



# Reed Bros. LANDSCAPING

2559

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P.O. BOX 422 ♦ DAUPHIN, PA 17018

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVENUE COMMISSION

2007 FEB 15 AM 11:15

RECEIVED

IRRC

Chairman Arthur Coccodrilli  
333 Market St, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, Pa. 17101

Dear Arthur Coccodrilli

My name is Jeffrey Reed. My wife Julie and I live at 600 River Rd., Dauphin, Pa. We have been involved with training and raising English and Gordon Setters for the past 15 years. We are currently completing construction of a brand new boarding kennel to be located in Dauphin, Pa. The construction of this kennel has been a dream of ours for the past ten years. However, if the new proposed regulations( ID # 2-152 - #2559) are added to the dog laws this dream may at best become a nightmare and at worst a measure that could force us into bankruptcy and financial ruin.

It is our opinion that most of the new regulations are not needed, are excessively burdensome in regards to the additional record keeping required, and would place an unfair financial burden on both the commercial kennel operator and the person who enjoys facets of dog training and breeding as a hobby. We feel that current regulations if properly followed, as they are by the vast majority of people in this field, are certainly adequate to protect the welfare of our dogs. Most people who train and breed dogs exceed the requirements on their own. Those kennels and breeders that do not follow current requirements already on the books should be inspected and held accountable for their substandard conditions.

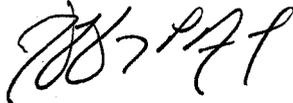
When designing our new kennel facility my wife and I wanted to incorporate as many features as financially possible. Our facility will be fully air conditioned and heated. Ceiling fans have been incorporated. Whole house exhaust fans will draw air on days when conditions allow. All exterior runs are under roof and shaded. The interior runs vary in size to enable the largest of dogs to have plenty of room under the current sq. ft. requirement. The building includes a 1,000 sq. ft. interior training and exercise room. Full grooming services will be available. To include all of these features in this kennel has already cost over \$300,000. And we will not meet many of the new requirements. Yet the committee that has proposed the new regulations has stated that upgrading existing kennels should cost on average between \$5,000 and \$20,000. Not even close.

Many of the new regulations proposed are excessive. Many will be unenforceable. Some will make it impossible for a boarding kennel to stay in business, as the public will not be able pay what it will cost for a kennel owner to make a profit.

- an average English setter will require a 90 sq. ft. enclosure – State law only requires 40 sq. ft. per child in a day care facility
- Dogs may not come into contact with any surfaces that are not impervious to water – my dogs prefer to lay on grass over concrete any day
- You cannot allow a dog of over 35 pounds to play or socialize with a dog under 35 pounds – this is ridiculous and arbitrary
- You must keep records of date and time for watering , exercising , and feeding of all dogs – again, cost prohibitive

This is only a sampling of the new regulations that will adversely affect all kennel owners, breeders, and trainers in the State of Pennsylvania. I strongly urge that you oppose these new regulations. I believe it is the Dept. of Agriculture's job to provide a safe environment for all dogs and pets in Pennsylvania. With proper enforcement the current regulations do just that without financially punishing the residents and taxpayers of this state. Please oppose this effort to over govern and over regulate.

Thank You,



Jeffrey P. Reed



Julie L. Reed