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Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Attn: Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 N. Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

16 March 2007

Dear Ms. Bender:

A 14 March, 2007 article in The Reporter, a local newspaper, invites opinions on Governor Rendell's proposal to draft dog law regulations for Pennsylvania. These laws will also effect non-profit shelters and rescue operators who pick up the bad outcomes and provide most of us with loving pets.

Most of the pets I have owned in my lifetime were rescued from abuse. I am aware that Missouri and Pennsylvania are the puppy mill capitals of the U.S. On the other side, I checked with Lansdale area kennels who know that Department of Agriculture inspectors are reputable and welcomed by the business owners.

I am sure that you and other responsible Department of Agriculture employees know where the scoff-law breeders and dealers are. My concerns for any tougher laws and penalties are:

- are new laws going to be enforceable?
- Does the Department of Agriculture have the manpower to inspect breeders, dealers and shelters?

If these outcomes are doubtful, the best service you can render to us is to loudly and frequently tell the State Legislature and Governor that they are wasting our money and your time. Meanwhile, any thing you can do to get Pennsylvania off the puppy mill Top Ten will be appreciated.

Sincerely,


Jon Rueckert

(610) 584-9726