

February 5, 2007

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

Dear Ms. Bender:

I am writing to you in reference to the new legislation being proposed by lawmakers in PA in an effort to improve the living conditions of animals that live in commercial breeding facilities. I would like to applaud your efforts and thank you for your work on behalf of those who have no voice.

I am writing to enthusiastically support this legislation. It is my hope that legislators will not bend to the special interests of groups who are allowing their collective financial self-interest to supercede the overall welfare of the dogs that live in these commercial breeding facilities. As you are well aware, many of these dogs spend years living in cramped cages with little or no medical care, no good nutrition, no socialization and no opportunity for regular exercise. It is unfortunate indeed that some turn a blind eye to the suffering of these helpless animals. I fully realize that these are the facilities that this legislation is intended to regulate more effectively.

Once again, I applaud your efforts on behalf of the helpless animals that are suffering in the state of PA at this very moment due to the greed of certain individuals. I hope that you will work tirelessly to see to it that this legislation can be passed and become law. It is my hope that the final legislation will not interfere with the work of shelters and rescues who are already working tirelessly on behalf of animals. That being said, I would like to once again express my support of this legislation.

Most sincerely,

Shelly O'Keefe
2530 Galley Vista
Buechel City, AZ

*Nothing is so sad as buying and loving a dog from
a puppy mill who dies from the diseases they get or
their inability to socialize due to isolation.*