

2559

March 6, 2007

Senator Lisa Baker  
22 Dallas Shopping Center  
Dallas, PA 18612

RECEIVED  
MAR 07 2007

Dear Senator Baker:

We am writing to share our concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania Dog Law regulations. We have spoken with individuals we consider to be reputable breeders and kennel owners, and as a consumer of their services we are gravely concerned. We have purchased our dogs from reputable breeders after much research and consideration. We believe that the amendments, if passed in their current form, would force our local businesses to close due to enormous costs to renovate. We have serious agony considering that the reputable, ethical businesses in our area that we have hand chosen and trust with our loving companions, would not be assisted by this amendment but annihilated.

Consider below some of my concerns:

- We ask that you urge Governor Rendell to talk to the PA Dog Federation who is vehemently opposed to the proposed amendments.
- The amendments as written would likely force rescue organizations choosing to find new homes for loving pets to close as they are often individuals volunteering time, facilities, and love for these deserving of life animals.
- The amendments should restrict pet shops from purchasing from "puppy mills" and should be required to provide evidence of reputable breeding standards.
- The hobby kennels and breeders, if housing more than 26 dogs, would be forced to upgrade or cease operations.
- The current amendments restrict dogs from opposite sex and differing size to exercise and play together - thus meaning that our dogs (male weighs 100 pounds and female weighs 50 pounds) would be kept from each other if bordered together.
- Our dogs have been bred in environments that have been family raised and they have the most loving temperaments. Under the current proposed amendments these family-raised and hobby kennel environments could not financially modify to meet the enforcement standards, thus suggesting for instance that gravel surfaces would be preferred over acres of grass and fields. This is ridiculous.
- Lastly, our local economy would suffer as the countless number of kennels and breeders we know of in our area would close.

We cannot urge strongly enough how opposed we are of these current regulations. We agree that puppy-mills, shoddy-run and unsanitary conditions in many kennels and pet shops need to be addressed and forced to comply with tougher standards to keep our animals safe. We feel however, that this current amendment to the dog law would seriously affect our community negatively rather than help it.

Your consideration and action is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Kathy J. Brittain & Dianna J. Dean*

Kathy J. Brittain and Dianna J. Dean  
RR#1 Box 182, Route 92  
Falls, PA 18615

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 MAR 16 PM 1:40

RECEIVED