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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

RE: Proposed changes to the Pennsylvania Dog Law

Dear Ms. Bender:

While the intention may be to end the shameful conditions that exist in large-scale dog breeding facilities (puppy mills), the proposed changes will instead be detrimental to the responsible breeders of dogs. These conscientious people strive to improve the health and temperament of their dogs. They already do all they can to provide the best for their beloved canine friends. They understand the care and needs of those animals. Events and organizations that give opportunities to share knowledge, learn about, improve and enjoy dogs will be negatively impacted.

What is really needed is for the current laws to be rigorously enforced! Empty words accomplish nothing. Puppy mills exist because the laws that would put an end to their inhumane practices have not been followed. The public sees the horrible conditions that exist and calls for something to be done. Making new rules shows action when the real problem is lack of action on the current rules.

Money talks and (unfortunately) there is money to be made in high-volume commercial breeding. If these new proposals are enacted, the money almost certainly will appear for lobbying for strict enforcement of **them**. That will strangle the responsible small breeder. The joy for a responsible breeder is to provide a happy and healthy companion—not a healthy bottom line.

Sincerely,

Rebecca A. Commons
Harrisburg, PA