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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

RE: Comments on proposed Dog law regulations

Dear Ms. Bender,

As a resident of Pennsylvania and Board Member of the Adams County SPCA, I am writing to urge you to support the proposed amendments to the Dog Law regulations set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

Unfortunately, our Commonwealth has earned the reputation as the "Puppy Mill Capital of the East", a reputation that is not altogether undeserved. The problems are rampant and the time is way past due that these are corrected. The changes to the Dog Law regulations proposed by the Department of Agriculture and Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement will greatly improve the conditions under which so many unfortunate dogs are bred and raised commercially in Pennsylvania.

These new regulations will double the required cage size for dogs, improve sanitation, drainage and ventilation standards, require that all dogs be provided with a minimum of 20 minutes of exercise everyday and require prompt and immediate veterinary care for sick and injured dogs, among others.

The proposed regulations will not impose restrictions on small hobby breeders who raise fewer than 26 dogs in a year, contrary to what the breeding industry suggests. Nor will the regulations impact dog shows, dog parks, or other dog events held in the state. The regulations are aimed specifically at regulating large-scale commercial breeders.

It is in the state's best interest to provide humane care and conditions for dogs housed and bred in Pennsylvania's commercial kennels. The proposed regulations will better ensure that these dogs are disease-free, behaviorally sound and well cared for. As a constituent who volunteers with my county's SPCA and other dog rescue organizations, I respectfully request that you support the regulations and help move them through the regulatory process in an expeditious manner.

Thank you for your time and attention to this serious matter.

Sincerely,


Robert C. Goodman

634 Highland Ave.
Gettysburg, PA 17325