

2559

133 Beth Drive
Lansdale, PA 19446-5254
February 5, 2007

RECEIVED

FEB 26 REC'D

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

Dear Ms. Bender:

As a dog lover and an animal advocate, I applaud the steps recently taken by the Dog Law Advisory Board to update the antiquated regulations that have left thousands of PA dogs suffering on a daily basis.

The new regulations, introduced on December 16, 2006, are practical, enforceable, and will greatly improve the quality of life for the dogs living in the commercial breeding kennels. Moreover, those breeders opposing the regulations, based upon the costs they will incur to implement the necessary changes, do not have the dogs' best interest at heart. Clearly, these are the breeders who should be out of the business should they choose not to support or comply with the new regulations; the issue is the health of the dogs - not the money in the breeder's - or dog registry's - pocket.

It is absolutely documented by canine authorities that daily exercise, grooming, proper veterinary care and quality housing all serve to promote canine health and mental balance.

The Bureau has my whole-hearted support to implement the new regulations and to continue policing and shutting down the substandard kennels that have littered our state to such a degree that we're known as the 'Puppy Mill Capital' of the east.

Sincerely,

Dianne L. Houghtaling
Dianne L. Houghtaling