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February 5, 2007

Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement  
Attn: Mary Bender  
2301 North Cameron St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408  
FAX: 717-772-4352

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FEB 26 REC'D

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender,

As a long time advocate for humane treatment for animals, I send this letter to you and ask for your commitment and support for the proposed changes by the Department of Agriculture, 7 PA Code Chapters 21,23,25, and 27, to help all dogs that are living in Pennsylvania's puppy mills. These conditions must be improved and the inhumane conditions stopped.

Conditions that must be addressed are many. They include; size of cages, required daily exercise, temperature controls(heat and cooling and ventilation), denying of kennel licenses to individuals convicted of animal cruelty. I also urge you to support the detailed comments submitted by the Humane Society of the United States on this issue.

I also ask that provisions be made for exemption for animal shelters and rescue groups that may be adversely affected by the new definition, "temporary home". This exemption needs to also be extended to foster homes for animals, and the kennel housing/expansion requirements, and instead have separate performance standards appropriate for home care settings.

I will also be sending this letter to Mr. Coccodrilli, Independent Regulatory Review Commission, along with copies to Senator Kasunic and Representative Bastian to enlist their support.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Brad Cramer  
Chief of Police (Retired)  
Somerset Police Department  
P.O. Box 974  
Somerset, PA 15501