



When selecting your family's best friend, would you prefer that it be raised like a lab rat or in a loving, home environment?



In an attempt to control commercial dog breeders in Pennsylvania, proposed changes to the Pennsylvania Dog Law will adversely affect those who do the most to ensure that dogs are raised in a healthy, caring and nurturing environment - dog fanciers and those people who show dogs in conformation and performance events.

Just one of the inhumane and unfathomable revisions to the Dog Law regarding a dog's exercise area:

“Outdoor facilities, including runs and exercise areas shall be kept free of grass...”
7 PA Code 21.24(b)

Dogs can't run on grass? How is this going to benefit Pennsylvania's dogs?

Proposed new rules being rushed through now will regulate quality, home-based dog breeding out of business, leaving the field open to high volume, profit-oriented, commercial puppy breeders with stark concrete and steel facilities. The rules are based on the Federal Animal Welfare Act, legislation designed for rearing research animals like laboratory rats, not trustworthy canine companions destined to share our homes!!

This is just one of many issues that will potentially bring ruin to the breeding and showing of quality dogs in Pennsylvania, and ultimately limit the availability of well socialized, healthy dogs from becoming your companion. The proposed changes may also result in the end of canine rescue groups, dog shows, dog parks, obedience and training classes, and any other event or place where people congregate with their dogs.

This issue has not only gone to the dogs! Should the proposed changes in Pennsylvania's Dog Law take effect and negatively impact dog events in the State, the economic impact will be substantial. There were 691 AKC approved events in the State of Pennsylvania last year, each having a positive financial impact on the community in which it was held. Of these 691 events, 209 were AKC licensed dog shows which infuse an average of \$484,400 per show weekend into the local community.* **In 2006, this totaled more than 33.5 million dollars in revenue for Pennsylvania businesses as a result of canine conformation events alone.**

The existing regulations work as long as they are enforced as recent events in Dauphin and Lancaster Counties have shown. For more details on this issue, visit the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs website at www.paonline.com/PFDC.

We concerned dog fanciers ask for no new regulations, just the enforcement of the current regulations.

THESE NEW REGULATIONS WILL NOT SOLVE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUPPY MILL PROBLEM!

Proposed changes will NOT be reviewed by the State legislature. To have your say, you must act now! Comments should be made in writing before Feb. 10 to:

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Attn: Ms. Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

The President, Board and Members of the Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.

All of the dog clubs in Pennsylvania thank you for your support of this issue and your support of dogs everywhere.

