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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.

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

Thank you

PS: I personally adopted a former puppy mill dog from Dachshund Rescue of America in 2000. What a beautiful little dog he was!! Deep down, he was a sweet little thing, but would never be like a "real dog" after spending his life in a cage. He was timid and scared. He had never known love, ever had toys and didn't even know how to walk in soft grass when we got him! It took a year for him to feel confident enough to kiss me, or wag his tail!! He lost all his teeth from a poor diet. He also became blind and ultimately died this year, and our vet said his poor life style and lack of medical care in early life probably contributed. I also care for a feral cat colony. They were all sick and dying (and yes, freezing to death in the cold) before I took over their care. Now they are healthy and doing well. Good food, vet care, shots, spaying & neutering and a safe, warm environment make all the difference!

Please help the dogs, who cannot help themselves!!

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