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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement Attn: Ms. Mary Bender Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture 2301 North Cameron Street Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408 January 21, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender:

Having purchased dogs from wonderful, ethical, breeders and boarded them in clean, air conditioned/heated boarding kennels, owned and operated by animal loving, ethical professionals, I feel compelled to voice my opinion. Although, perhaps, well intentioned, the proposed amendments of December 16, 2006 to the Pennsylvania Dog Law Regulations greatly concern me. I agree that inhumane and substandard kennel conditions should not be tolerated, however, I emphatically disagree with the proposed regulatory changes. I believe these changes are impractical, will create a great burden from a financial standpoint, will not be enforceable and, most importantly, will not improve the quality of the lives of the dogs entrusted to the aforementioned, ethical breeders and boarding kennels. These regulations will also require wholesale renovation, if not rebuilding of many kennels already built in compliance with current federal and/or state standards. Small, boarding kennels, and breeding facilities, whose care and conditions are far superior to those required by the proposed new standards, would be unable to comply with the rigid commercial kennel standards. These small breeders and boarding kennels would be forced out of business, face a loss of income, and deprive their communities of their outstanding services. I strongly urge that this proposal be withdrawn.

Sincerely,

Mike McKenzie