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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

501 West Hottter Street, D-7  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19119  
February 7, 2007

Mary Bender, Director, Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement  
2301 N. Cameron St., Room 102  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

Dear Ms. Bender:

I want to express my strong support for efforts to end the abusive conditions under which too many dogs are bred and raised in Pennsylvania. Stronger regulation of breeders including stricter standards they must live up to and aggressive investigation and enforcement are essential.

I'd like to see the Commonwealth go well beyond that too. The crisis of dog overpopulation and homelessness is the consequence of unregulated breeding for profit. Breeders and sellers should be compelled to pay for the costs of the overpopulation and homelessness problem they contribute to. A dedicated public stream of money should be established which goes from fees on breeders and pet stores and their sales of dogs to the vitally needed and inadequately funded programs that try to cope with dog overpopulation and homelessness: shelter expansion and enhancement, spay and neuter education and subsidy programs and rescue and adoption promotion.

The breeders and pet store dogsellers are a special interest whose power has been unchallenged in this state for much too long. It is absurd for the most callous members of our society to make money generating a dog overpopulation and homelessness crisis that the most compassionate members of our society must struggle continuously to cope with without the support of public funding and funding from the people who created the crisis. The Commonwealth should be on the side of those compassionate people who struggle to deal with homeless dogs.

Sincerely

*Robert Gilda*

Robert Gilda

cc: Sen. Leanna Washington  
Rep. Rosita Youngblood