

Dog Law Bureau Director, Independent Regulatory Review Commission:

I can't understand why your state allows these practices, that make Pennsylvania look like a 3rd world country. How can this be ignored. I am sure your state spends a lot of money promoting tourism but with this ugliness allowed in your state I will never visit there and will work hard to urge others to find out about this nasty truth. Please for the sake of all of us let's stop this cruel inhumane practice, if our society is to become safer, kinder and more responsible we can not allow barbaric treatment. I know this issue has been brought to the attention of your leaders and community, it's not like your officials don't know. So I must assume that it is OK with you folks that this goes on. If you went to one of these puppy mills with your child what could you say to explain it. There are many battles to fight but the rise in cruelty in our society starts from the bottom up.

I am starting a promotion blitz to let as many people know as I can that Pennsylvania Supports, allows and looks the other way at animal cruelty and does nothing real to change it. Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast, might be your new license plate slogan. Not much difference from some other parts of the world that we look at as having disgusting habits. Stay out of Pennsylvania is the word.

I support the changes to the commercial dog regulations submitted by the Coalition Against Misery. The proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that were recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not adequately address the issues of temperature control, cage conditions and humane breeding practices.

I am strongly opposed to commercial breeding kennels where the costs are minimized by providing substandard care and conditions for the dogs in an effort to increase the profit. I am writing to request that you immediately take steps to address the horrific conditions in commercial kennels in Pennsylvania. Every kennel must be required to have a visible, safe source of heat and air-conditioning. Additionally, the regulations should limit the number of dogs that are kept in a cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

It is a profound embarrassment that Pennsylvania is known as the Puppy Mill Capital of the East Coast. Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs. Thank you.

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