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

2007 FEB 20 PM 3:32

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing you on behalf of all dogs that are cramped and cold in tiny cages in Pennsylvania puppy mills. I am asking you to please support the new humane regulations for dogs in puppy mills that would require they be kept in larger cages and be let out for periods of exercise.

My husband and I adopted a shih tzu that was rescued from a Lancaster county puppy mill after 8 long years of breeding in a tiny cage. When we first brought Emmie home she was barely able to walk due to severe muscle atrophy from lack of use. She would try to follow us, but her legs would just buckle under her. After several months she was finally able to walk without falling; however she is still in constant pain from arthritis and elbow dysplasia brought on by her living conditions. She has lost most of her teeth due to poor diet and lack of nutrition. And now after only 16 short months of living the life that a dog should in a warm home with ample food and water, she has been diagnosed with lymphoma that the veterinarians feel is a result of years of stress on her immune system. Even after years of neglect, Emmie is still a sweet and loving dog, happy and grateful for the attention she now receives.

I hope that for Emmie and all other dogs kept confined in cramped cages without a kind hand or a kind word, that you will support these new regulations. All puppy mill dogs deserve the chance to feel the grass under their feet and the sun on their face. I hope that one day, they all will have the opportunity to know a warm bed and a loving family. Please help these dogs by taking steps that will eventually get them there.

Thank you.

Mary Wolf (PA resident for 35 years)

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