

2559



The Department of Agriculture
 The Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
 Attention Mary Bender
 2301 North Cameron Street
 Harrisburg Pa 17110-9408

03/08/07

RE: PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE DOG LAW

Dear Mary Bender

We have been in the pet care business since 1972. All of the wardens (Lester Young, Eugene Grove, Travis Hess, and Dick Hess) who have inspected us throughout the years have remarked what a well built, maintained, and managed boarding kennel we operate.

Before the five building update or expansion projects that took place during our existence we had to meet some very strict requirements set forth by the township we are located in. Each of the project's plans was drawn up by a licensed architect and a licensed civil engineer. The plans then had to get a stamp of approval from a structural, mechanical, electrical, environmental and civil engineer before final approval by the township and proceeding with the projects.

Our building has also been inspected and approved by the Pa Department of Labor and Industry and Manheim Township, Lancaster Co. Our township requirements for the projects to be approved go well beyond the standards required by the BOCA regulations. Manheim Township also requires twice a year inspection of our fire protection system that they required us to install. Over the past 35 years our building, mechanics, drains, or the kennel design has not failed us, our clients, or the pets in our care.

I believe after reading the new proposed law that it is intended for a mass breeding kennels and unfortunately has lumped all the kennels, boarding, breeding, and rescue shelters into the same category. All kennels should not be governed by the same law because we all have different purposes and there for different requirements for operating the different types of facilities. A few of the many examples are, the record keeping requirement in the new law. What benefit does it have for the pets that are boarded in a boarding kennel or the pet's owner? And six inch drains are not needed in any kennel situation. We have the engineering data to back that up. And elevated beds that keep pets off the floor. What about the kennels who has radiant heat built into the floor, isn't that where the pets are going to want to curl up and be cozy?, not on some bed that keeps them away from the warmth of the floor.

I believe the laws that are in existence need to be enforced more, then see if we still need new or additional ones.

Sincerely

Pat Gochenaauer

pag\pag

RECEIVED
 2007 MAR 16 PM 1:55
 INDEPENDENT REGULATION
 HEWEN COMMISSION