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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

February 7, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I hope writing with my few comments will possibly be of some help. I am offering my opinion on the proposed changes to the PA dog laws being considered for approval by your department. It seems to me that these new changes to the Dog Laws, as written, are possibly going to do more harm than good for the dogs in PA.

To consider that dogs now being raised in well caring home environments would be better off being raised like laboratory animals is confusing to me. Having to change from raising litters in the breeders' homes where they are exposed to home conditions and constant interaction with people is a good thing! To be forced to have to use wire mesh and concrete in industrial type buildings like chicken or rats- is surly going to make many good responsible breeders give up breeding rather than compromise their standards - exactly what the loony animal rights groups would like to have happen.

If you feel your Dept. needs to do something about bad dog conditions in so-called puppy mills then at least have your dept first make an effort to enforce the existing rules (as I have heard has been a bit lax). If you do this you may find that enacting new rules, that may present even more problems, might not be necessary.

There are many good & reputable breeders in my area who work hard to produce well-bred, well-socialized and healthy dogs, just as I'm sure there are some not as reputable. But don't punish the good ones because of the bad ones. Please consider all the long-range effects of this issue before making your final Dept rulings.

Regards,

