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February 7, 2007

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

RE: New Proposed Dog Laws

Dear Ms. Bender:

VIA FAX: 717-772-4352

First let me note that I'm extremely pleased with the initiative that has been taken towards regulation and enforcement of licensed dog kennels. While it might not put a complete end to puppy mills, it will certainly ensure better living conditions for the breeding dogs. The revisions to the bulletin seem reasonable enough that all licensed responsible breeders should be able to complete, and if not then they should not be allowed to continue doing business in our state.

I have one question (comment) regarding the verbiage within the revisions. As you surely are aware, currently many dogs are crammed into on enclosure. Below is the wording of the proposed revision:

Affords each dog sheltered therein at least 5 square feet for a dog weighing 25 pounds or less, 8 square feet for a dog weighing more than 25 pounds but not more than 45 pounds, and 12 square feet for a dog weighing more than 45 pounds.

Am I to understand that one dog and only one dog will be allowed according to their size this space? Are they to be completely solitary in their designated areas? Where does it describe in the proposal multiple dogs in an enclosure, and the amount of space then required?

Again the steps being taken are commendable, but further clarification is needed. I'm concerned that those already bending the rules will find new ways to twist the legislation to their liking.

Thank you for your time. A response is appreciated.

Yours truly,

Christina Davis

411 Cherry Street

Clifton Heights, PA 19018

610-259-2535

davisc508@yahoo.com

Copy: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman

Independent Regulatory Review Commission

333 Market Street, 14th Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17101 VIA FAX: 717-783-2664