

march 1, 2007

Dear Senator Baker,

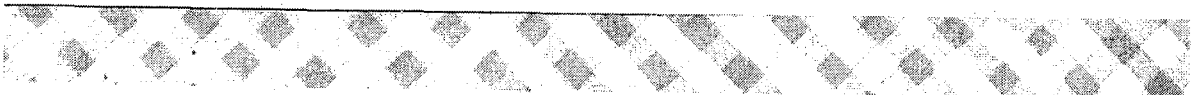
I became interested in the sad plight of some Pennsylvania dogs when I recently moved to Cherry Ridge Township two years ago. The person living next to me has 6 dogs that are chained to dog house 24 hours a day. These dogs have not been off their chains for years!

As time passed I became more and more disturbed by this heartless behavior. On a lovely day I would go outside only to hear their mournful cries. When I walk down the road past them they jump and bark for some small bit of attention. They are outside in the worst cold and the most intense heat.

I did contact the local humane officer and she has visited the property several times. But she can't do anything to help these poor animals

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INDEPENDENT REGION
MAYOR'S OFFICE



because they appear to be fed and they have the correct length of chain. I was very dismayed to learn that this behavior is legal in Pennsylvania!

As a private citizen of this state I am imploring you to do all you can to change the dog chaining law in Pennsylvania. The cruelty has gone on way too long. Thank you.


Respectfully,

Dwain C Bleier

170 Cadwalder Rd.

Honesdale, Pa.

18431



3/1/07

MAR 5 2007

Dear Senator Baker,

I am writing about an issue that has gone unaddressed for too long—that of the perpetually chained or penned, so-called "outside" or "backyard" dog.

There is no sadder sight than these outcast, forlorn, forgotten animals, relegated to the status of lawn ornaments and virtually ignored by the family.

Many chained or penned dogs are seriously neglected. They lack fresh, unfrozen water, adequate housing, hygiene and the most basic veterinary care, including vaccinations required by law. Every winter such dogs are found frozen to death. At other times of the year they may be left to starve until they die.

Chaining is not only inhumane for dogs, but has taken a severe toll on this nation's children. In the period from last October until this month, there have been at least 17 children killed or seriously injured by chained dogs across the country. Chained dogs, unsocialized with humans, can become very territorial of their tiny space, and any two year old who wanders into this space can be attacked and killed before adults can intervene. A recent attack in July of 2004 led to the death of 2 year old Patricia J. Anderson in Cook County, Georgia. Patricia was attacked and killed by a bulldog mix chained behind the house of a family friend.

Furthermore, researchers are confirming the link between animal abuse and neglect and abuse and neglect of children and perpetration of future crimes.

I urge you to remedy this oversight which condemns dogs, the most loving and loyal of animals, to lives of loneliness and deprivation. I ask that you introduce legislation to prohibit the perpetual chaining and penning of dogs.

Austria is the latest nation to ban the chaining of dogs, completely prohibiting the practice. Connecticut is the first state in the nation to limit chaining, and Hawaii currently has a bill in committee. There are at least 50 communities or counties in at least 26 states with limits on chaining. Our state needs to be a part of this growing movement to eliminate chaining of dogs.

The wording of model legislation can be found by visiting the website www.dogsdeservebetter.com. I would very much appreciate a response to this letter stating whether or not you will introduce a strong anti-chaining/penning bill in the state legislature.

Sincerely yours,

Signed Dusan E Blein

Date March 1, 2007



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Bring me into your home and family. Fence our yard. Take me for walks. Make me part of the pack. Housetrain me and go with me to dog training classes.

Dogs Need

EXERCISE, DISCIPLINE, AND LOVE

according to Cesar Millan, star of The Dog Whisperer, National Geographic Channel. Chained dogs get none of these!



WHAT WILL DOGS DESERVE BETTER DO?

Dogs Deserve Better offers help to bring me into the home. If resources are available, they provide welded wire

fencing if I am brought into the home to live. They will purchase a crate to help with housetraining (to be used for short periods of time only). They help with housetraining, or will even housetrain me and return me to you. They may even foster me and find me a new indoor home where I can be part of a family. I do deserve better! Call them to see which services are available in our area.



Georgia Rep Heidi Pollyea & volunteers built a fence for Black, who lived his life chained in the dirt. Black gave Heidi a grateful kiss before trying out his new found freedom!



You Can Help

DO YOU PASS A CHAINED DOG WITH SADNESS IN YOUR HEART?



Help us make a difference today! We have many volunteer opportunities: become an area representative, or give time as possible in the following areas—booth work, fostering, fencing, flyering, grant-writing, education, and legislative efforts. E-mail your local area DDB rep or info@dogsdeservebetter.org if you can help.

As a nonprofit, we struggle to make ends meet—monetary donations are so greatly needed and appreciated! (We are a 501c3 nonprofit organization, and any donations you make will be tax deductible according to IRS code.)

Our standard of treatment for dogs must evolve! Please be part of the evolution. Visit our website to learn more about the issue and how you can help.

www.dogsdeservebetter.org

Toll free 1.877.636.1408 | Phone 814.941.7447 *
P.O. Box 23, Tipton, PA 16684



Tammy S. Grimes, founder of DDB, lived chained to a doghouse for 33 hrs. over the 4th of July to bring awareness to the plight of the chained dog. She's pictured here with Dallás, now living inside & chain free.

YOUR LOCAL AREA REP:

I Know
I DESERVE BETTER



I Only Wish
YOU KNEW IT TOO.

DDB

NO CHAINS!

Dogs Deserve Better

WWW.DOGSDESERVEBETTER.ORG

I AM A PACK ANIMAL



Since my pack of long ago is gone, **you, my human family, have become my pack.** When I'm not with you, I suffer mentally and physically; I'm shut out of my pack and I don't know why.



This is what happens to me when you put a chain or collar on me and forget that I'm still growing.

I AM MORE LIKELY TO BITE WHEN CHAINED OR PENNED

I can become very territorial of my tiny space as a result of living alone, and I am **2.5 times more likely to bite.** I could attack any toddler or young child who wanders into my territory before you can step in. **From October of 2003 through**



August of 2005, at least 46 children in the U.S. were killed or seriously injured by chained dogs.

Emma-Leigh, pictured here as she leaves the hospital, was one of the lucky ones who escaped with her life: 200 stitches, a wired jaw, a cervical collar, and a future that will never be the same again.



You will be held responsible if I bite and injure or kill an innocent child due to the fact that I've never learned how to live with people.



"The Only
CHAIN CUBBY HAS IS ATTACHED TO MY HEART."

Adrian Zmed, actor and guardian of Cubby, was shocked to hear that dogs live chained outside for life. As a supporter of Dogs Deserve Better, Adrian joins us in asking you to bring your dog inside to live as part of the family.



I'm now living as part of a family; if I can do it, any dog can!

I DESERVE BETTER!

Every dog deserves to live as part of his/her human family, regardless of size or breed. I like it outside, yes, but **ONLY when you are with me. NOT for life!** When you are inside, I want to be inside with you.

I'm Mojo, a big, old Akita rescued from chains in PA.

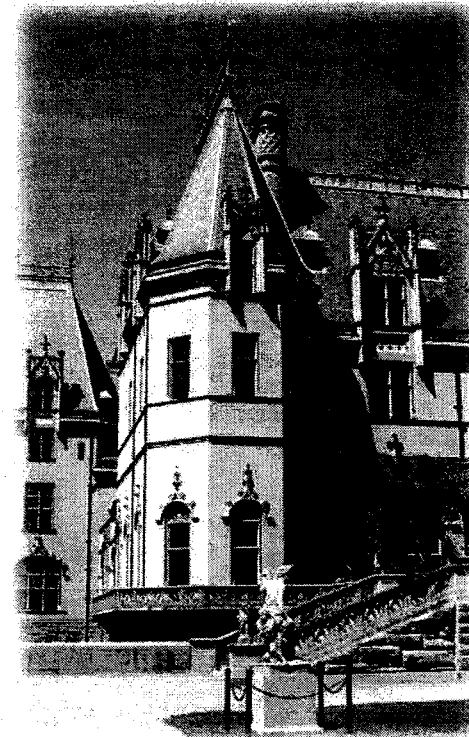
WHO ELSE DESERVES BETTER?



Any dog living ostracized from the family, such as in a tiny pen or cage, or enclosed in a basement or garage deserves more. **These places are no better for me than a chain would be!** I want to be with you.

THERE ARE LAWS

Many areas of the country have limited or banned chaining, over 70 at last count. It is only a matter of time until there is a law in your community. **Do the right thing before it is forced upon you!**



*Dogs lived **INSIDE** the Biltmore, a 250 room mansion in North Carolina, and have lived **INSIDE** the White House with many presidents since our nation was formed. Unless your home is grander than these, you need to rethink your "The dog will mess up my beautiful house" excuse. There is truly **NO** excuse for chaining your dog for life.*