

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement  
Attn: Ms. Mary Bender  
2301 North Cameron St  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

2559

Dear Ms Bender

My name is Theresa Reiter and I currently live in Bucks County PA. I am in the process of writing a business plan in the hopes of opening a Dog Daycare facility in the near future. I am also involved as a volunteer with several Italian Greyhound rescue groups.

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania dog law regulations. I believe that inhumane and substandard kennel conditions should not be tolerated, but I do not agree that most of the proposed changes are needed or would have a beneficial outcome.

Some of the proposed changes will make it nearly impossible as a small business owner to open a dog daycare business in PA. Dog daycare is a fast growing new industry and does need regulations, which most currently in business follow the strict guidelines of the ABKA.

I would like to see the State of PA include specific, separate guidelines for the dog day care industry. The pet industry, particularly in North America, is a fast-growing industry in which dog owners are spending more and more on an annual basis to ensure Fido's well being. More households own dogs than ever before, and as the majority of dog owners now work full time, the need for Dog Day care services has risen dramatically, especially in urban areas. Having a safe and fun environment for their pets therefore, reduces the stress on parents, as they no longer have to worry about their dogs being lonely, bored, or in an unsecured location.

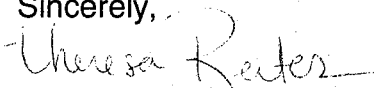
Examples of problems with the proposal for the dog day care industry are:

- \* Adult dogs shall be segregated by sex except for health, welfare and breeding.
- \* Dogs put in an exercise area shall be segregated by size.
- \* Daily records of exercise shall be kept for each dog
- \* Outdoor facilities, including runs and exercise areas shall be kept free of grass and weeds.

The idea behind a dog daycare is to provide a sanitary, safe, educational facility for dogs to play off leash and cage free. Dogs must pass a temperament and health evaluation. I believe matching energy, temperament and age levels more important then requiring segregation by size and sex. If a daycare is set up to be a "home-like" atmosphere with a grassy yard for the dogs to romp, would we now have to pave the exercise area to comply with the new regulations?

I urge that the proposal as currently written be withdrawn.

Sincerely,



Theresa Reiter  
3091 Funks Mill Rd  
Riegelsville, PA 18077

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