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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.

I have helped rescue over 25 puppy mill dogs from the Sugarcreek & Apple Creek, Ohio Amish mills in the past year and a half. All in deplorable condition, some with cancerous mammary glands left untreated, crude cesareans (ones that survived), herniated groins from giving birth so many times, rotten teeth, yeast infected ears, skin infections, urinary tract infections...the list goes on.

Supposedly these same mills are inspected by the USDA and given stamp of approval to continue business. Either fire the inspectors or make the inspections more rigorous and accountable. USDA sets the laws in motion, not the greedy breeders.

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.

Please take steps to ensure that the new regulations provide humane conditions for the dogs.

Thank you