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February 5, 2007

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION



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

RE: Purposed Amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 issued December 16, 2006

Dear Ms. Bender,

Buckshire Corporation is a USDA licensed B dealer, a US Fish & Wildlife Importer/Exporter, a licensed CDC Non-Human Quarantine facility and we are licensed by the State of Pennsylvania to have a kennel. We are regularly inspected by all of the agencies listed above plus others such as the Pennsylvania Game Department and the Transportation Security Administration.

The purposed regulation changes to the Dog Law Act are burdensome and appeared to be promoted by Animal Rights influence rather than Animal Welfare influence. The proposed regulations will not benefit the animals that the law protects and in some cases may actually harm the animals. A 50 degree Fahrenheit floor in the summer may be wonderful if you are a Newfoundland but pure torture if you are a Toy Terrier. Every kennel has an attending veterinarian. The attending veterinarian should be the person most knowledgeable to establish holding temperatures, cleaning regimens, exercise and veterinary care. Additionally, USDA licenses every kennel and they already have in place guidelines that would conflict with the purposed changes. When conflicting guidelines appear, which guidelines take precedence?

We ask you to kill this proposal as presented and if changes are needed, follow the tried and proven process of addressing changes through the legislative process. The future of every licensed kennel owner in the Commonwealth is in your hands. Please do not let us down.

Sincerely,

Sharon Hursh
President