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From: Steven Hoover [stevenhoover19@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2010 12:00 PM
To: IRRC
Cc: Smith, James M.
Subject: Objections to new proposed dog law regulations

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Comments on new dog law regulations

I am opposed to 2 parts of the new regulations. The first concerns wire flooring for whelping mothers and their puppies. Act 119 specifically states no wire flooring, even coated, is to be allowed. This was put into Act 119 to protect the dogs from harmful and painful injuries to the pads on their paws. Wire flooring, or hog flooring as it is commonly known, is for use on animals with cloven hooves, NOT for animals with padded paws. In response to the new regulation which would allow this, Governor Rendell has stated, and I quote, "No wire flooring means no wire flooring!" Convenience for the kennels owners should NEVER override protections set in place to keep the dogs from unnecessary pain and suffering. The second objection I have is in regard to denying outside access to nursing mothers. To keep an animal caged for an inordinate length of time without the opportunity to receive proper exercise, causing atrophy of their muscles is both cruel and inhumane. Once again this is an attempt by the kennel owners to put their convenience over the welfare of the dogs and neither of these parts of the new regulations should ever be allowed under any circumstances.

Steven Hoover
Director, Western PA Chapter
League of Humane Voters
814-410-3832, cell 404-556-1879
stevenhoover19@yahoo.com

The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. Mahatma Gandhi

The fate of animals is of greater importance to me than the fear of appearing ridiculous. Emile Zola, 1840-1902