
From: Smith, James M.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 2:59 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: FW: Dog Law

RECEIVED
IRRC

2010 JUL 28 P 3 51

#2785

From: cheryl whittaker [mailto:cheryl.whittaker@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 1:44 PM
To: gtuma@state.pa.us; stcrawford@state.pa.us; rredding@state.pa.us; dduer@state.pa.us; jlsmith@state.pa.us; suewest@state.pa.us; dkennedy@state.pa.us; skniley@state.pa.us; nwyatt@state.pa.us; ashriver@state.pa.us; sbattisti@state.pa.us; scampbell@state.pa.us; lsimmens@state.pa.us; ckopp@state.pa.us; Smith, James M.
Cc: Governor@state.pa.us
Subject: Dog Law

Let me start by saying that I vote! While the bulk of recipients of this message are not elected, I vote for the person that appoints each of you. If the dog laws are not upheld as written, rest assured that my next vote will support the candidate that chooses to adhere to the law and not your twisted wishes or interpretation of the law's words.

Why is the Rendell Administration supporting the illegal actions of PA's Department of Agriculture?

Our new dog law clearly states adult dogs in commercial kennels can no longer be housed on painful wire flooring (solid or slatted only) and every adult dog is required to have unfettered access to an outside exercise run. After four years of promises and after boasting "the toughest dog laws in the country," it appears that the Governor is now refusing to enforce the very law he signed in 2008. Making matters worse, you are attempting to push through regulations which would allow commercial breeders to use 50% wire floors in their dogs' cages. Breeding dogs will once again be forced to stand on painful wire - wire that entraps their legs and causes their feet to become ulcerated and splayed.

If this isn't bad enough, Russell Redding recently decided to support Pennsylvania's puppy mill industry by officially adopting a policy whereby pregnant and nursing mothers are deprived of access to outdoor exercise runs for eight months of every year. Under our new dog law (Act 119), every adult dog in a commercial breeding kennel is now guaranteed unfettered access to an outdoor exercise run, but Secretary Redding is telling breeders that if they carry their dogs to an exercise area, they will satisfy the law.

Does Secretary Redding honestly believe that commercial breeders keeping over 500 breeding dogs will be able to carry each and every dog outside twice a day? It is physically impossible. And how will state inspectors prove these animals have been exercised? They can't.

As an animal lover residing in this state, I am outraged by what Governor Rendell, Secretary Redding, Rendell's Chief of Staff Steve Crawford, Special Secretary Jessie Smith, and Director of Dog Law Sue West are trying to do.

By attempting to circumvent our new laws, you are condemning millions of dogs to lives of untold suffering. We worked hard for these new laws. We can't let them be taken away from us without a fight. The dogs are counting on us.

As a voter, I am demanding these laws must be enforced as written. As a taxpayer, it's time to let those in the your organization know that unless you take the decision to abide by the law as written and intended, your organization is an embarrassment and a complete disappointment.

I am well aware of the litany of excuses that Secretary Smith and Director West will offer in their own pathetic defenses, but common sense obviously demonstrates these two people have agendas that do not favor mill dogs or the people of this state. Probably economic agendas and as a classic line from a movie tells us: "follow the money".

This message is also being sent to Senator Casey and Senator Spector as well as Representative Joe Pitts. They need to be informed that your organization is making their own laws without regard for the people of this state.

Cheryl Whittaker
Chester County
19348
cheryl.whittaker@gmail.com