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*French Creek Veterinary Hospital, Inc.*

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I am very concerned about some of the amendments proposed in the Dog Law Regulations:

1. Specifying housing by sex seems unreasonable. Many dogs have very close relationships and provide emotional support, though not of the same sex. So now these individuals must be separated?
2. The Space specifications seem overkill. The primary enclosure must allow lateral recumbence without touching any side of the enclosure. This is an absolutely unrealistic expectation for any dog beyond 25 to 30 pounds. You would require virtually all kennels be reformatted to provide virtual rooms, as opposed to runs, for dogs. This requirement does not apply if all of the following four conditions are met...these four conditions provide relief for retailers only.
3. The proposed record keeping is counter productive . You are taking caregivers time away from their critical tasks – providing clean surroundings, food and water. Love and exercise to the animals.. TO require that each feeding, water change, cage cleaning, exercise of animal be documented places an incredible ( and wasteful) time demand on the caregivers.
4. Again Space Specifications cited for a run associated with an outdoor facility is describing a 'room' be provided. The run must be twice as wide as the length of the longest dog using it?

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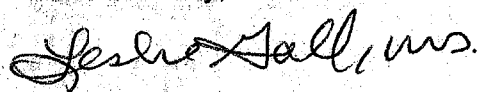
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The need to ensure adequate housing and husbandry of kenneled animals is absolutely essential. I would encourage lawmakers to consider adopting amendments which do not place unrealistic expectations on the shoulders of the 95% of folks doing a great job of running kennels (including many doing rescue work). Providing a run of 3 1/2 foot width and 7 foot long is an industry standard---go check out Alpo Kennels; or do you consider them in humane?

Record keeping is easily "created" and will only take valuable time away from caregiving.

Please do provide standards...and then enforce them. Putting more layers of regulations does nothing but hurt those who abide by the rules. The folks you are targeting already are ignoring the basic regulations. Why not more strictly enforce what is already on the books...and if you then find a need, layer more amendments. I would then heartily endorse them!

Most cordially,



Leslie Gall, V.M.D.