

# 2559

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**Gelnett, Wanda B.**

**From:** MainLineRescue@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2007 5:52 PM  
**To:** Kim Kaufman  
**Subject:** Proposed Kennel Regs

2007 APR 17 AM 7:07

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Miss Kaufman,

We are extremely concerned about your committee's stance on the new kennel regulations. Yes, the changes will cost breeders money to improve their kennels, but when there are high volume dog breeders in Pennsylvania making over \$1,000,000 a year, they can well afford to make the necessary changes. I would suggest you and the other members of the committee visit the numerous web sites (selling dogs for as much as \$1600 a piece) to fully understand the money that these people are asking and getting for their dogs. Then read their kennel inspection reports (available through the Bureau of Dog Law) to see the "number of dogs sold in the past year" and you can easily do the math. This is big business and the improvements are long overdue.

To suggest that the lives of the dogs in these high volume facilities should remain deplorable, because of the financial hardship on the breeder, is ludicrous.

I continue to read the comments made by hobbyist breeders (mind you most responsible breeders I know and have spoken to are not affected by the new regs, breeding under 26 dogs a year) and the members of the PA Pet Breeder's Association and frankly, whether they block the new regs or not, it isn't going to make us go away. Our organization just contracted two more billboards. There are tens of thousands of people who want this cruelty to stop. It is inhumane. We all know it is inhumane. And the politicians who support these self-serving individuals will be exposed and held accountable for their actions and words. At this point I think what we (in animal welfare) need to do is tell their constituents how these elected official feel about the suffering of hundreds of thousands of innocent animals. They don't seem to understand that there are more dog lovers voting in this state than dog breeders.

And now the breeders are claiming that all we need to do is enforce the existing laws. Funny, for years they were happy enough that the existing laws weren't being enforced and did little to push for their enforcement, but of course that was before there was a push for increased cage size and exercise for dogs spending their entire lives in cages the size of dishwashers.

I hope that you accept testimony from the people really affected by PA's Puppy Mills, like the families who are devastated when their new puppies die or end up in intensive care hours after buying them in Lancaster County. Or people, such as myself, who are faced with the burden of caring for these dogs on a daily basis. Sick puppies surrendered with tears to shelters across the Commonwealth because the families can't afford to treat them. Or discarded breeding dogs who escaped a bullet in a dark cornfield. What about the great financial cost to us? What about the drain on our resources? Yes, I feel very sorry for those who are making so much money breeding dogs without names, or vet records, or anyone to care whether they live or die, that they may have to come up with another way to supplement their incomes. Gee, how tragic.

Sincerely,

4/17/2007

Bill Smith  
Main Line Animal Rescue  
[www.MLAR.org](http://www.MLAR.org)

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