

2785

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**To: Canine Health Board**

**Re: New Commercial Standards Regulation Proposed by Canine Health Board  
Regulation ID# 2-170 (#2785)**

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

This law indicates an understanding of the stress caused by heat, dark, odors, filthy conditions, etc. but does not address another condition, namely the bitter cold winter.

Domestic dogs are not capable nor physically made up to withstand cold and freezing or sub-freezing temperatures. Even the cows, sheep and horses have a barn with hay to get out of the elements. Most of the smaller dogs are short hair breeds. They freeze in their "Kennels" on stone cold cement floors, with their water bowls frozen solid.

Just adding some insulated board or a heavy tarp draped over their cages would alleviate some of the exposure. If the kennels are equipped with fans, why not convert the same system to heating the enclosures at least to a tolerable 45 degrees? The Amish seem to have embraced solar panels in a big way, if the news is correct. Why not add some panels to the kennels? This should be mandatory. If these "breeders" do not comply, they should be shut down. Permanently.

Many of these dogs are pregnant during the winter. Imagine the suffering of a short haired dog who is not only using all her energy to grow her puppies, but trying to stay even a little warm. The stress is too much. And what about the survival of the tiny puppies? Will they freeze to death?

If this law truly aims at alleviating the awful conditions in the Puppy Mills, and ensures the well-being of these dogs, and compassion for their plight at being unfortunate enough to be in one of these Mills, this is essential to that goal. Let's face it; these dogs will never have any kind of nice life. They are prisoners and breeding machines.

I find it a pretty sad day when in the year 2009, we as human beings have to legislate whether a dog freezes all winter in agony or not. The only people who benefit from allowing the conditions to prevail are the Puppy Mill owners. Certainly not the unsuspecting public who think they are getting a healthy little puppy and usually end up with a sick dog who needs massive amounts of Veterinary care, and absolutely not the dogs. No, the dogs are busy gnawing their teeth down to nubs chewing on the bars of their cages to get free.

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