

**Bender, Mary**

**From:** Barbara Mueller [dunnueller@att.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2007 1:01 PM  
**To:** Mary Bender  
**Subject:** Pennsylvania Proposed Changes to Kennel Regulations

Barbara Mueller  
 1026 Jaine Lane  
 Chester Springs, PA 19425-3015

March 12, 2007

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

Dear Mary Bender:

I believe that foxhunting clubs along with other non-profit kennels should not be under the same regulations as commercial, profit kennels. The foxhounds in our kennel are always well fed, housed, exercised and generally cared for. These regulations would put undo financial stress on an organization that works hard in the community for open space and community awareness of our rural sport.

As a dog breeder, I am one hundred percent behind laws and regulations that promote the welfare of dogs. I believe that all dogs deserve the best of care, and that kennels should be managed with that goal in mind. However, I have some serious concerns about the proposed regulations.

It doesn't make sense to apply commercial facility standards to those who keep dogs in their homes and raise puppies there. It is very likely that requiring commercial standards for home breeders will lower the quality of handling for home-raised dogs.

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.

Requiring male and female dogs to be exercised separately unless both are neutered does not make sense. If the male animal is neutered, certainly the female animal cannot be impregnated! Or vice versa, if the female animal is spayed, the male animal cannot impregnate her.

Dog breed clubs contribute to the education of the public with regard to proper care and handling of dogs and provide information about the different breeds of dogs so that new owners can make a more informed choice. Breed clubs also provide dog training classes open to the public.

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
 PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION

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Sincerely,

Barbara Mueller