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2007 MAR -6 PM 1:20

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 9, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

Since I have no connection with any breeder, kennel or even any dog club, other than the fact that some of my PA friends are also true dog lovers, I am going to say what it appears no one else has the courage to say. Everyone I have asked about this issue since hearing about it is appalled at what may happen to responsible breeders and the breeds they care about, if these proposed new dog regulations go through.

There are many animal rights groups anxious to find politicians who will welcome contributions and in exchange find a supporter for some of their goals – such as putting breeders and kennels out of business throughout the country. We can all tip-top around the coincidental timing of the introduction of these new laws and the contributions and subsequent election of the more liberals Democrats nationwide. Take large contributions from Texas and New York, add the support of radical groups like PETA, and ASPCA and you have, in my opinion, more than a coincidence that legislature from one state to the next is proposing similar restrictive dog law changes.

I can also understand how anyone who would feel they could be "targeted" somehow for speaking out would not want to say what many know to be happening in PA. So I have decided to say this for them.

I would expect that your department has background with many dog people in PA for reasonable input. Hopefully you will be able to find some way to bring this awful situation to a positive conclusion while still allowing the politicians involved to save face. Please do not let the good dog loving communities of PA have to pay for political maneuvering to advance the agenda of people against home-raised puppies and caring small boarding kennels. This could have many far-reaching and detrimental affects on the dog lovers of PA, even more than are feared right now.

Yours truly,

*Michael S. Bartron*