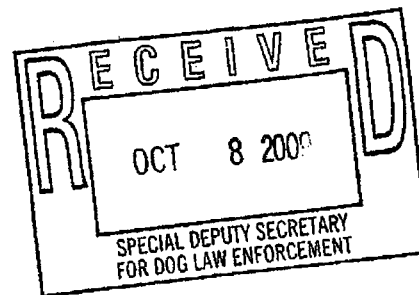


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SPONENBERGH  
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October 5, 2009

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement  
2301 North Cameron Street  
Room 102  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Re: Temporary Guidelines for Commercial Kennels

Dear Secretary Smith:

RECEIVED  
2009 OCT 29 AM 9:57  
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
TASK COMMISSION

As concerned Pennsylvania citizens, we are in support of the Department of Agriculture's proposed rulemaking regarding standards for commercial kennels. The notice was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on September 12, 2009 (7 Pa.Code CHS. 28 and 28a).

The Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement within the Department of Agriculture is charged with implementing and enforcing the Dog Law, which was passed to ensure the humane care and treatment of dogs in the Commonwealth. In 2008, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed significant amendments to the Dog Law and created the Canine Health Board to establish appropriate ventilation, humidity, ammonia, and lighting ranges for commercial kennels, as well as consider alternative flooring options to those set forth in the law. The proposed regulations are the result of the Canine Health Board's recommendations for those standards.

We fully and strongly support the proposed regulatory package presented by the Department of Agriculture and the Canine Health Board with the recommended changes, and encourage passing the new regulations as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Richard and Nancy Sponenbergh*