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From: Smith, James M.
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 7:36 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: FW: Please enforce the law

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#2785

From: charise demao [mailto:cdemao@parallax.ws]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 4:35 PM
To: charise demao
Subject: Please enforce the law

The 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," [Pennsylvania] Governor Ed Rendell and his staff are now refusing to enforce the very law Governor Rendell signed in 2008. Making matters worse, they 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. *(see video at the end of this email - mill dog housed on wire unable to walk properly)*

If this isn't bad enough, Rendell's Secretary of Agriculture 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.

Pennsylvania still has a long way to go to protect the thousands of dogs still trapped in puppy mills or backyard breeding facilities given the limits of the 2008 law. It doesn't make sense that the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement would relax, even eliminate requirements of the 2008 law for those commercial breeders the law did target.

**Please enforce the law the way it is written to
force breeders to secure**

Solid flooring-not 50% wiring!

Sincerely,

Charise DeMao

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