

2559

5434 Oswego Drive  
Bethlehem, PA 18017  
March 8, 2007

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

Dear Ms. Bender,

I would like to voice my extreme opposition about the proposed dog law regulations changes (HB445) that were issued on Dec. 16. I urge that this proposal be withdrawn. Everyone with any compassion for animals, and especially reputable breeders, want to see the puppy mills closed down, for the damage that they do to pure bred dogs and the neglect they inflict on animals. But the proposed legislation is excessive and will negatively impact people who are reputable dog breeders, pet owners and rescue organizations. I urge that the current dog laws pertaining to commercial breeders are enforced. We all know that commercial puppy mills are not inspected nearly as frequently as they should be and violate many of the current laws. It is unfair to penalize all dog breeders, rescue groups and owners because of this one group of people.

If the currently proposed legislation is passed it would require thousand of small reputable breeders to become licensed, which as you know, is almost impossible with local zoning regulations. There is no reason to regulate these people. As written, this legislation will also require many established boarding kennels to rebuild their facilities, even though they comply with current federal, state and local standards. Where will you board your dog when you need to take a trip? This legislation would also place undo hardship on rescue organizations, many run by reputable breeders. Where will all these dogs go? Without the ability to temporarily house these dogs, as they do with existing regulations, you are condemning these dogs to death.

I urge you to withdraw these proposed dog law regulations and encourage Governor Rendell to sit down with members of the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs and come up with ways to adequately enforce current laws. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jackie Levin

cc: Senator Patrick Browne  
Honorable Craig A. Dally

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

2007 MAR 16 PM 1:38

RECEIVED