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Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
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Attn: Mary Bender

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
FEMIN COMMISSION

I am writing to endorse the adoption of the proposed dog welfare regulations. After watching the testimony and hearing on PCN, I realized how uncaring lawmakers can be. Free enterprise? Jim Cox's comment was a cruel joke. How can you put money above a dog's life? He said he "walks by" a dispirited dog and just "doesn't buy a dog there." Well Bravo Representative Cox. You are a model of human decency.

I realize now that I am not being represented by a lawmaker, but that a law maker is deciding to side with a few dog breeders instead of millions of dogs and dog lovers. Dog breeders who do not want their dogs to get more space and exercise SHOULD NOT be dog breeders. Many committee members do not seem to realize how much dogs mean to people. Dogs have feelings of frustration, anger, fear, isolation, and loneliness just like humans do. Ask anyone with a dog. Rep. Cox and the others don't seem to be observant of anything that can't pull a voting lever.

I would ask each of the deciding minds in this issue to imagine being contained in a cage just big enough for you. Would you be healthy? Maybe. Would you experience frustration, anger, fear, isolation and loneliness? Of course. Would you be happy? Certainly not. If you couldn't speak (or vote), who would get you out?

Being humane doesn't mean "keeping alive" or "not torturing." It means treating everything and everyone like you would want to be treated. And no one, not a person, dog, or any living creature should live in a cage.

One thought before I conclude: what did dog breeders say when the current laws went into effect? They grumbled and muttered that law makers were putting them out of business. I hope you see how absurd that is. It is time for humanity to see outside of itself and leave dollars out of moral issues. Pass the dog laws.

Rob Whited