

2559

Kathy Cooper

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From: K Dunn [kkatnhat@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 7:30 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: Fwd: Cracking down on Puppy Mills in Pennsylvania

2007 MAR 14 AM 11:04

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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From: Best Friends Animal Society <info@bestfriends.org>
Date: Mar 13, 2007 7:14 PM
Subject: Cracking down on Puppy Mills in Pennsylvania
To: kkatnhat@gmail.com

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Dear Best Friends Members,

Cracking down on Puppy Mills in Pennsylvania

Background: Many Americans still buy their dogs from pet stores. And most pet stores get the dogs from puppy mills – factory farms where thousands upon thousands of mother dogs spend their entire lives in small wire cages giving birth after birth after birth to puppies of every breed.

These puppy mills are **places of horror** – almost entirely unregulated. And the puppies themselves are often sickly and suffering from genetic deformities that only show up when it's too late to take them back to the store. Where do they end up? In our shelters and our broken hearts.

One of the worst states for puppy mills is Pennsylvania. But last fall, Gov. Ed Rendell (D) announced a commitment to cracking down on the puppy mills by proposing changes to dog law regulations. Best Friends supports Gov. Rendell for his commitment, but there are some major problems with the new regulations, and **we hope the governor will work with Best Friends and local non-profit rescue and foster groups** to address these problems.

How you can help:

The public comment period for the new regulations **ends this Friday, March 16th!** You have a voice in what happens to the animals of your state. You can make a difference in facilitating a real change during the Comment Period that's happening right now.

First, you can find out more about Puppy Mills and the proposed Pennsylvania regulations by visiting the Truth About Puppy Mills Community <http://network.bestfriends.org/truth>

3/14/2007

Second, please forward this e-mail to friends and family that love and care about animals.

Third, Please call, write or fax your comments to:

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Attn: Ms. Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408
(717) 787-3062
Fax: 717-772-4352

and

Chairman of the Independent Regulatory Review Committee (IRRC):

Arthur Coccodrilli,
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
Main Telephone: (717) 783-5417
Fax: (717) 783-2664
Email: irrc@irrc.state.pa.us

Please tell them:

1. The Dog Law regulations as applied to kennels should exempt all non-profit animal welfare and rescue organizations, especially non-kennel-based rescues and fosters. These life-saving groups are organized specifically to save and care for the dogs who are given up by their new families because of sickness and genetic disorders caused by bad breeding practices.

2. Representatives from non-profit animal welfare and rescue groups should be included on the Dog Law Advisory Board to better represent the interests of animals in forming these regulations.

Thank you for being part of this important change.

Michael Mountain
President, Best Friends Animal Society

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This email was sent to: kkatnhat@gmail.com
This email was sent by: **Best Friends Animal Society**
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