 8:15
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION
no address

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

January 22, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,



Peacock Bridge Kennels Inc.
1411 Cross Keys Rd.
Reading, PA 19605

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
PERMITS COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:13

RECEIVED

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

January 23, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

As a kennel owner for a good number of years, I appreciate the fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws. With regard to the proposed dog law changes Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006, I have a few serious concerns.

The proposed changes would require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. These excessive and burdensome requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The proposed changes make no sense for all kennel owners' dogs to be seized by the Dog Law Bureau based on the Governor's proposed new requirements for pen sized or quarantine regulations. Dog Law places the same dog into a humane society not required to have the proposed new standards. It is vital to have fair and uniform kennel requirements. In addition, small business owners are affected greatly and their due process rights in court are limited if the proposed changes adopted.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,

Mabel Ruff

Glenbrook Kennel
350 Peace Rd
Leola, PA 17540

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:13

RECEIVED

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

January 22, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

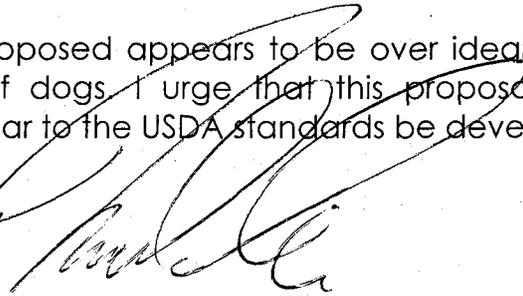
The proposals referencing housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Furthermore, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

In addition, the proposed regulations call for the temperature of the kennel floor to be 50F° in the warm weather. Many kennels are air conditioned to a comfortable 70F°. A dog sleeping on a 50F° floor can develop hypothermia and become ill or die. For temperature, lighting, cleaning, exercise, housing, and veterinary care, the attending veterinarian should set forth and approve procedures specific for the kennel buildings and breeds of dogs.

The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,



We Love Pets
523 Baltimore Pike
Media, PA 19063

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:14

RECEIVED

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

January 19, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,



Naomi Stoltzfus
193 Given Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
HEALTH COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:14

RECEIVED

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

January 19, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

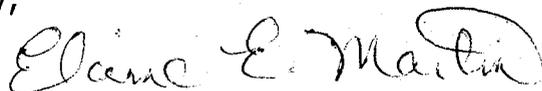
I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,



193 Given Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344

RECEIVED
2007 FEB -2 AM 9:15
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

**SAMUEL E. KING
COUNTRY LANE KENNEL
NEW PROVIDENCE, PA 17560-9724**

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

January 23, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to oppose the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 recently issued on December 16, 2006. The current regulatory proposals in general are unenforceable and extremely onerous when put into practice.

The proposed regulations call for kennels to be specific in regard to exercise and cleaning records. These would require a substantial increase in manpower and time dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports, and it would be impossible to verify their accuracy. This change would also divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

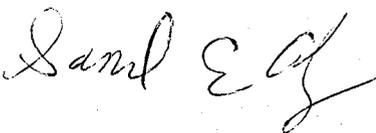
The bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.

Additionally, kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded and the USDA standard be adopted in Pennsylvania.

Yours Sincerely,



INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
HEARING COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:15

RECEIVED

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

January 19, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposals referencing housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Furthermore, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

In addition, the proposed regulations call for the temperature of the kennel floor to be 50F° in the warm weather. Many kennels are air conditioned to a comfortable 70F°. A dog sleeping on a 50F° floor can develop hypothermia and become ill or die. For temperature, lighting, cleaning, exercise, housing, and veterinary care, the attending veterinarian should set forth and approve procedures specific for the kennel buildings and breeds of dogs.

The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,


Samuel E. King
223 Refton Rd
New Providence, PA 17560

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:15

RECEIVED

**MAHLON Z KING
223 REFTON ROAD
NEW PROVIDENCE, PA 17560**

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

January 23, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to oppose the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 recently issued on December 16, 2006. The current regulatory proposals in general are unenforceable and extremely onerous when put into practice.

The proposed regulations call for kennels to be specific in regard to exercise and cleaning records. These would require a substantial increase in manpower and time dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports, and it would be impossible to verify their accuracy. This change would also divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.

Additionally, kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded and the USDA standard be adopted in Pennsylvania.

Yours Sincerely,

Mahlon Z King

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB - 2 AM 8:15

RECEIVED

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

January 22, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposals referencing housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Furthermore, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

In addition, the proposed regulations call for the temperature of the kennel floor to be 50F° in the warm weather. Many kennels are air conditioned to a comfortable 70F°. A dog sleeping on a 50F° floor can develop hypothermia and become ill or die. For temperature, lighting, cleaning, exercise, housing, and veterinary care, the attending veterinarian should set forth and approve procedures specific for the kennel buildings and breeds of dogs.

The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,

Yvonne Sweetower
 Warrior Run Petcare Center
 2410 8th St Drive
 Watsontown, PA 17777

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
 FEEDBACK COMMISSION

2007 FEB -2 AM 8:15

RECEIVED

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -7 AM 11:16

February 4, 2007

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender,

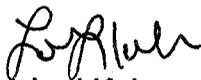
I am writing in support of December 16, 2006 proposal to improve the living conditions of dogs who suffer in the current Pennsylvania puppy mills. I belong to several dog organizations as well as volunteer for the Susquehanna Service Dogs. As you know, Pennsylvania is considered the "puppy mill capital of the East". I belong to one organization that wanted to have a large convention in the Lancaster area but moved the venue to Maryland because of the pitiful reputation of the Lancaster area puppy mills. This was indeed a great loss of revenue and I am sure this situation goes on much more than you realize.

The proposed legislation covers the filthy conditions that the dogs are required to live in, but does not cover the fact that females are bred over and over in the same year, producing unhealthy pups. Perhaps legislation could be added to restrict the breeding practices based on a more humane and healthful basis.

I do ask for an exception for shelters for the kennel expansion and exercise requirements. Foster homes should be exempt from kennel housing requirements and instead have separate performance standards appropriate for home care settings. Shelters and foster care home as a temporary situation and put the health and well-being of the animals first in all situations and should not be held to unrealistic requirements for the temporary situation.

Thank you for your action to help those animals who can not speak for themselves.

Sincerely,



Lori Kuhn
York PA

✓cc: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman, IRRC