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February 12, 2007

2007 FEB 27 AM 9:10

819 Radclyffe Street
Bethlehem, PA 18017

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Coccodrilli:

As a concerned constituent, I am writing to urge you to support the proposed amendments to the Dog Law regulations set forth by the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

Pennsylvania has developed a (not altogether undeserved) reputation as the "Puppy Mill Capital of the East." This reputation is an embarrassment to our state, and it is important that the situation be remedied. The changes to the Dog Law regulations proposed by the Department of Agriculture and Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement will greatly improve the conditions in which dogs are bred and raised commercially in Pennsylvania.

The new regulations will:

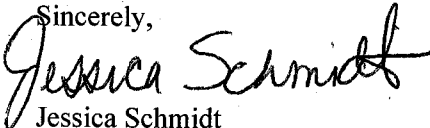
- Double the required cage size for dogs.
- Improve standards such as sanitation, drainage and ventilation.
- Prohibit people from buying dogs from unlicensed dealers.
- Require that all dogs be provided with a minimum of 20 minutes of exercise per day.
- Require prompt and necessary veterinary care for sick and injured dogs.

The proposed regulations will not impose restrictions on small hobby breeders who raise fewer than 26 dogs in a year, contrary to what the breeding industry suggests. Nor will the regulations impact dog shows, dog parks, or other dog events held in the state. The regulations are aimed specifically at regulating large-scale commercial breeders.

It is in the state's best interest to provide humane care and conditions for dogs housed and bred in Pennsylvania's commercial kennels. The proposed regulations will better ensure that these dogs are disease-free, behaviorally sound and well cared for. As a constituent and a dog lover, I respectfully request that you support the regulations and help move them through the regulatory process in an expeditious manner.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Jessica Schmidt

cc: Mary Bender, Patrick M. Browne, Lisa M. Boscola, Joseph F. Brennan, Steve Samuelson, Robert Freeman, Craig A. Dally