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Nicholas Gruschow
303 North Elm Ave
Newtown, PA 18940-2229

March 8, 2007

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

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
PENNY COMMISSION

2007 MAR 16 PM 1:46

RECEIVED

Re: Pennsylvania Proposed Changes to Kennel Regulations

Dear Mary Bender:

Actual dog breeders were not able to give input into these proposed regulations, but animal rights oriented individuals were invited to provide input. This means those with actual experience were unable to contribute valuable information into the decision making process.

The new requirements for the space and exercise for dogs are not based on accepted husbandry standards or scientific research.

For many Pennsylvania dog breeders, the regulations would require the rebuilding or renovation of kennels which already comply with current federal and state regulations. Establishing rigid engineering standards for kennels does not contribute to the health and welfare of the dogs.

Responsible hobby breeders are raising wonderful healthy puppies and dogs which go to homes where they become loved family members. These responsible hobby breeders would be negatively impacted by the proposed regulations. They would have to change the way they presently keep, breed and raise their animals. Keeping their animals in their homes allows the animals to be well socialized into a family situation and allows the puppies to transition much more easily into their new homes. Eliminating these small hobby breeders would do a disservice to the people of Pennsylvania who want a good family dog.

Please see that these proposed regulations are re-visited with the purpose of amending the unreasonable requirements and thereby improve the health and welfare of dogs in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

*Nicholas
Gruschow*

Nicholas Gruschow