

Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
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Attention Mary Bender and Arthur Coccodrilli:
Pennsylvania—nicknamed the "puppy mill capital of the East" because so many puppy mills call the state home—may soon become a more humane place for pooches. ***How embarrassing!*** Thanks to Governor Ed Rendell's commitment to help the tens of thousands of dogs affected by Pennsylvania puppy mills, the issue has been getting a lot of attention and, on Dec. 16, changes to the outdated kennel regulations—currently used to inspect commercial breeding operations in Pennsylvania—were proposed.

The proposed changes could improve the living conditions of dogs who currently suffer in puppy mills. Although, my preference is to END puppy mills all together lets at least make their conditions acceptable and HUMANE. We have so many shelters and homeless dogs, we should heavily fine and tax the puppy mills and send benefits to the shelters. Also, it would be great to give a small state tax credit to those that adopt shelter dogs. If someone wants a purebred, let them work with a certified breeder! Please support this cause!

With your support, changes to the regulations that affect dogs in puppy mills could include the following requirements:

- » doubling the minimum cage size
- » requiring daily exercise outside of the cage
- » required heat when the temperature drops below 50 degrees
- » required cooling (by fan or air conditioning) when the temperature rises above 85 degrees
- » improving ventilation in kennel areas
- » denying kennel licenses to individuals convicted of animal cruelty within the past 10 years

Kindest regards, Nancy Clarke
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