

2559

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Subject: Those involved with the new dog law proposals

To Whom This May Concern;

I and others with sporting dogs, are in opposition to the proposed new regulations. They are far too broad. You are targeting the small breeder, the craftsman, the hunter. We raise English Setters for grouse and woodcock hunting and you will be ending our lives, so to speak.

The problem is the puppy mills, not us who breed to better the breed and the sport. I don't understand why you need to have new regulations, when the current ones are not enforced with regards to the puppy mills.

We, nor anyone else I know, could meet these regulations. It appears to us and others, that the animal rights agenda is behind these new regulations, aimed at hunting dogs in particular.

The run size would require us to tear our six runs down and replace them, which, financially is impossible. They are covered by a roof that extends from the building.

The gravel and base requirement is beyond reason. We have chain link exercise area approximately 1/2 acre. According to the new regulations we would have to cut down all the trees, surface the area and put up a roof!! The cost would be enormous and unnecessary.

All the trees would have to be cut down that shade our kennel and the dog boxes, since they harbor "vermin". These are the trees that shade the boxes in the summer and allow sunlight in the winter. Also, the new requirement as to the size of the dog house is dangerous to the dogs. The house is too large for the dog to have its own body heat help heat the box. We sometimes double up the

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dogs in the winter, for their own comfort. That would not be allowed.

The requirements state that we would have to walk every dog on a leash 20 minutes per day. The dogs get more exercise in the enclosure and working than they do on a leash! Also, if our dogs get injured, such as picking up a thorn in their foot, or a little sore from work, we would have to take them to a vet for a certification that it was Ok not to exercise them!!!

I am also told, by my inspecting dog warden, that we would not be allowed to raise our puppies in the house. That is the best place for them to be raised. Physically and mentally. This seems to be extreme and definitely not in the best interest of the puppies. I take great pride in the condition of our puppies. Their condition is directly tied to the better care that they receive being with us constantly. There are many things that can go wrong with the puppies as they grow, especially the first two weeks and also, with the bitch. Separately them from us would be detrimental to both puppies and the dam.

As to ice in the water bowls.....you would have to stand there all day long to keep ice out of the bowls. Our dogs are attended to at least three times a day during cold weather. They are also fed with broth or hot water over their food for added fluid. Again, the regulations are going to the extreme.

The paperwork proposed is unworkable. I would have to quit by job just to conform to the paperwork.

Requiring separation of sexes for exercise isn't reasonable. You can't put all the males or all of the females together. You'll have fights. Apparently, you think that with the dogs turned out together there would indiscriminate breeding occurring. We know when our females are due in season and are checked on a daily basis. Besides it is some time before they are ready to be bred once they come in season.

Our dog warden has never found a problem with the way our dogs are taken care of. I think that is the case with most of the K1 kennels. Your regulations will take away our way of life.

Why don't you enforce the laws that are currently on the books??

The puppy mills are allowed to continue to operate. Shut down the puppy mills that Pennsylvania is noted for and leave the craftsmans, the hobby breeders and dog owners alone. We are not the problem.

Sincerely,

Ginny Chiappini
Chip's Kennels

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