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Melissa B. Neely
307 Berkshire Rd.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

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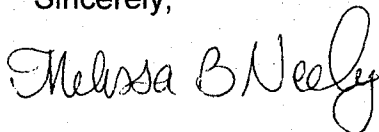
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

Ms. Mary Bender:

I have been a resident of Pennsylvania and responsible dog owner my entire life. I not only have owned a dog, but have also worked for a dog-grooming establishment and have kept company with many reputable breeders in my life. I am extremely concerned with the legislative changes that are proposed under the guise of improving the care of dogs in breeding establishments. Much like children, dogs learn their socialization during the early life. By changing the requirements for breeders, you are making it impossible for those that have a passion for raising well socialized and loved pets for responsible dog owners to perpetuate the wonderful variety that exists in the many breeds in the area while perpetuating the puppy mills by allowing them to function without intervention. Instead of regulating this industry by throwing additional legislation at the responsible dog breeders, why not enforce the existing laws by putting disreputable puppy mills out of business? If this legislation of breeders continues, I will not only lose the ability to choose a well bred pet for my next puppy, but I look to a future where my choices are a puppy mill dog raised in a cement building with only other dogs to accompany her with an occasional visit from the owner paying thousands for this unsocialized animal. I hope you are able to see the error in the recent proposal and will support the right of people to choose the animal raised by kind and loving people. Please consider the impact of this proposal and acknowledge the absurdity of what it would do to the responsible family dog breeders. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Melissa B. Neely