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

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 can be kept in one cage. And finally, we ask that you include breeding regulations consistent with those established by reputable breed clubs.

As an owner of a dog that survived the first few years of her life in a puppy mill, I am compelled to speak out against the inhumane way these animals are treated. We have worked with our girl for 2 years and still she bears the scars of being a victim of a puppy mill. She runs in fear of flashing lights, flashlights, cameras, or anything that clangs or bangs. No human being has the right to treat another living creature the way she was treated nor to scar their lives the way hers has been scarred. This dog is the sweetest most gentle animal anyone could hope to encounter and yet she suffered at the abusive hands of humans all for financial gain.

In addition, as part of our response to this deplorable behavior we have become part of a rescue group. It is appalling to learn how people are allowed to treat defenseless animals. Something must be done and now is the time it must be done.

Please understand the urgency of this issue and take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you