

From: Smith, James M.
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 7:35 AM
To: IRRRC
Subject: FW: Why is the Rendell Administration supporting the illegalactions of PA's Department of Agriculture?

#2785

-----Original Message-----

From: Debra Mohan [mailto:DMohan@bridgepointhealth.ca]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 1:04 PM
To: dduer@state.pa.us; dkennedy@state.pa.us; gtuma@state.pa.us; jlsmith@state.pa.us; rredding@state.pa.us; stcrawford@state.pa.us; suewest@state.pa.us
Cc: ashriver@state.pa.us; lsimmens@state.pa.us; nwyatt@state.pa.us; sbattisti@state.pa.us; scampbell@state.pa.us; skniley@state.pa.us
Subject: Why is the Rendell Administration supporting the illegalactions of PA's Department of Agriculture?

To Whom It May Concern:

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," Governor 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.

Animal lovers throughout Pennsylvania should be 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, they 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.

I, for one, don't want to hear excuses!!! Fix this problem!! You got voted in and in the next years you can be voted out because of this!!

Sincerely,
 Deb Mohan
 Miami, Florida

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