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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

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Dear Ms. Bender:

I recently heard from a friend from Lancaster County 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.

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

It is imperative for these animals to be kept in healthy, sanitary kennels to ensure proper mental and physical health. I believe that doubling the cage is imperative and that walking each dog at least 20 minutes a day will enable these dogs to live a more enriched life, rather than being treated like a crop used to just make money. I also believe that removing the dogs from the kennels for cleaning is humane and it what these animals deserve.

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." As I have become aware, Lancaster County, in particular is the worst when it comes to commercial breeding, and until this changes I, as well as everyone I know, will not be coming to Lancaster County.

Once again, I support and encourage the proposed kennel regulations! I look forward to hearing that these new regulation will be in place before the year's end.

Sincerely,

Ann Becker