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From: Brownfield, Jill [jbrownfiel@state.pa.us] on behalf of AG, CHBcomments [CHBComments@state.pa.us]
Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2009 6:29 PM
To: dhain@pahouse.net; IRRRC; kebersole@pasen.gov; Kennedy, David C. (AG); Kerry Golden; MULLER, JENNIFER; Smith, Jessie L; Thall, Gregory (GC); wgevans@pasenate.com
Subject: FW: Commercial Kennel regulations

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
COMMISSION

From: Patricia Bentz [mailto:pabentz@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2009 9:45 PM
To: AG, CHBcomments
Subject: Commercial Kennel regulations

It is good news to hear that Pennsylvania has passed the regulations created and proposed by the Canine Health Board. As a dog trainer and behavior consultant here in Center City, I strongly support these changes for a number of reasons:

- Within the past year I've worked with six rescued adult "puppy mill" dogs whose lives were spent in a crate and whose sole purpose was to breed. All of these dogs make no eye contact with humans, have never learned to sit and are very fearful of their new environment.
- It is time for us to actually do something about Pennsylvania's bad reputation regarding "puppy mills." Anyone who has seen how these dogs are raised cannot possibly think that that it is acceptable to treat any animal so poorly.
- The regulations focus on our "commercial" kennels that that breed dogs and either sell dogs to dealers or pet stores. The regulations DO NOT target our small breeders.
- Input was received from dozens of scientific experts and based on scientific research.
- Any dog that is commercially bred should be given adequate water, light, heat, ventilation, air quality, flooring and social exposure.
- Meeting very basic needs of commercially bred puppies and dogs will result in dogs with improved behavioral and physical health.
- Passing reasonable regulations that target our large commercial kennels will help Pennsylvania to shed its "puppy mill" reputation.
- Pennsylvania will now be seen as a state that took positive action to become a leader in humane care of animals.

Patricia (Pat) Bentz CPDT, CDBC

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