

Mr. Arthur Coccondrilli, Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
14th Floor, Harrisstown 2
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

August 18, 2010

Dear Chairman Coccondrilli,

It means a lot to us...that you have taken the time to review all of these comments.

My name is Jim Burkholder...owner of Whispering Springs Kennel ...my wife and I have been breeding dogs in Pennsylvania for 15 years.

We have been in full compliance the entire time.

Please... don't approve these regulations.

If it were not for the friends that I have made...and what my wife and I have learned and the people we have met ...I admit... I just might not be here today.

We really care about what we do...and it is so frustrating when we hear all of the negative things that we hear.

When we built our kennel ...we set out to be serious about what we were going to do.

The problem is so many other people think that no matter what we do it will never be the right thing...

And just because we disagree with these regulations does not mean that we do not want to get good regulations.

My wife and I attended EVERY ONE OF THE CANINE HEALTH BOARD MEETINGS.

We do not know why the regulations do not show what our opinions are.

We have concerns with the regulations **and we have concerns** that if these regulations will be approved today.

Remember what I said...when I built my kennel we were serious about it and built it to be state of the art. And to the highest standards.

Here is our problem...

We have lived through HB 2525... ACT #119 ...and all of this for the last 3 ½ years. EVERY DAY.

We still scratch our heads and do not understand why this is being made to be so difficult.

Humidity...Temperature...Lighting ...Flooring ... ventilation. That is it...a standard for each one.

Why are all of these regulations still saying things that the law did not allow for?

Why are all of the standards on the highest end of the scale...not because we do not think we need high standards.

We need high standards that CAN be met...if they are all so high what is the sense ---everyone will be out of business anyway.

There are times when different levels are needed...These regulations do not let that happen.

You can't dim the lights.

You can't give an orphan puppy or an old sick dog a little more heat.

You definitely can't lower your humidity levels to 11%---that is unless you want sick dogs.

Let me say something about a device hanging in our kennels reading levels 24 hours a day. You want my records ...ok

You want a dog warden's report ...ok

We can't let a machine be part of criminal or civil penalties...that is a whole new thing to get into. We now need regulations to regulate a machine hanging in my kennel.

Please do not approve these regulations today.

We know the process will take a little longer.

And that will be better for everyone in the long run.

Respectfully,

Jim Burkholder

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