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Marlene S. Lippert
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Thompsontown, PA 17094

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender,

I have been barraged with mail from people urging me to write to you and my senators about the proposed new dog laws... I have up until now thought that this new law would not affect me all that much... as I have a small kennel... licensed with the state of PA. I ALWAYS pass my inspections with 100%... I have made my kennel as close to dog heaven as I can... heated-air conditioned... dogs all have large pens with their beds and toys... and go out dog doors to large grass yards with the appropriate concrete first as required by PA law... My dogs do NOT live their lives on wire... they are not "puppy factories"—they are well cared for SELECT dogs that I breed and retie YOUNG to excellent pet homes. I also do MAJOR work in rescue... taking dogs out of commercial operations and working with several great rescue groups to allow these dogs a chance at life after being used and abused by commercial "puppy mills".

Instead of "picketing" at these commercial operations doorsteps... I have tried to go in to offer my rescue services and TRY to educate when I can some of these people who operate these places... I have taken dogs that would have otherwise been "taken out back and hit over the head" when they outlived their usefulness..... I AGREE that these HUGE commercial operations need more regulation... they need to address their adult dogs MENTAL needs... exercise...(I have BEGGED some of these people to put in exercise areas for their dogs—they do for their HORSES and COWS... but not for the dogs that keep their farms afloat) and care... It APPALLS me that WIRE is acceptable for dogs to live on because it is CLEAN! So I am ALL FOR changes in regulations...

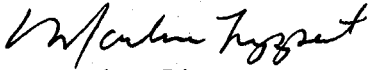
When the AKC wrote to me about the proposed dog laws tho I took notice... I am a long time AKC breeder of champion dogs... and when they urge me to write... I am writing... Some of the proposed laws are not only unenforceable... but will be very burdensome in record keeping... When a dog warden comes on a property and sees dogs NOT in good health and in poor conditions should that not be the time to ACT??? To say you cant possibly be feeding these dogs correctly.... and these conditions will not be tolerated! I I know my dog warden would certainly love to have more say so with some of the commercial operations she sees... but she KNOWS my dogs are well cared for... she can SEE it every time she comes...

If the Animal rights activists are allowed a voice in this... surely the GOOD breeders should be allowed a voice in this??? Many of these activists are against breeding purebred dogs PERIOD! If they have their way they will drive the SMALL GOOD breeders out of business or out of Pennsylvania with some of these proposed laws. I am a lifelong Pennsylvania resident and have worked my whole life to be able to "retire" to doing what I have always loved the most... raising quality dogs and I will not sit still and let these regulations ruin this for me.

SO I urge you... get at the REAL problem... find ways to make these commercial operations be

more humane with regards to their dogs—their exercise... etc... LET the dog wardens do their job and enforce the law with them... but don't burden the small GOOD people with these proposed new rigid standards and burdensome record keeping when any Dog warden can SEE that our dogs are living GREAT lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marlene Lippert".

Marlene Lippert
Sturbridge Kennel