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Bethlehem, PA 18017

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture  
Attn: Ms. Mary Bender  
2301 North Cameron Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

February 23, 2007

Dear Ms. Bender,

I would like to offer my comment on the dog regulations that Gov. Rendell has asked for in order to help the desperate conditions of the poor puppy mill dogs in PA.

After talking with a number of people at our local dog show last week to get their opinions, I came away very upset about what I had been told and felt I had to write this letter.

I'm not one to get involved in political issues, but these drastic regulation changes appears to be very motivated by one or more animal rights groups who seem to want to put a stop to ALL breeders. They will convince any politician, who will listen, that more laws and tougher laws will actually benefit the dogs in PA.

From what I've had explained to me some of these proposals seem like they will be impossible to enforce or even regulate. Many of them seem absolutely absurd with no common sense at all.

I was told of one large commercial breeder who actually gets a phone call about a week before his inspection so they will have time to clean up and get ready. There could be a probability of this happening at more than just one place. If the same inspectors do the same kennel inspections for many years this could end up even being a very nice arrangement for both sides.

Maybe what is needed it to have separate, anonymous and independent inspectors do additional or follow-up inspections to confirm things are actually they way they should be. I heard Gov. Renell was going to form a Swat Team to work on cleaning up this problem - let them do extra surprise spot inspections at these big breeding facilities.

Anyway, I don't think this is going to do the good sport of dog shows any good. Not if the people I spoke with are this disgusted enough to get out of showing their wonderful dogs. And that will be a great loss to PA.

Regretfully,

