

February 9, 2007

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

Dear Ms. Bender:

My name is Gwen Ketner and I have experience in dog related fields for the last seventeen years. My experience began first as a volunteer training service dogs for many years and now as a volunteer with a local dog rescue. Today, I write you as an individual who has seen first hand the horrors of animal abuse in Pennsylvania. I have seen the results of animals raised in puppy mills and those mistreated in unimaginable ways.

I have rescued dogs that were raised in Pennsylvania puppy mills who do not know how to act outside of a kennel. Even worse, many of them have been kicked out of kennels and left to fend for themselves. Most of these dogs are sick from living in the conditions which we allow to exist. The passage of these kennel regulations will hopefully be a first step to diminish Pennsylvania's reputation as "Puppy Mill Capital of the East".

I 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. This is a first step in the right direction. I hope that the amended regulations will reflect the current care standards that are necessary to insure ethical and humane conditions needed for better overall quality of life for our animals.

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

Sincerely,



Gwen Ketner
1530 Fox Run Drive
Coatesville, PA 19320