

Re: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DOG LAW REGULATIONS.

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

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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Dear Ms. Bender:

My name is Laura Dederling. I reside at 98 Ramblewood Drive, Bangor, PA and I have been involved in the sport of Purebred Dogs for 46 years. During those years, I have been an exhibitor in both Conformation and Obedience, have done years of Pet Therapy work, am the former President of the New Jersey Federation of Dog Clubs and of my regional breed club, and I am an AKC Licensed Dog Judge. This record should certainly demonstrate that I have some expertise on this subject.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of my objection to the proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania dog law regulations issued on December 16, 2006. I STRONGLY believe that inhumane and substandard kennel conditions should not be tolerated.

HOWEVER, FAILURE TO ENFORCE EXISTING REGULATIONS SHOULD NOT BE THE BASIS FOR PASSING MORE STRINGENT, FARTHER REACHING AND EVEN MORE UNENFORCABLE REGULATIONS.

Most of the proposed regulatory changes would not achieve the desired goal of improving the quality of life for the dogs whose lives you are attempting to improve. In fact, they would have the opposite effect. Some of these proposed regulations would actually be detrimental to the life style of many other dogs.

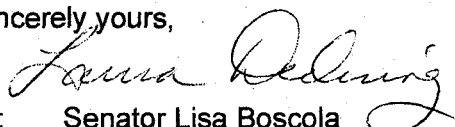
For example - Smaller breeders, hobby breeders and dog owners who currently maintain their dogs in their own residential premises are often the experts on animal husbandry. They provide care and conditions far superior to those required by the proposed new standards. But these small breeders and owners who are covered by the Pennsylvania dog law would be unable to comply with the rigid commercial kennel standards.

Additionally, many kennels already built in compliance with current federal and/or state standards would have to be renovated purely to comply with the new regulations. Especially disturbing is that these new requirements are not based upon any scientific foundation, will provide no benefit to many dogs, and in fact could actually be detrimental to their physical and emotional health and well-being.

I also associate myself with the more detailed comments on this proposal by the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs.

Only after a conscientious enforcement of the existing laws take place, will it become clear what further requirements may be needed to insure the physical and emotional health and well-being of these dogs that we, the citizens of PA, are trying to protect.

Sincerely yours,



cc: Senator Lisa Boscola
Hon. Richard T. Grucela
PA Federation of Dog Clubs