

1261 Logue Hill Road
Trout Run, PA 17771

March 11, 2007

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

RECEIVED
2007 MAR 16 PM 1:44
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bender:

As a dog owner, trainer, and breeder, I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania dog law regulations issued on December 16, 2006. I believe that inhumane and substandard kennel conditions should not be tolerated, but I do not agree that most of the proposed regulatory changes are needed, or would necessarily have a beneficial outcome if adopted. Many are impractical, excessively burdensome and costly, unenforceable, and will not improve the quality of life for the dogs.

Here are just some of the faults of the proposed regulations:

- ~ Requiring dogs to be kept off of grass. This is often the safest place to exercise.
- ~ The definition of temporary housing is unfair and denies my dogs opportunities for training and socialization.
- ~ Separating dogs out by size alone during exercise makes no sense. Dogs of various sizes can safely exercise together.
- ~ Requiring male and female dogs to be exercised separately unless both are neutered is not rational. Dogs can only procreate if the female dog is in heat.
- ~ Setting temperature requirements for all dogs without consideration of housing or breed of dogs is not in the dog's best interest.

The above is far from a complete list of the deficiencies with the proposed regulations. Many of the new requirements do not provide for the best dog care and are not based on scientific research. It is unfair and irresponsible to apply one standard to all dogs and all dog breeders.

I am a dog musher and gladly spend an inordinate amount of time and money to provide the best for my dogs. The proposed regulations would prevent me from being able to continue provide highest the level of care to which my dogs are accustomed.

Please do not support these changes in the kennel regulations and **I urge that this proposal be withdrawn.**

Sincerely,



Mary Beth Heim Logue