

January 24, 2007

Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:13

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

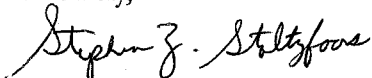
As a Pennsylvania breeder, I am strongly opposed to the overly restrictive rules and regulations that are proposed for kennel owners. The enforcement of regulations such as these will effectively serve to shut down or severely curtail the activities of the concerned, caring and law-abiding breeders in Pennsylvania. The extensive number of regulations outlined in this proposal and the limited time allotted prevents the proper consultation and review of these regulations with our kennel veterinarian and other professionals. Therefore, in order to allow for the proper review and consultation of this extensive proposal, I request a ninety-day extension of the comment period.

As a Pennsylvania breeder, my goal and the goal of other law-abiding breeders is to raise the best quality and healthiest puppy possible. This is not the issue. Unfortunately, the issue created by this proposal is my rights as a citizen of this state to own property, and my rights to be afforded due process guaranteed by the provisions of our state's constitution. The vagueness of this proposal causes great concern that my rights as a citizen will be omitted by the bias opinion of those who will hear my side of the story.

As a Pennsylvania breeder, I am concerned that these overly burdensome regulations will have severe unforeseen consequences. These include reduced number of breeders willing to deal with the excessive administrative burden caused by these regulations. The shortages of puppies and resulting higher prices, which will encourage the import of oversea and out of state puppies. The ensuing shortages will provide a lucrative opportunity for those who operate beneath the law to fill these shortages. Those who participate in this black market will find the rewards well worth the risk. Additionally, the economic loss to the state will be in the millions, and will go far beyond the breeder to include pet supply retailers, cities who sponsor shows, and state tax revenue.

As a Pennsylvania breeder, I believe it is unfortunate that this proposal appears to be more about animal activism than about animal welfare. You only have to consider the one section that permits shelters and other similar facilities that provide a "service" to be exempt from these regulations. I immediately question the intent behind those who are pushing the governor on this issue. What sense does it make to remove animals from a substandard facility and place them in another substandard facility? None! Furthermore, this proposal has no incentives or educational programs for the breeders. It is all threats and punishment, which is another indication, that the motives of those supporting this proposal are more interested in eliminating our industry than in improving our industry.

Sincerely,



Stephen Z. Stoltzfoos
881 Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Quarryville, PA 17566

2559

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,

Annie Stoltzfus
650 Sawmill Rd
Cochranville, PA 19330

Annie E. Stoltzfus

Martin's Kennel
557 S. 4th St.
Mifflinburg, PA 17844

2559

RECEIVED

January 20, 2007

2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 12

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

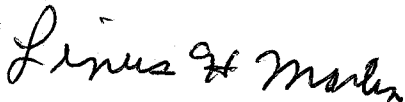
With a full understanding that the bureau is trying to improve substandard kennel conditions, I am not in agreement that most of the changes are necessary.

The proposed record keeping would require me to write down the date and time I washed each food and water bowl, every time a pen is cleaned; each individual outside run is cleaned, etc. It would be better for me to have my general daily procedures that I routinely follow, in writing. This is similar to how the USDA regulations are worded.

The proposed changes would also require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels. Yet, there is no scientific basis for the change. In addition, the average cost to rebuild kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be withdrawn, as the beneficial outcome will be in question if the proposal is adopted.

Yours truly,



Linus & Irene Martin
557 South 4th St.
Mifflinburg, PA 17844

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 12

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Samuel K. Stoltzfus
262 Mascot Road
Ronks, PA 17572

2559

Linus Martin
557 S. Fourth Street
Mifflinburg, PA 17844

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:12

January 18, 2007

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

With a full understanding that the bureau is trying to improve substandard kennel conditions, I am not in agreement that most of the changes are necessary.

The proposed record keeping would require me to write down the date and time I washed each food and water bowl, every time a pen is cleaned; each individual outside run is cleaned, etc. It would be better for me to have my general daily procedures that I routinely follow, in writing. This is similar to how the USDA regulations are worded.

The proposed changes would also require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels. Yet, there is no scientific basis for the change. In addition, the average cost to rebuild kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be withdrawn, as the beneficial outcome will be in question if the proposal is adopted.

Yours truly,

Linus H. Martin
Martin's Kennel

Linus & Irene Martin
557 South 4th St.
Mifflinburg, PA 17844

2559

Nickelson Gun Dog Kennel
310 Taylor Road
Confluence, Pa. 15424-2006

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 13

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

February 5, 2007

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, Pa. 17101

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

With the full understanding that the bureau is trying to improve substandard kennel conditions, I am not in agreement that most of the changes are necessary.

The proposed record keeping would require me to write down the date and time I washed each food and water bowl, every time a pen is cleaned and each individual outside run is cleaned, etc. It would be better for me to have my daily procedures that I follow in writing. This is similar to how the USDA regulations are worded.

The proposed changes would also require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels. Yet there is no scientific basis for the change. In addition, the average cost to rebuild the kennels will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be withdrawn, as the beneficial outcome will be in question if the proposal is adopted.

Respectfully Submitted,



John Nickelson
Owner/Manager
Nickelson Gun Dog Kennel

2559

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

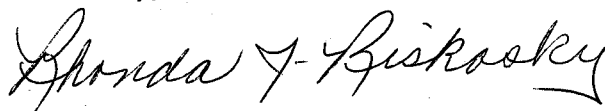
I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,



Riskosky's Boarding Kennel
2140 William Flynn Highway
Butler, PA 16001

2559

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:14

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

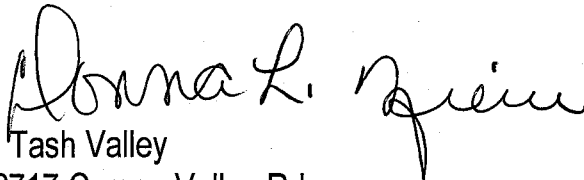
I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking.

The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Tash Valley
2717 Carson Valley Rd
Duncansville, PA 16635

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 20, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

As a kennel owner for a good number of years, I appreciate the fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws. With regard to the proposed dog law changes Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006, I have a few serious concerns.

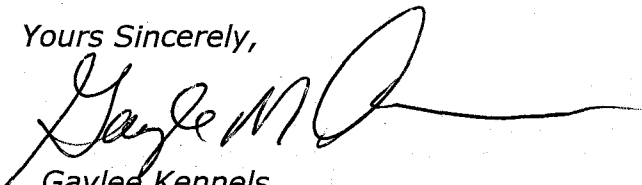
The proposed changes would require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. These excessive and burdensome requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The proposed changes make no sense for all kennel owners' dogs to be seized by the Dog Law Bureau based on the Governor's proposed new requirements for pen sized or quarantine regulations. Dog Law places the same dog into a humane society not required to have the proposed new standards. It is vital to have fair and uniform kennel requirements. In addition, small business owners are affected greatly and their due process rights in court are limited if the proposed changes adopted.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,



Gaylee Kennels
651 Abel Colony Rd
Wind Gap, PA 18091

2559

RECEIVED

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

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The proposed changes would require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. These excessive and burdensome requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The proposed changes make no sense for all kennel owners' dogs to be seized by the Dog Law Bureau based on the Governor's proposed new requirements for pen sized or quarantine regulations. Dog Law places the same dog into a humane society not required to have the proposed new standards. It is vital to have fair and uniform kennel requirements. In addition, small business owners are affected greatly and their due process rights in court are limited if the proposed changes adopted.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,



Hunting Hills
181 Hunting Hills Rd
Dilliner, PA 15327

2559

RECEIVED

IRRC

Attn: Mr. John H. Jewett
14th Floor Harrisstown 2
333 Market St.
Harrisburg, PA 17101

2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

RE: Proposed Changes to PA Dog Law Regulations (36 Pa. B. 7596)

Dear Mr. Jewett,

As a kennel owner for a good number of years, I appreciate the fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws. With regard to the proposed dog law changes Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006, I have a few serious concerns.

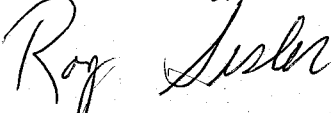
The proposed changes would require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. These excessive and burdensome requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The proposed changes make no sense for all kennel owners' dogs to be seized by the Dog Law Bureau based on the Governor's proposed new requirements for pen sized or quarantine regulations. Dog Law places the same dog into a humane society not required to have the proposed new standards. It is vital to have fair and uniform kennel requirements. In addition, small business owners are affected greatly and their due process rights in court are limited if the proposed changes adopted.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,



Hunting Hills
181 Hunting Hills Rd
Dilliner, PA 15327

2559

Amos L. Martin
557 S. 4th St.
Mifflinburg, PA 17844

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:12

January 30, 2007

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing in response to oppose the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 recently issued on December 16, 2006. The current regulatory proposals in general are unenforceable and extremely onerous when put into practice.

The proposed regulations call for kennels to be specific in regard to exercise and cleaning records. These would require a substantial increase in manpower and time dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports, it would be impossible to verify their accuracy. This change would also divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.

Additionally, kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded and the USDA standard be adopted in Pennsylvania.

Yours Sincerely,

Linus H. Martin
Martin Kennel

Linus & Irene Martin
557 South 4th St.
Mifflinburg, PA 17844

2559

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 12

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly, *Amos E. Blank*

Rocky Ridge Kennel
254 Mascot Rd
Ronks, PA 17572

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:13

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 24, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposals referencing housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Furthermore, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

In addition, the proposed regulations call for the temperature of the kennel floor to be 50F° in the warm weather. Many kennels are air conditioned to a comfortable 70F°. A dog sleeping on a 50F° floor can develop hypothermia and become ill or die. For temperature, lighting, cleaning, exercise, housing, and veterinary care, the attending veterinarian should set forth and approve procedures specific for the kennel buildings and breeds of dogs.

The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,



Whispering Pines Kennel
651 W. Weaverland Rd
New Holland, PA 17557

2559

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:14

January 23, 2007

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

As a kennel owner for a good number of years, I appreciate the fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws. With regard to the proposed dog law changes Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006, I have a few serious concerns.

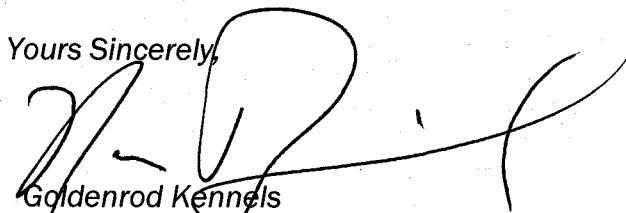
The proposed changes would require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. These excessive and burdensome requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed, and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The proposed changes make no sense for all kennel owners' dogs to be seized by the Dog Law Bureau based on the Governor's proposed new requirements for pen sized or quarantine regulations. Dog Law places the same dog into a humane society not required to have the proposed new standards. It is vital to have fair and uniform kennel requirements. In addition, small business owners are affected greatly and their due process rights in court are limited if the proposed changes adopted.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,



Goldenrod Kennels
103 White Cloud Rd
Apollo, PA 15613

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2559

2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 10

January 20, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

1. Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.
2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Dog Law Enforcement Bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the Department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Cave Ridge Kennel
3409 Brumbaugh Rd.
New Enterprise, PA 16665

2559

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

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2007 FEB -9 AM 11: 10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 30, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

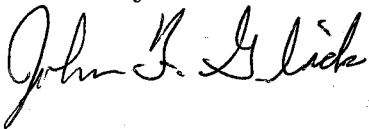
I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking.

The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Townsedge Kennel
85 Archery Road
New Providence, PA 17560

2559

RECEIVED

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 22, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

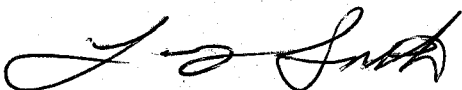
I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Larry Smith
440 Stoney Lane
Lancaster, PA 17603

2559

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking.

The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



The Pet Shop
Palmer Park Mall
Easton, PA 18045

2559

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED
2007 FEB -9 AM 11:10
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking.

The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



The Dog Gallery
213 N. Main St
Davidsville, PA 15928

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 11:10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

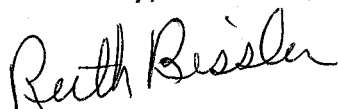
I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,



Ruth Rissler
2409 Brumbaugh Road
New Enterprise, PA 16664

2559

February 9, 2007

Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I am writing this letter to let you know that I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices which are essential and should have been addressed in the first place. The fact that they were not is ridiculous.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing *disgustingly* below substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you **immediately** take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel *must* be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.



Katelyn Sullivan

1605 Severn Run Ct.

Severn, MD 21144

443.597.9713

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -9 AM 9:05

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2559

(fax) 212 696-9545

Fax

To: Mary Bender Dog Law Bureau
Director

From: M. Markowitz
250 E. 87th Street
New York, NY 10128

Fax: 717.772.4352

Pages:

Phone:

Date:

Re: Commercial Dog Regulations

CC: Independent Regulatory Review
Commission (717.783.2664)

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION
2007 FEB -9 AM 9:05

RECEIVED

For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

Urgent: Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.

2559

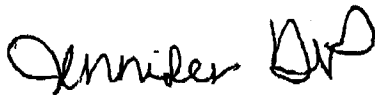
Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you,



Jennifer Hunt

Lombard, II

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2007 FEB -9 AM 9:05
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2559

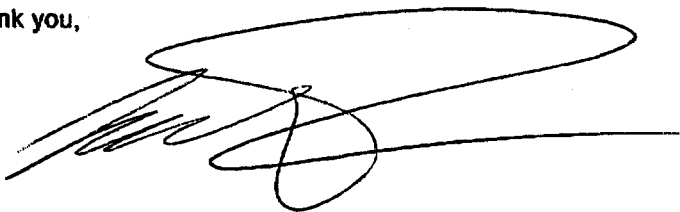
Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I Alexandra Dior support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you,



Alexandra Dior

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB -9 AM 9:05

RECEIVED

2559

February 8, 2007

Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs

Thank you

Nancy Bruny

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2007 FEB -9 AM 9:05
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2559

1803 Turquoise Trail
Green Bay, WI 54311
February 9, 2007

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB -9 AM 9:05

RECEIVED

Dear Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I strongly support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. Although a step in the right direction, the proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

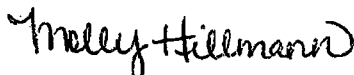
I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit (a.k.a. "puppymills"). I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is an embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. My husband and I planned to vacation in Pennsylvania last year to visit some friends, but after finding out about your "reputation" we refuse to visit your state.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Molly Hillmann

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 24, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking.

The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua A. Kanagy
Mary A. Kanagy
Sherry Kanagy

Spruce Hill Kennels
400 S. Dryhouse Rd
Belleville, PA 17004

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

January 22, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,

Nancy Zimmerman

Silver Hill Kennel
1087 Silver Hill Rd
Narvon, PA 17555

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:15

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

1. Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.
2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Dog Law Enforcement Bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the Department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,

Emanuel Byler

Creekside Kennel
18424 Dry Run Rd West
Spring Run, PA 17262

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:14

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

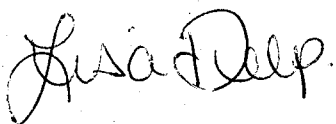
1. Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.
2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
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The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Delpom's Pomeranians
1254 Hunters Grove Rd
Brookville, PA 15825

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:13

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

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2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Dog Law Enforcement Bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the Department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,

Agnes C. "Maggie" Tolk

Dancing Winds Kennel
2626 Oneida Valley rd
Petroia, PA 16050

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 22, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,

Spencer & Friends Emergency Animal Rescue

Spencer & Friends Emergency Animal Rescue
515 California Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15202

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:20

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

February 5, 2007

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

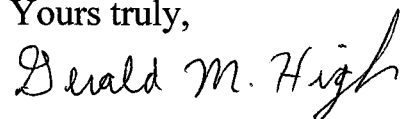
The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is not scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

With all the additional manpower needed in recordkeeping and the cost of rebuilding the kennels, the cost of puppies will need to double or triple. Then the joy of owning a puppy will be out of reach for many of Pennsylvania's residents unless they buy the puppy from an out-of-state kennel. Additionally, Pennsylvania will lose a considerable amount of tax dollars generated by puppy sales.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in terms of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,



Shade Mountain Kennels
150 Planing Mill Rd.
Richfield, PA 17086

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

1. Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.
2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Dog Law Enforcement Bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the Department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,

Louella Zeist
Louella Zeist

E Z Puppies
2223 Main St
Narvon, PA 17555

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Attn: Ms. Mary Bender
230I North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11: 11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 20, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

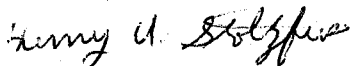
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2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
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The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Chiques Roc Kennel
1442 S. Garfield Rd
Mount Joy, PA 17552

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

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3. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Dog Law Enforcement Bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the Department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Dishong's Puppies Of Johnstown
571 Coleman Ave.
Johnstown, PA 15902

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 27, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

1. Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.
2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Dog Law Enforcement Bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the Department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,

Dishong's Puppies

Dishong's Puppies Of Johnstown
571 Coleman Ave.
Johnstown, PA 15902

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11: 11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

1. Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.
2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
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I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Dalin Kennel
900 Upper Stump Rd
Chalfont, PA 18914

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:15

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

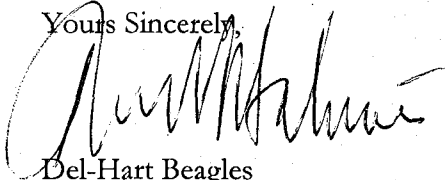
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I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Del-Hart Beagles
Blue Lane PO Box 504
Columbia, PA 17512

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 24, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

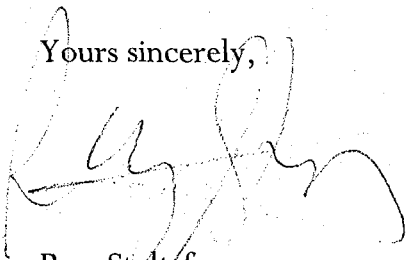
I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking.

The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Ray Stoltzfus
267 Riverbottom Road
Peach Bottom, PA 17563

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:10

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 24, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

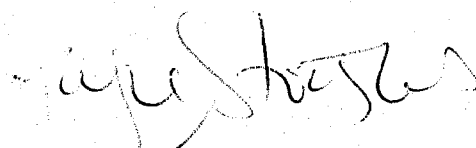
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The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

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The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,


Joyce Stoltzfus
Puppy Love Kennel
Peach Bottom, PA 17563

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

1. Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.
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The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely, *David R Peachey*
3520 E Back Mountain Rd
Belleville PA 17004

David R Peachey
3520 E. Back Mountain Rd
Belleville, PA 17004

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 27, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

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The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,

E F Kennels
168 Beiler Dr.
Rebersburg, PA 16872

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

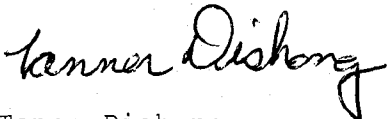
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I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



TannerDishong
1234 Flemming Summit Rd
Commodore, PA 15729

2559

915 Church Street
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
January 28, 2007

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:12

Ms. Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender

SUBJECT: Doc. No. 06-2452

As the owner of a wonderful companion dog, I am writing to express my concerns and opposition to the proposed changes to the PA Dog Law.

I purchased my dogs directly from a reputable breeder, not a pet shop or a larg-scale commercial kennel. I wanted to know that my puppy was well socialized and ready to come to my home. By buying directly from a reputable breeder, I as able to see the conditions in which my puppy was rased.

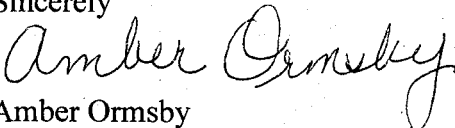
The proposed changes, particularly those applying to "Kennels-Primary Enclosures," are of particular concern to me. It is my understanding that in these proposed changes, if a cumulative total of 26 dogs are housed at "the Establishment" during a calendar year, then licensed breeders will be required to have housing facilities that comply with the specifications outlined in the proposed changes. Small scale breeders who fall into the Class 1 designation, would no longer be able to maintain, breed, whelp, or raise their dogs within their homes. These breeders, who strive to produce dogs which are true to breed type, of good temperament, and, inasmuch as possible, free from genetic disorders, would be forced to either restrict their numbers or build facilities to meet these proposed standards.

I credit my dog's good temperament to thoughtful breeding and to the love and attention that my breeder gave my puppy. Most importantly, this included exposure to everyday sights and sounds, such as:

1. My puppy was taken outside to potty on grass regularly. This was important to me because it helped with the housebreaking process.
2. My puppy was exposed to different surfaces and noises that would be in my own home.
3. My puppy was given an opportunity to interact with other dogs, which helped it develop social skills needed when meeting other dogs and people before I got it.

I appreciate your efforts to improve the living conditions for the dogs and puppies being raised in commercial facilities, however, I feel it a great disservice to the reputable breeder, whose standards far surpass in many ways, what these proposed amendments mandate. I, for one, want the choice to buy from a small scale, reputable breeder, and oppose these amendments. Please don't force people like me to buy from a commercial breeder with these amendments!

Sincerely


Amber Ormsby

2559

RECEIVED

RD 1, Box 236D
Roaring Spring, PA 16673
January 28, 2007

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:12

Ms. Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender

SUBJECT: Doc. No. 06-2452

As the owner of several companion dogs, I am writing to express my concerns and opposition to the proposed changes to the PA Dog Law.

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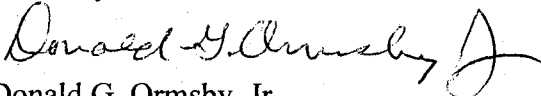
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Sincerely


Donald G. Ormsby, Jr.

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 19, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

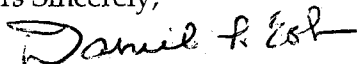
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The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Daniel P. Esh*
68 Clearview Rd
Ronks, PA 17572

RECEIVED

February 1, 2007

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:14

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender:

My name is Loretta Doty and I have been a responsible dog owner for over 30 years. I have adopted several dogs from the Humane Society and have also purchased dogs from commercial breeding kennels.

I would like to thank the Bureau of Dog Law for proposing new and amended kennel regulations to improve the living conditions of dogs in commercial breeding kennels. In order to ensure commercial kennel dogs have a healthy and long life, it is necessary that they start their lives in healthy living conditions. I feel the amended regulations reflect current care standards and are necessary to insure ethical and humane conditions needed for better overall quality of life.

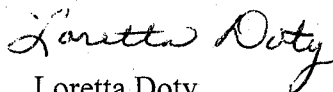
I fully support the proposed kennel regulations and welcome their passage. In addition, I recommend that the following be included in the amendment: "Permanent tethering can not be used as the primary closure". Permanent tethering with chains and/or ropes is **NOT** a safe or humane thing to do to keep a dog within bounds so as to prevent their escape. I think this must be added to the regulations for the physical and mental health of all kennel dogs.

The passage of these kennel regulations will also make Pennsylvania's Department of Agriculture a national leader and diminish Pennsylvania's reputation as "Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast." To me, having this reputation reflects very poorly on our great state.

Once again, I support and encourage the proposed kennel regulations and am hoping that the voices of other concerned citizens like myself will result in positive changes within Pennsylvania's Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

On behalf of my dogs Barkley, Beau and Zeus, I thank you.

Sincerely,



Loretta Doty
38 Leearden Road
Hershey, PA 17033

2559

RD 1, Box 236D
Roaring Spring, PA 16673
January 28, 2007

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:15

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Ms. Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

Dear Ms. Bender

SUBJECT: Doc. No. 06-2452

As the owner of several companion dogs, I am writing to express my concerns and opposition to the proposed changes to the PA Dog Law.

I purchased my dogs directly from a reputable breeder, not a pet shop or a larg-scale commercial kennel. I wanted to know that my puppy was well socialized and ready to come to my home. By buying directly from a reputable breeder, I as able to see the conditions in which my puppy was rased.

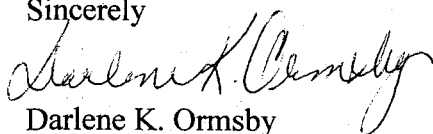
The proposed changes, particularly those applying to "Kennels-Primary Enclosures," are of particular concern to me. It is my understanding that in these proposed changes, if a cumulative total of 26 dogs are housed at "the Establishment" during a calendar year, then licensed breeders will be required to have housing facilities that comply with the specifications outlined in the proposed changes. Small scale breeders who fall into the Class 1 designation, would no longer be able to maintain, breed, whelp, or raise their dogs within their homes. These breeders, who strive to produce dogs which are true to breed type, of good temperament, and, inasmuch as possible, free from genetic disorders, would be forced to either restrict their numbers or build facilities to meet these proposed standards.

I credit my dog's good temperament to thoughtful breeding and to the love and attention that my breeder gave my puppy. Most importantly, this included exposure to everyday sights and sounds, such as:

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2. My puppy was exposed to different surfaces and noises that would be in my own home.
3. My puppy was given an opportunity to interact with other dogs, which helped it develop social skills needed when meeting other dogs and people before I got it.

I appreciate your efforts to improve the living conditions for the dogs and puppies being raised in commercial facilities, however, I feel it a great disservice to the reputable breeder, whose standards far surpass in many ways, what these proposed amendments mandate. I, for one, want the choice to buy from a small scale, reputable breeder, and oppose these amendments. Please don't force people like me to buy from a commercial breeder with these amendments!

Sincerely


Darlene K. Ormsby

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Attn: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11: 20

January 31, 2007

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Coccodrilli,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

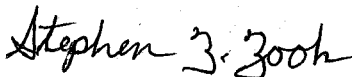
The proposals referencing housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Furthermore, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

In addition, the proposed regulations call for the temperature of the kennel floor to be 50F° in the warm weather. Many kennels are air conditioned to a comfortable 70F°. A dog sleeping on a 50F° floor can develop hypothermia and become ill or die. For temperature, lighting, cleaning, exercise, housing, and veterinary care, the attending veterinarian should set forth and approve procedures specific for the kennel buildings and breeds of dogs.

The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,



Stephen Z. Zook
934 Stively Road
Strasburg, PA 17579

Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Attn: Mary Bender
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408
Fax: 717-772-4352

2559

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB 12 PM 1:59

RECEIVED

Dear Ms. Bender:

I am writing to tell you I support the new proposed changes in to the outdated Kennel regulations, specifically, but not limited to:

- doubling the minimum cage size
- requiring daily exercise outside of the cage
- required heat when the temperature drops below 50 degrees
- required cooling (by fan or air conditioning) when the temperature rises above 85 degrees
- improving ventilation in kennel areas
- denying kennel licenses to individuals convicted of animal cruelty within the past 10 years

I also request an exemption for shelters from the kennel expansion and exercise requirements and also note that foster homes should be exempt from kennel housing requirements and instead have separate performance standards appropriate for home care settings.

Thank you for your attention to this important subject.

Kimberly Firestone
Harrisburg, PA

no address

2559

February 2, 2007

Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408
Fax: 717-772-4352

RECEIVED
2007 FEB 12 PM 2:50
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Mary Bender,

With your support, changes to the regulations that affect dogs in puppy mills in PA should include the following requirements:

- Doubling the minimum cage size
- Requiring daily exercise outside of the cages
- Requiring heat when the temperature drops below 50 degrees
- Requiring cooling (by fan or air conditioner) when the temperature rises above 85 degrees
- Improving ventilation in kennel areas
- Denying kennel licenses to any individuals convicted of animal cruelty
- All other provisions in the proposed kennel regulations

There has been some concern that animal shelters and rescue groups may be affected by the kennel regulations due to the addition of a new definition of "temporary home." Please make shelters exempt from the kennel expansion and exercise requirements. Also, foster homes should be exempt from kennel housing requirements and instead have separate performance standards appropriate for home care settings.

Your consideration in these matters is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Alexandria Wilson

no address

2559

FAX COVER SHEET

TO	Dog Law Enforcement Mary Bender
COMPANY	Department of Agriculture
FAX NUMBER	17177724352
FROM	Norm Buggel
DATE	2007-02-04 23:14:22 GMT
RE	Pennsylvania puppy mill Legislation

COVER MESSAGE

Dear Madam,

As a citizen in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, it concerns me that our State continues leniency towards the many PUPPY MILLS in Pennsylvania, which are nothing less than cruel, inhumane, and uninterested in the care of canines brought into this world in their facilities. I'm a long-time dog lover, ASPCA member since 1996, dog foster for various rescue organizations, and acutely aware of this State's reputation for being the "puppy mill capital of the East."

I write you in hopes that you will support Governor Rendell's proposals to improve these dog's living conditions by mandating these requirements of dog breeding facilities/kennels:

- double the minimum cage size
- require daily exercise outside of the cage
- require heat when the temperature drops below 50 degrees
- require cooling (by fan or air conditioning) when the temperature rises above 85 degrees
- improve ventilation in kennel areas
- deny kennel licenses to individuals convicted of animal cruelty within the past 10 years
- support the detailed proposals submitted by the Humane Society of the United States

Thank you for your support.

Norm Buggel
 1479 Saucon Meadow Court
 Bethlehem, PA 18015
 Mobile (917) 696 4683

2007 FEB 12 PM 3:04
 RECEIVED
 INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
 REVIEW COMMISSION

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB 12 PM 3:21

INDEPENDENT REGULATION
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender:

As a dog lover and owner and strong advocate of laws to protect dogs, I, Jean Stefanski, would like to thank the Bureau of Dog Law for proposing new and amended kennel regulations to improve the living conditions of the dogs in commercial breeding kennels.

I fully support the proposed kennel regulations and welcome their passage!

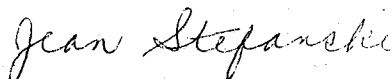
Veterinarian practice, animal behaviorists and other animal care givers have substantiated the type and level of care these animals require for a healthy life. I feel the amended regulations will reflect these current care standards and are necessary to insure ethical and humane conditions needed for better overall quality of life.

I am particularly glad to see that the legislation to deny kennel licenses for those convicted of animal cruelty within the past 10 years is being proposed. There is no excuse for allowing recidivism of this type of heinous crime.

The passage of these kennel regulations will also make Pennsylvania's Department of Agriculture a national leader and diminish Pennsylvania's reputation as "Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast."

Once again, I support and encourage the proposed kennel regulations!

Sincerely,



Jean Stefanski
5 Revere Lane
Glenmoore, PA 19343

January 2007

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB 12 PM 2:22

RECEIVED

Dear Ms. Bender:

My name is Kenneth Franks and I recently heard from my daughter about the proposed new and amended kennel regulations and first off, I would like to thank the Bureau of Dog Law for proposing these new regulations to improve the living conditions of the dogs in commercial breeding kennels.

At this time, I want you and your department to know that I completely support the proposed changes and look forward to their passage.


I feel the amended regulations, such as removing the dogs from their cage before being cleaned, adequate lighting, walking each dog at least 20 minutes per day will reflect the care standards that are needed to insure ethical and humane conditions needed for better overall quality of life for our canine companions.

Also, keep in mind that dog breeding is NOT farming and should not at all be treated the same. The dogs in these kennels, specifically the breeding dogs, need to be able to stretch, walk on something other than their wire cages and should be treated humanely.

The passage of these kennel regulations will also make Pennsylvania's Department of Agriculture a national leader and diminish Pennsylvania's reputation, specifically Lancaster County, as the "Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast" something I am sure your department would like to be known for in future generations.

Once again, I support and encourage the passing of proposed kennel regulations!

Sincerely,



Kenneth Franks
168 S. Mountain Blvd
Mountain Top, PA 18707

January 2007

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 FEB 12 PM 2:24

RECEIVED

Dear Ms. Bender:

I have recently become aware of the proposed new and amended kennel regulations and first off, I would like to thank the Bureau of Dog Law for proposing these new regulations to improve the living conditions of the dogs in commercial breeding kennels.

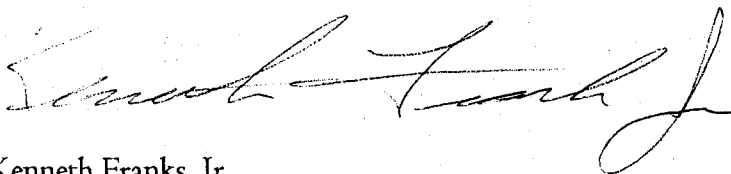
I fully support the proposed kennel regulations 100%!

Veterinarian practice, animal behaviorists and other animal care givers have substantiated the type and level of care these animals require for a healthy life. And right now, the care that these animals are provided is far from adequate. They currently live in filthy kennels, are not removed from their kennels when they are being cleaned and never get a chance to touch grass or stretch or even go for a walk. I feel the amended regulations will reflect what the care standards should be and are necessary to insure ethical and humane conditions needed for better overall quality of life.

Pennsylvania, having the distinction of "Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast", is very disturbing to me. I don't want this state to be known as such. I believe in humane treatment of animals and making the proposed changes in the dog law will make a huge impact on how others view the state and I am sure your department would want to step up to the plate and become the national leader in the diminishing of the commercial breeding situation, specifically in Lancaster County.

Once again, I support and encourage the proposed kennel regulations and I look forward to being informed that your department did its rightful duty to the state to ensure these regulations pass with flying colors!

Sincerely,



Kenneth Franks, Jr.
148 S. Main Street
Mountaintop, PA 18707

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB 12 PM 2:38

Fax to: Independent Regulatory Review Commission

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

717-783-2664

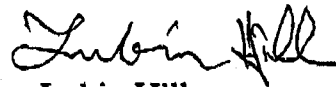
I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, I ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

The citizens of Pennsylvania should be embarrassed that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lubin Hill

Virginia

myrtlebeachdays
@ hotmail.com

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB 12 PM 2:38

Fax to: Independent Regulatory Review Commission

717-783-2664

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

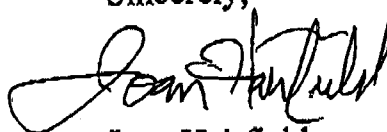
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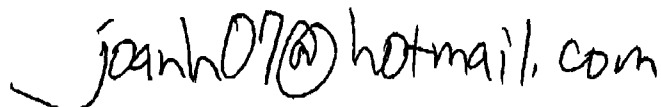
Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Joan Hairfield

Virginia



2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB 12 PM 2:38

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Fax to: Independent Regulatory Review Commission

717-783-2664

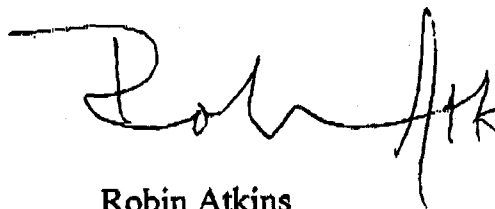
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The citizens of Pennsylvania should be embarrassed that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robin Atkins

Virginia

outer_banks_girl
@hotmail.com

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

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

The new proposal only permits a licensed kennel to buy from another licensed kennel. This is fraud for the following reasons:

1. Unless the kennel has purchased, sold, or transferred more than 26 dogs in a calendar year to the individual, it is impossible for the kennel to know if the individual is required to have a Pennsylvania kennel license.
2. It is unlawful for the department to regulate and inspect kennels outside of Pennsylvania.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Dog Law Enforcement Bureau already requires the name, address, acquisition date, disposition date, type of sale, breed, sex, color, whelping date, and identification number be recorded for each and every dog sold, transferred, adopted, or given away. If the Department wishes to enforce the law, they already have all information needed.

The proposals referencing to housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Moreover, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,

Amber Daub

AmberDaub
1380 Pine Grove Road
Fredericksburg, PA 17026

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

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

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I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,

Rose Brumgard

Criskin Kennel
2667 York Rd
Gettysburg, PA 17325

PS: I am in complete agreement with all the above statements and to add my own personal thoughts, I sincerely believe if Dog Law 225 goes through as written, it will not only do much harm to many innocent people but will be detrimental to the animals involved as well as the Law Enforcement Officers.

Rose Brumgard

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

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

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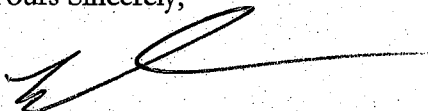
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I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Leroy Daub
1380 Pine Grove Road
Fredericksburg, PA 17026

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

January 31, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

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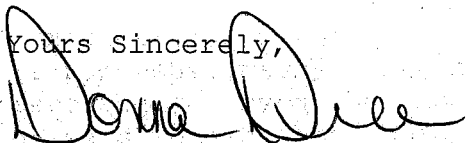
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I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



DonnaDice
104 Maple Drive
Fredericksburg, PA 17026

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

January 27, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

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The current proposal claims to be a general list of ideas to improve the breeding environment for dogs, which are neither substantiated by science nor attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices. A better idea would be for Pennsylvania to adopt USDA type standards.

I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Brenda Dice
104 Maple Drive
Fredericksburg, PA 17026

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

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the Dog Law Act 225 that was issued on December 16, 2006, of which I have several disagreements. The regulatory proposals in general are very difficult and costly to enforce, extremely onerous, and not feasible when put in to practice.

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I sincerely request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours Sincerely,



Daublends Labradors
1380 Pine Grove Rd.
Fredericksburg, PA 17026

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

January 30, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking.

The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Summit Knoll
369 N. Summit Rd
Jamestown, PA 16134

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

January 30, 2007

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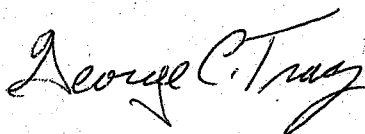
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The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Summerhill Kennel
4532 Dogwood Lane
Glenville, PA 17329

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -7 PM 2:14

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 23, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

As a kennel owner for a good number of years, I appreciate the fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws. With regard to the proposed dog law changes Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006, I have a few serious concerns.

The proposed changes would require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. These excessive and burdensome requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with the Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. The average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The proposed changes make no sense for all kennel owners' dogs to be seized by the Dog Law Bureau based on the Governor's proposed new requirements for pen sized or quarantine regulations. Dog Law places the same dog into a humane society not required to have the proposed new standards. It is vital to have fair and uniform kennel requirements. In addition, small business owners are affected greatly and their due process rights in court are limited if the proposed changes adopted.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,



H & H Boarding Kennel
769 State Route 168
Darlington, PA 16115

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:12

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 23, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

As a kennel owner for a good number of years, I appreciate the fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws. With regard to the proposed dog law changes Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006, I have a few serious concerns.

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I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,



Elmer S. Glick
197 Quarry Road
Leola, PA 17540

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 20, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

As a kennel owner for a good number of years, I appreciate the fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws. With regard to the proposed dog law changes Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006, I have a few serious concerns.

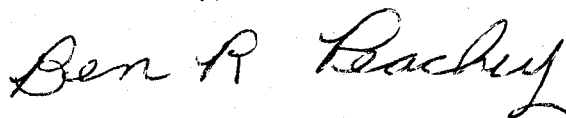
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I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,



Front Mountain Kennel
2873 Front Mountain Rd
Belleville, PA 17004

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:15

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 23, 2007

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The proposed changes would require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. These excessive and burdensome requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

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The proposed changes make no sense for all kennel owners' dogs to be seized by the Dog Law Bureau based on the Governor's proposed new requirements for pen sized or quarantine regulations. Dog Law places the same dog into a humane society not required to have the proposed new standards. It is vital to have fair and uniform kennel requirements. In addition, small business owners are affected greatly and their due process rights in court are limited if the proposed changes adopted.

I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,

Golden Touch Boarding Kennel
34 Ralph Ave.
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

As a kennel owner for a good number of years, I appreciate the fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws. With regard to the proposed dog law changes Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006, I have a few serious concerns.

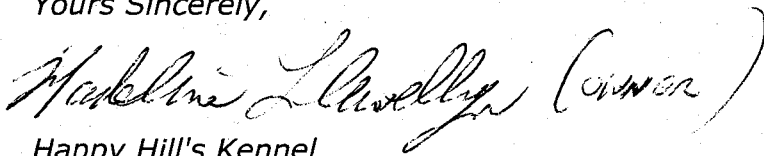
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I sincerely urge that this proposal be rescinded.

Yours Sincerely,



Happy Hill's Kennel
Rd 1 Box 203 Monkey Wrench Rd
Greensburg, PA 15601

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -7 PM 2:14

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 24, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.


The proposals referencing housing and social interaction of dogs of different sizes are contrary to good husbandry, socializing and training practices. Furthermore, there is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for the amended space and exercise requirements.

In addition, the proposed regulations call for the temperature of the kennel floor to be 50F° in the warm weather. Many kennels are air conditioned to a comfortable 70F°. A dog sleeping on a 50F° floor can develop hypothermia and become ill or die. For temperature, lighting, cleaning, exercise, housing, and veterinary care, the attending veterinarian should set forth and approve procedures specific for the kennel buildings and breeds of dogs.

The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,



Nelson Wenger
445 S. Fairmount Rd
Ephrata, PA 17522

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11: 11

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 19, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

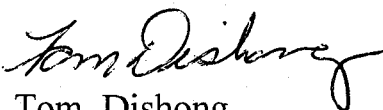
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The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Dishong
1234 Flemming Summit Rd
Commodore, PA 15729

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11: 11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 24, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

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The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

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The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,

Wetland Kennel
3032-A Lincoln Hwy
Gordonville, PA 17529

2559

RECEIVED

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture 207 FEB -8 AM 11:15
Attn: Ms. Mary Bender
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION
January 27, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

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The proposed changes above will require Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels to be demolished and rebuilt. The average cost will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 per kennel, if the proposed laws are adopted.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,

Woodland Kennel
1557 Stephenson Rd
Smicksburg, PA 16256

Dan Miller

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 22, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing in response to the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Act 225 which was issued on December 16, 2006.

The current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be burdensome and beyond rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition to the existing laws. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

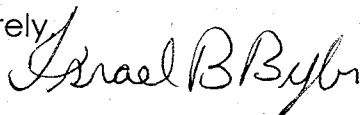
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The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours sincerely,



Walnut Grove Kennel
107 Walnut Grove Lane
Belleville, PA 17004

2559

January 21, 2007

Ms. Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -7 PM 2:13

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender

SUBJECT: Doc. No. 06-2452

The newly proposed amendments to the PA dog law regulations have been brought to my attention. As the owner of a companion dog, I am writing to express my concerns and opposition to the proposed changes.

Because I wanted the best chance at getting a healthy dog with a good temperament, I purchased my dogs directly from a reputable breeder, not a pet shop or large-scale commercial kennel. I wanted to know that my puppy had been exposed to a variety of normal household situations and was prepared to live the life of a family companion in my home. By buying directly from a reputable breeder, I was able to see the conditions in which my puppy was raised.

The proposed changes, particularly those applying to "Kennels-Primary Enclosures," are of particular concern to me. It is my understanding that in these proposed changes, if a cumulative total of 26 dogs are housed at "the Establishment" during a calendar year, then licensed breeders will be required to have housing facilities that comply with the specifications outlined in the proposed changes. Small scale breeders who fall into the Class 1 designation, would no longer be able to maintain, breed, whelp, or raise their dogs within their homes. These breeders, who strive to produce dogs which are true to breed type, of good temperament, and, inasmuch as possible, free from genetic disorders, would be forced to either restrict their numbers or build facilities to meet these proposed standards.

I credit my dog's good temperament to thoughtful breeding and to the love and attention that my breeder gave my puppy. Most importantly, this included exposure to everyday sights and sounds, such as:

1. My puppy was taken outside to potty on grass regularly. This is of importance to me, as it helped with the housebreaking process.
2. In a home situation, my puppy was exposed to different surfaces and noises such as kitchen appliances, television, and other noises that occur in my home.
3. My puppy was given an opportunity to interact with other dogs, which helped develop social skills needed to meet other dogs we come in contact with.

While I applaud the efforts to improve the living conditions for the dogs and puppies being raised in commercial facilities, I find it a great disservice to the reputable breeder, whose standards far surpass in many ways, what these proposed amendments mandate. I, for one, want the choice to buy from a small scale, reputable breeder, and oppose these amendments.

Sincerely

Christine Koller
1112 N. 3rd St
Altoona PA 16601

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -7 PM 2:14

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

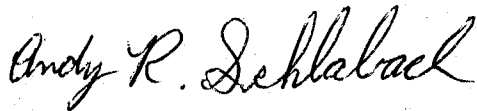
I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Dog Law Regulations Act 225 issued on December 16, 2006. I personally think that many of the changes are impractical and burdensome, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in kennels.

The proposed regulations will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out bureaucratic reports or recordkeeping which the department already has.

Kennels have been custom built to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Dog Law Enforcement standards that were based on USDA Standards. The proposed changes of this section will require the demolition of Pennsylvania's licensed and inspected kennels and the rebuilding of entirely new dimensioned kennels. There is no scientific basis for the change; the average cost per kennel will be between \$30,000.00 and \$500,000.00 each.

The current proposed appears to be over idealistic in term of improving the welfare of dogs. I urge that this proposal be rescinded and an approach similar to the USDA standards be developed.

Yours truly,



Andy Schlabaach
3587 TR 110
Millersburg, PA 44654

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:13

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

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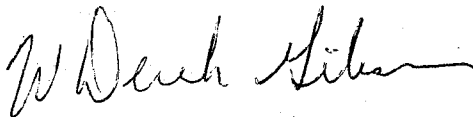
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Yours truly,



Sa Lu Se Kennels
5566 Cedar St.
Williamson, PA 17270

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:12

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

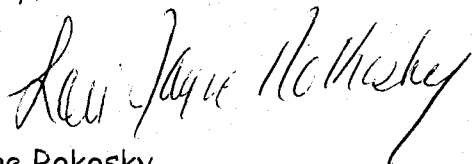
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Yours truly,



Lori Jayne Rokosky
211 Beechton Rd
Brockway, PA 15824

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:11

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 24, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

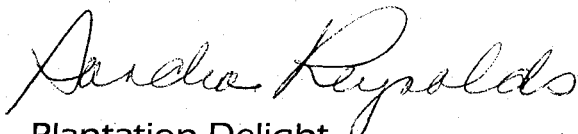
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Yours truly,



Plantation Delight
404 Pennock Bridge Rd
West Grove, PA 19390

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:13

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 19, 2007

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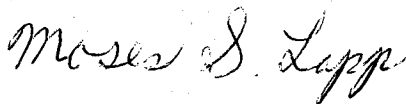
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Yours truly,



Moses S Lapp
255 Gibble Rd
Myerstown, PA 17067

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:14

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 24, 2007

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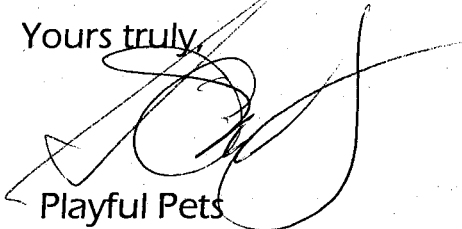
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Yours truly,



Playful Pets
115 West Ridge Pike
Conshohocken, PA 19428

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:14

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 26, 2007

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Yours truly,



Sa Lu Se Kennels
5566 Cedar St.
Williamson, PA 17270

2559

RECEIVED

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

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:12

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

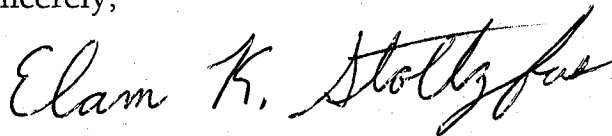
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I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Elam Stoltzfus
236 Cedar Hill Rd.
Peach Bottom, PA 17563

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:12

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

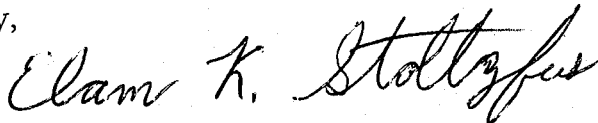
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Yours sincerely,



Elam Stoltzfus
236 Cedar Hill Rd.
Peach Bottom, PA 17563

2559

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

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:15

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

January 31, 2007

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Yours sincerely,

Stephen L. Stoltzfus

Stephen L. Stoltzfus
351 East Eby Road
Leola, PA 17540

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -8 AM 11:12

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

January 26, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

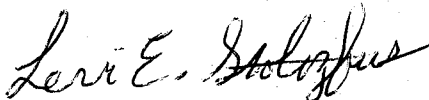
I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

I appreciate that fact that the bureau has helped to improve the dog laws in the past several years. However, the current proposed regulation changes have appeared to be intentionally burdensome and go far beyond mere rulemaking. The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



Levi E. Stoltzfus
187 W. Main Street
Rebersburg, PA 16872

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

January 31, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to express a few concerns that I have with regard to the proposed Dog Law Act 225, which was issued on December 16, 2006.

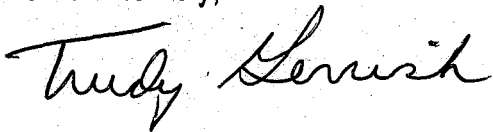
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The proposals add completely new categories and definition. These changes must be addressed through the legislative process.

The proposed changes require the kennel owner to record every time a water bowl or food pan is washed, every time the primary and secondary pen enclosures are cleaned, and the feeding and watering dates and times, etc. All these burdensome and excessive requirements will require a substantial increase in manpower with many hours dedicated to filling out written bureaucratic reports and divert the small business owner's time away from caring for their animals.

The Departments direction and intentions are neither attributed as accepted canine husbandry practices nor substantiated by science. The Department should base their changes on education to improve the industry. I request that this proposal be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,



The Pet Dome
North Franklin St.
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

see attachment

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

February 2, 2007

RE: Comments on proposed Dog Law regulations

Dear Ms. Bender,

As a concerned citizen of the state of Pennsylvania, I respectfully submit this comment on the proposed changes to the Dog Law regulations.

First, I would like to commend the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement for proposing amendments to the Dog Law Regulations to improve conditions for dogs housed and bred in commercial breeding operations in Pennsylvania. **It should also be noted that the proposed changes to the regulations do not bring hobby breeders under the Act. The same people who were exempt from the former regulations (i.e. hobby breeders who raise, breed, move, sell, etc. fewer than 26 dogs per year), will continue to be exempt under the revised regulations.**

Furthermore, I fully support the comments submitted by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) on behalf of its members, and incorporate them herein by reference. Specifically, I strongly support the following:

1. The penalties in § 21.4(1)(iii) for "failure of an individual to comply with licensure provisions" should be increased from \$25 to \$300 per violation to \$25 to \$300 *per day of violation*.
2. The Secretary should be mandating to file suit to enjoin operation of unlicensed kennels where the kennel is not in compliance with the standards in the regulations and is unable to qualify for a license.
3. I commend the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement for doubling the required cage size. This is perhaps the most important change that can be made to improve the quality of life for dogs in commercial breeding facilities in Pennsylvania. This provision should remain in the regulations regardless of opposition from breeders. This section should be further strengthened by adding a provision stating that where more than one dog is housed in a primary enclosure, the primary enclosure must provide adequate space for all dogs. For instance, if the enclosure houses two dogs, it must provide double the cage space that would be required for a single dog. If it houses three dogs, it must provide three times the cage space, etc.

4. I also commend the Department of Agriculture and Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement for including a provision that requires the dog wardens to visually observe the physical condition of each dog. However, the provisions regarding orders of veterinary care should be strengthened to state that the owner must provide "proof of *current and proper* veterinary care for the dog." This provision should also be amended to include excessive matting and excessively long toenails as indications of lack of proper veterinary care. Inadequate grooming can lead to painful medical issues for dogs, including skin lesions from excessive matting and leg and joint injuries from failure to keep toenails appropriately trimmed. Moreover, the section should be amended to *require* dog wardens to order a veterinary check on dogs that exhibit signs of infection, contagious disease or parasite; or that appear to be in poor health where proof of current and proper veterinary care is not provided.

5. A new subsection should be added to § 21.30 clarifying the required training for dog wardens. Training in the following areas should be added into the regulations to expand upon the requirements set forth in 3 P.S. § 459-901:

1. State laws relating to dog licensing, control and owner responsibilities;
2. State and federal laws relating to animal care, cruelty and neglect;
3. State laws relating to dangerous dogs;
4. State and federal law relating to lack of arrest powers, proper use of search, seizure and warrants;
5. State and federal laws relating to pounds and shelters;
6. Basics of cruelty and neglect investigations for referral to appropriate authorities;
7. Report-writing and record-keeping;
8. Overview of the legal system, court structure and terminology;
9. Basics of interpreting animal behavior;
10. Identification of injury, disease, abuse and neglect in dogs;
11. Animal hoarders; and
12. Civil liability issues.

6. A new section should be added to the regulations mandating that the Department and dog wardens coordinate and work with law enforcement when applicable. It is imperative that the department work with law enforcement, and specifically Humane Society police officers, to ensure that both the cruelty laws and the Dog Law are adequately enforced.

7. A new section should be added to the regulations requiring that a licensee must have enough employees to carry out the level of husbandry practices and care required by the Act and its regulations. Additionally, the employees who provide for care and husbandry or handle animals should be supervised by an individual who has the knowledge, background, and experience in proper husbandry and care of dogs to supervise others. The licensee must be certain that the supervisor and other employees can perform to such standards.

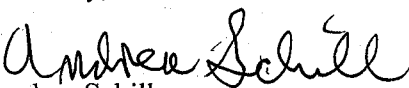
8. Stacking primary enclosures on top of one another should be prohibited. Stacking cages creates an unnatural environment for the dogs. Additionally, it makes observation of the dogs more difficult and creates sanitation problems. Even with a tray or partition between cages, it is likely that the partitions may overflow, causing feces, urine, food, water, and hair to fall onto the dogs located in the cages below.

9. The section on wire mesh flooring should be amended to make it at least as strict as the federal Animal Welfare Act, which requires that metal strand flooring be greater than one-eighth of an inch in diameter (9 gauge) or coated with a material such as plastic or fiberglass. Language should also be added requiring that all primary enclosures that have wire mesh flooring also have a resting board of sufficient size to allow each dog in the enclosure to lie in a full lateral recumbent position and be able to make normal postural adjustments. Resting boards are necessary to provide for the comfort of the dog and to allow the animal to have some time away from living on grated fencing. Providing resting boards will result in fewer foot lesions and other foot and leg injuries to the dogs. A solid resting surface that is impervious to moisture is also a more natural environment for the animal, provides a draft-free surface and enables the dog to retain its body heat. A dog feels most vulnerable when lying down, and forcing a dog to lie over an exposed area can contribute to anxiety. Humane standards and survival standards are separate, and creating an environment that merely allows for survival does not necessarily make such an environment humane.

10. Contrary to what the breeding industry states, the engineering standards specified in the proposed regulations do have a scientific foundation. The standards in the proposed regulations are more akin to acceptable husbandry practices. They will bring the engineering standards up to par with, if not above, those set forth in the Animal Welfare Act. Contrary to the hobby breeders' contention, the new regulations will not bring hobby breeders under the purview of the Dog Law. Only kennels that keep, harbor, board, shelter, sell, give away, or transfer *a cumulative total of 26 or more dogs* in one calendar year will be required to comply with the new regulations. As a result, true hobby breeders are still exempt from the law. Good husbandry practices dictate that anyone harboring a larger number of dogs (26 or more) should comply with certain engineering standards to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the dogs. The Dog Law and its regulations are aimed at regulating larger and commercial breeding facilities. Therefore, the new regulations will not affect hobby breeders, contrary to what the breeding community suggests.

Once again, I commend the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement for proposing regulations that will improve the conditions for dogs housed and bred in Pennsylvania's commercial kennels. The changes I have noted above will further ensure that such dogs are protected. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Andrea Schill

Hatboro, PA

2/6/07

I am writing this letter in support of more humane regulations on puppy mills. As a dog owner and lover, I feel it is a matter of pure common sense to have the decency to protect these animals from harsh weather and inconsiderate human beings motivated by greed. It should also be noted that these animals have the right to exercise and adequate living space. These puppies are defenseless against ill intentioned breeders. How cruel that we disregard the needs of man's best friend.

Sincerely,

Amie Guarino
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Donald P. Conwell
4 Brentfort Court
Collegeville, PA 19426

2/5/2007

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

Dear Ms. Bender:

It is imperative that we make Pennsylvania a better place for animals by improving the outdated kennel regulations used to inspect our commercial dog breeding operations. Specifically, the detailed comments by The Humane Society of The United States need to be adopted.

Please do whatever you can to ensure that dogs in Pennsylvania puppy mills are treated with the utmost of kindness and compassion.

"If we do not do something to help these creatures, we make a mockery of the whole concept of justice."-Jane Goodall

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Donald P. Conwell

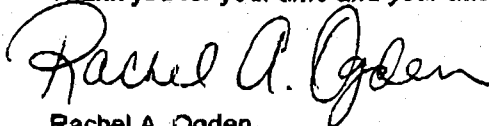
Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I am writing to express my support of the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin proposed regulations that do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

Please immediately take steps to rectify the appalling conditions in the commercial kennels of Pennsylvania. I strongly oppose commercial breeding kennels, especially those where costs are minimized by providing inadequate care and conditions for the dogs in attempts to increase profit. It is necessary that each and every kennel be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. The regulations should also limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. I am also requesting that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

As I am sure you are aware that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. A Pennsylvania pet store owner that I recently spoke with, who purchases his dogs from the mid west puppy mills, claims that he does it the correct way because he does not get his dogs from Pennsylvania puppy mills. I found it extremely telling that even people who deal with other puppy mills think Pennsylvania puppy mills are awful.

Thank you for your time and your attention to this matter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel A. Ogden". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Rachel A. Ogden

Fax to: Mary Bender, Dog Law Bureau Director

717-772-4352

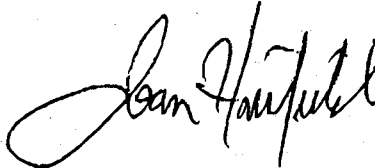
I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, I ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

The citizens of Pennsylvania should be embarrassed that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Joan Hairfield

Virginia

joanh07@hotmail.com

February 12, 2007

Mary Bender
Dog Law Bureau Director


Dear Ms. Bender:

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, which were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions, and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat, and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. Finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Melissa A. Swauger

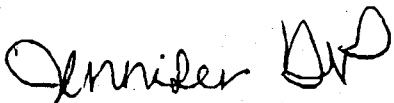
Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review
Commission:

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you,



Jennifer Hunt

Lombard, IL

VIA FACSIMILE - 717.772.4352

February 9, 2007

Dear Dog Law Bureau Director Mary Bender,

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michelle R. Crandall

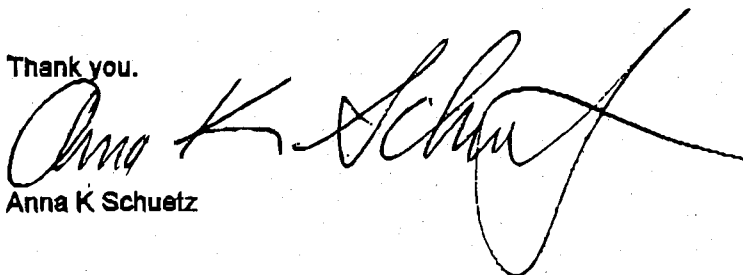
Hello Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices. Please be honest and tell the press that the dogs do not have heat and are freezing to death!!!

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage to two dogs. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna K. Schuetz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Anna K Schuetz

2559

Fax: 717-783-2664

Independent Regulatory Review Commission

I support the regulatory changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The draft regulations that were recently released by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that can be kept in one cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

**Ray Lee
Kansas**

RECEIVED

2007 FEB 26 AM 9:32

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

2559

Fax: 717-783-2664

Independent Regulatory Review Commission

I support the regulatory changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The draft regulations that were recently released by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that can be kept in one cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

**Stacey Lee
Kansas**

RECEIVED
2007 FEB 23 AM 8:37
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Fax to: Mary Bender, Dog Law Bureau Director

717-772-4352

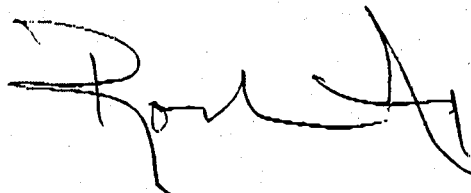
I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, I ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

The citizens of Pennsylvania should be embarrassed that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robin Atkins

Virginia

outer_banks_girl
@hotmail.com

Fax to: Mary Bender, Dog Law Bureau Director

717-772-4352

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, I ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

The citizens of Pennsylvania should be embarrassed that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lubin Hill

Virginia

myrtlebeachdays
@ hotmail.com

February 9, 2007

To: Ms. Mary Bender, Dog Law Bureau Director
Fax Number: (717) 772-4352

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Fax Number: (717) 783-2664

From: Bliss Scharfenberger
Attorney-at-Law
7089 Bois D'arc Ln.
Richmond, TX 77469

Fax Number: (281) 533-9852

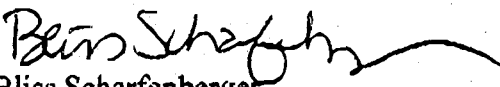
Dear Ms. Bender and Members of the Regulatory Review Commission:

I recently reviewed the regulations related to the commercial dog breeding industry that were proposed by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin). These regulations do not adequately address important issues, including cage conditions, temperature control and humane breeding practices. I support the changes proposed by the Coalition Against Misery.

Many of these animals live in conditions that are unsanitary and extremely cold in the winter and hot in the summer, causing illness and infections that often go untreated, resulting in unnecessary suffering and death. I am adamantly opposed to commercial breeding kennels that provide substandard care and living conditions. Every kennel should be required to have a visible safe source of heat. I lived in the Northeast for many years. It is truly inhumane that many of these kennels deny heat to their dogs given the frigid temperatures in the winter. Limits should also be placed on the number of dogs that are kept in a cage, and breeding regulations should be consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

I respectfully request that you enact stronger regulations that encompass the issues set forth in this letter, specifically those proposed by the Coalition Against Misery.

Sincerely,


Bliss Scharfenberger
Attorney-at-Law

Allison M. Hetrick

16 Park Mountain
San Antonio, TX 78255
(210)381-8412
AllisonHetrick@hotmail.com

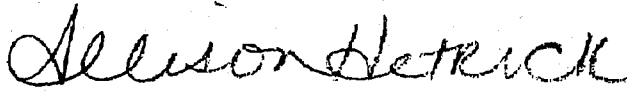
Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. As a former resident of this lovely state, I am embarrassed by all of this attention that Pennsylvania attracts because the law has not been changed in an effort to end puppy mills. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Sincerely,



Allison Hetrick

Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

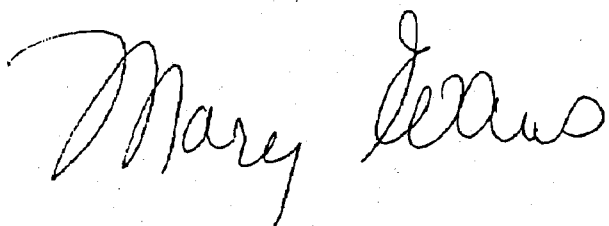
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It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

I have been an animal advocate for many years and have contributed hundreds of dollars to different organizations to help endangered, abused and neglected animals. Nothing to date tops the problems seen in your state. I cannot believe this is allowed in a nation committed to freedom. This is appalling. I made the trip in August 2006 to protest Puppy Mills in your state. I plan to be there again this year. I know you have a lot of work to clean up the mess that has been allowed to happen in your state.

PLEASE HELP THESE ANIMALS to live a clean, healthy life. They did not ask to be born in these conditions. Only you can help stop this atrocity.



Mary Evans

**152 Windsong Hts
Weare, NH 03281
Email: chloeev@msn.com
Phone: 603-529-4226**

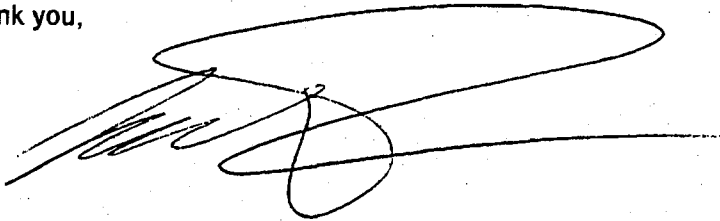
Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I Alexandra Dior support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexandra Dior', with a large, loopy flourish extending to the right.

Alexandra Dior

To: Mary Bender, Dog Law Bureau Director

From: Joe Ward

Re: Puppymills

Even the following changes seem to be at Minimum to permit bare animal survival. The REAL changes should be the absolute shutting down of all Puppymills, period. I have raised a dog from one of these torture chambers and have witnessed the heartbreak of lifelong scarring both emotionally and physically. PLEASE Pennsylvania, I beg you to take a strong stance - for the entire nation to see and make your state proud. Be a LEADER and set the STANDARD for all of America so that other states (such as Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska) will follow and finally bring these horrible existing nightmares to an end.

The Midwest dogs are suffering like those in PA - we need your Leadership to get going and make a real difference. The Class B dealers and the mills tucked away, hidden in rural areas, all for greed and profit - all without any regulatory control of basic needs - is Absolutely Sickening. Just the word "cages" makes me want to vomit! The steel wire bottoms, the scorching heat, the frigid cold, broken legs caught in wires, the heartworms, tumors, mange, rotted teeth, fighting and yes, some totally lose their minds. Never touching the grass, no blankets, no toys, no human touch, but being bred over & over again for pure profit and greed for years until they can reproduce no more and are then dumped, killed or auctioned off for as high as the miller can get, one little life from Arkansas was bought at auction for ONE DOLLAR just to spare its life. My dogs are my children - the Terrible suffering must END now.

I support the regulatory changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The draft regulations that were recently released by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that can be kept in one cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

Please take steps to ensure new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you - and PLEASE take action now. God Bless You.

Sincerely,

Joe Ward

Joe Ward
608 N Cardington
Wichita, KS 67212

From: jbstucky@cox.net

Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2007 1:31 AM

To: Dog Law Bureau Director Mary Bender Fax: 717-772-4352 and Independent Regulatory Review Commission Fax: 717-783-2664

Subject: Fwd: Urgent - PA Puppy Mills

Subject: Urgent - PA Puppy Mills

[Jim Stucky] How can we not take serious action to protect our animals. Please lead us with strong laws for PA.

Even the following changes seem to be at Minimum to permit bare animal survival. The REAL changes should be the absolute shutting down of all Puppymills, period. I have raised a dog from one of these torture chambers and have witnessed the heartbreak of lifelong scarring both emotionally and physically. PLEASE Pennsylvania, I beg you to take a strong stance - for the entire nation to see and make your state proud. Be a LEADER and set the STANDARD for ALL of America so that other states (such as Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska) will follow and finally bring these horrible existing nightmares to an end.

The Midwest dogs are suffering like those in PA - we need your Leadership to get going and make a real difference. The Class B dealers and the mills tucked away, hidden in rural areas, all for greed and profit - all without any regulatory control of basic needs - is Absolutely Sickening. Just the word "cages" makes me want to vomit! Dogs are my children - the Terrible suffering must END now.

I support the regulatory changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The draft regulations that were recently released by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that can be kept in one cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you - and PLEASE take action now. God Bless You if you do.

Sincerely,

[Jim Stucky] Jim and Barb Stucky