From: Michael Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:48 PM
Subject: Comments on the Proposed Breeders License Regulations and Fee Structure

To whom it may concern,

Below are my comments of the proposed Breeders License Regulations and Fee Structure:

§91.10.Definitions.,

(19) Wire or Wire Mesh--Any metal, alloy or other material which allows a free air flow through the material when used as, or constructed to be used, as flooring or walls or ceilings for any structure required by this chapter. The strands of metal, alloy or other material must be completely encased with a plastic or rubberized coating and designed so the animal's paws are unable to extend through, or become caught in, the floor.

Comment: STRIKE: "or walls or ceilings" - Walls and ceilings of some kennels/yards are composed of chain link fencing and are not encased plastic or rubberized coated. Chain link is very common material used in kennel throughout the US and including shelters and rescues. If not allowed, it would become very costly to breeders to have it replaced.

§91.50.Inspections--Prelicense.

(c) Before the prelicense inspection may be conducted, applicant must pay to the department the required inspection fee and the reasonable expenses of the department related to its licensing and inspection duties under this chapter.

Comment: STRIKE: "and the reasonable expenses" This word is very ambiguous and leaves the door open to charge the breeder for anything the department deems it so. All fees should be disclosed in proposal.

§91.58.Responsibilities of the Department--Donations, Disbursements and Reporting.

(a) The executive director shall develop procedures for the acceptance, conversion, and deposit of all donations offered by individuals, clubs, organizations, and all other sources.

Comment: ADD: "All donations shall be made public and list by name, club, organization, ect. No anonymous donations will accepted."

§91.80 Fees.

Comment: All fees stated in the current §91.80 Fees proposal are exorbitant for breeders. These fees are on top of the required additional vet fees that will be levied and any additional operational changes need to comply with regulations. Also just because a breeder has the number listed does not denote size of breed. Toys produce less puppies compared to larger breeds and generally young females are not bred until a year and a half or two years of age. Puppies that are sold/adopted are the only income of a breeder's businessWe feel that a flat license fee and no inspection fees are more inline with USDA and other states. This also allows the breeder to budget for their yearly fees. USDA fees are based on the total of animals sold in the previous year and not the amount of animals housed. The current format will put breeders out of business in Texas or force them to move out of the state. We do realize that this program is to pay for itself but lawmakers where told from the beginning that there are not enough breeders in the state to sustain the program and it was ignored. Please align the fee structure to USDA or similar state programs with flat fees. This will encourage a lot of breeders that on the fence about getting a license to possibly get one.

§91.102 - 113 Standards of Care-

Comment: Please keep ALL standards of care at USDA levels with the exception of what is stated in 1451. This has worked very well at the federal level and is what most breeders are at or can come into align with. Anything more will be very costly to all breeders.

§91.104.Standards of Care--Primary Enclosure.

(iii) The interior height of a primary enclosure must be at least 12 inches higher than the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure when it is in a normal standing position.

Comment: STRIKE: "12" and replace with "6" per UDSA - If this were to stay, our current housing for some would have to be replaced, most of ours are 6 to 8 inches. To replace current enclosures to 12" would cost me around $6,000 to $7,000.

§91.112.Standards of Care--Veterinary Care.

(a) Annual hands on examination. A licensed breeder shall have each animal used for breeding examined by a veterinarian at least once in every twelve month period and provide the animal with any treatment recommended by the veterinarian. The annual examination required by this section must be hands on by the veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical records related to each animal.

Comment: Strike: all, Replace with: "A licensed breeder is required at least one regular veterinary examination a year for a breeding animal." - As stated in HB 1451 - Please be aware that "hands on" could become a highly exorbitant cost to the breeder. No private or public organization or association should dictate what "hands on examination" should be in the examination. This could lead to blood work, temperature taken, fecal work, ect and the breeder having to pay for each item for each dog. The examination should be determined by the vet and breeder.

(b) Euthanasia and surgical procedures. Only a veterinarian shall be allowed to euthanize an animal or perform a surgical procedure such as caesarian birth.

Comment: STRIKE: all, Replace with: "Only a veterinarian shall be allowed to euthanize an adult animal or perform a surgical birth of an animal." - As stated in HB 1451 - The current wording would prevent breeders from performing common practices of docking tails and removing dew claws of three day old puppies. This would greatly increase expenses for breeders if a vet was required to preform these procedures, which requires no administering of painkillers or applying of stitches. Taking puppies to a vet's office would also make them highly susceptible to deadly diseases and viruses of which they are not inoculated against at that early age. If puppies were to bring disease or virus back to kennel, it would wipe out the kennel causing major emotional and financial difficulties to the breeders business.

I sincerely hope that you all are listening to the breeders. We are involved and engaged in the day to day dealing and care of breeding animals and puppies/kittens. We have the knowledge and the backgrounds to inform the department of what is truly feasible and maintainable in a breeding business. Thank you for allowing us to comment on these regulations and fees and we hope that this will encourage the department to change to our recommended comments.

Thank you,
Andy Smith

From: pawshaker[redacted]n>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 3:40 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: ONLY veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for taking all of this into account!

Sincerely,
Candace Hall
[redacted]

From: "S.a. Rehman" [redacted]
To:
Date: 2/22/2012 7:36 AM
Subject: 7--Thanksgiving Proclamation

Subject: Thanksgiving Proclamation

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

God brought us into existence and endowed us with millions of blessings. God blessed us with uncountable sorts of eatables, provided us with countless goods / opportunities of comfort, luxury, adornment and entertainment so that we could enjoy a comfortable life.

As there is no order greater than that of God, therefore we should get a complete knowledge of His directives and resolve to spend our life according to His will, and we should not follow the path forbidden by Him.

And we should be thankful to God for each moment we live on this earth for the countless blessings He has showered on us.

S.A.Rehman
(Peace Activist)
[redacted]

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

Hello, I have been a puppymill rescuer in Texas for the last ten years. When I started I was very naive, and thus shocked by the conditions I encountered... but worse was my dismay when I learned that there was little the law could do about it. I was trying to think of the worst example to share with you. Maybe the tiny maltese who had been debarked (a rod shoved down their throat to break the voicebox), but whose eyes were in so much pain. Or the dachshund whom the breeder wouldn't allow me to take until she had ripped all the ticks off of him (she didn't want a bad reputation). Another breeder gave me a shih tzu who couldn't walk because she had lived in a wire cage, and had almost 200 ticks feeding on her poor body. And then there was the breeder who laughed at the people who wanted to shut her down, because she knew that all she needed to provide was "food, water, shelter."

Please do whatever you can to strengthen these laws. If you love dogs, please help.

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee Cooper
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 11:45:50 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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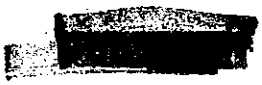

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

PLEASE PLEASE HELP THESE ANIMALS. WE HAVE SO MANY UNWANTED ANIMALS. Puppy Mills are inhumane and we need to set regulations.

thank you for your careful consideration to this extremely important cause

Sincerely,

Shelby Sutherland

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

shelby sutherland

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:31:47 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network

(www.thin.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

Imagine if we treated human beings this way. As long as we continue to treat animals as commodities, human beings will always behave in barbaric ways towards one another. Speciesism is the ultimate crime against humanity.

Why are theses breeding camps even allowed to exist when we have so many unwanted animals being put to death every day in animal shelters? This is insane!

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. And declawing should be forbidden. It's like cutting your finger tip off at the first knuckle, pure insanity!

In a perfect world, all this would be thought of as insane and would never even be thought of in the first place. All breeding should be banned and people should get their animals from shelters.

Respectfully submitted,

Astrum Lux Lucis
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:00:40 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network

(www.thln.org).

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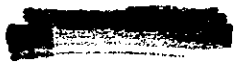

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

As an animal lover and rescuer, I of course want there to be a law that completely bans breeding. Too many animals go into shelters every year and never make it out. Over 4 million animals nationwide are killed every year, this is a sad part of our society.

However, I understand that not everyone feels as I do. If this state is going to allow breeding, please make sure the laws are strict and easily enforced. While many see animals as chattel, they are still living creatures capable of feeling pain. Some of the things breeders are allowed to do are cruel and inhumane. It is embarrassing that this great state allows living creatures to be treated so heinously.

Here are the main concerns:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably cruel confinement. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Please consider these things as you consider this issue. Certainly many of you have beloved pets, imagine how it would be for them to be part of these breeding outfits. It's not good enough for them, and it isn't good enough for any animal.

Thank you so much for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Lowe
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:42:33 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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[redacted]

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

I have photos of a local puppy mill I have been trying to close for several years now. The Sheriff will not act because he says there is nothing they do that is against the law! These poor animals have lived in 18 inch square cages their entire lives! At least 9 years now by the owner's own admission.

Why have a bill addressing humane conditions if you are going to grandfather existing hell holes! Again, allow me to send you photos! Look at your own companion animal and imagine him/her living in an 18 inch cage used for nothing but breeding.

I wish there was a way to submit my photos to you with this submission. Please contact me and I will be happy to send the photos to you. This woman breeds hybrid wolves as well (which are kept on heavy tow chains).

Please, in the name of all that is humane, compassionate and Christian--set rules for these awful breeders that will ensure their breeding stock enjoy a basic a higher standard of living than what they have now.

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Stanford
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:39:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder reg[redacted]

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

First of all I think a law needs to be passed that breeders must pay for a yearly permit to breed their dogs. They are contributing to the pet population, so I think they should have to fork out some money. I have to pay a yearly permit since I have over 4 dogs and I don't even breed! I'm just fostering unwanted pets from shelters, and I have to pay. So they definitely need to be charged! Also require them to all be registered with AKC or all puppies be registered and have papers. Anyhing to have them pay more $, to hopefully discourage breeding.
Second, I think they should only be able to breed each dog, once a year. This would help cut down on overbreeding. There are more purebred dogs in shelters and rescues then mutts. Where are these dogs coming from? Hmmm....breeders! And irresponsible owners, which leads to my next point.
Last but not least, I think a law needs to be passed, that if u aren't a licensed breeder, then u must get your pet fixed. We are going to have to take a stand and do something. Pet over population is a problem everywhere. I rescue dogs and try my hardest to keep them from being euthanised in shelters by networking them to rescues and other fosters. But it boils down, that there are just too many. And this problem is going to continue unless something is changed. The only people I see with having a problem with this is irresponsible people and people that shouldn't own a pet period. I rescue all the time and see the dogs chained and in horrible living conditions. And do u think their pet is fixed? No its not, and its someone tgat doesnt deserve a dog! All of the pet lovers and responsible people already have their pets fixed, cause they don't want to contribute to pet population and they know its healthier for their pet too.
Please help us with our concerns and suggestions to help cut down on the over population of pets! Thank you for your time!

Kim Blankenship-Hicks
[redacted]

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

kim blankenship-hicks
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:17:22 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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[redacted]

From: Mimi [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/17/2012 3:16 PM
Subject: Very Important re rules for licensed breeders

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Drs. Mary Ray and Charles R. Hoffer

From: Blanca Hernandez [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/17/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Document4
Attachments: Document4.docx

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

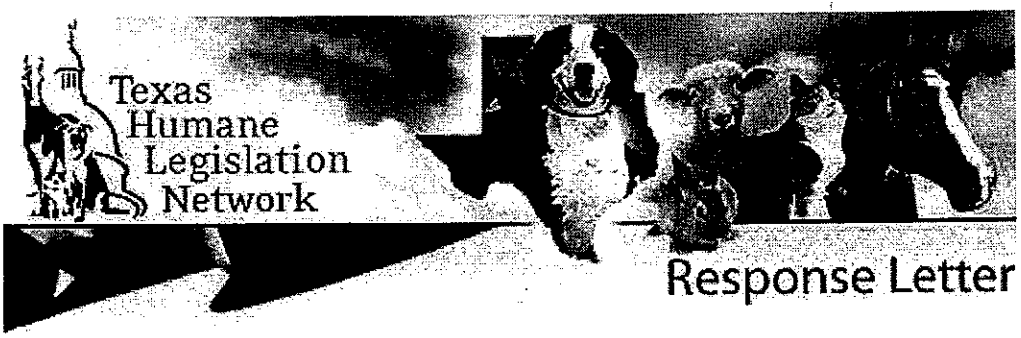
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Blanca Hernandez

[redacted]



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

As a footnote: there are more than enough dogs and cats in Texas. Local municipalities spend a high portion of their budget on rounding up abandoned and stray animals. Frequnetly these animals are purchased and then discarded when they become too large or invonvenient. It is time Texas became the HUMANE state.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kruzich
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:28:51 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

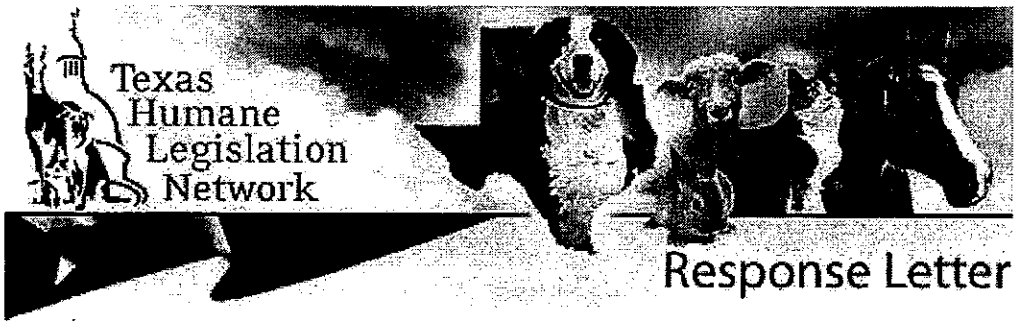
Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Neuroth
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:32:56 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Son

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:30:57 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Son

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:31:49 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Florinda Rodriguez
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:02:50 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

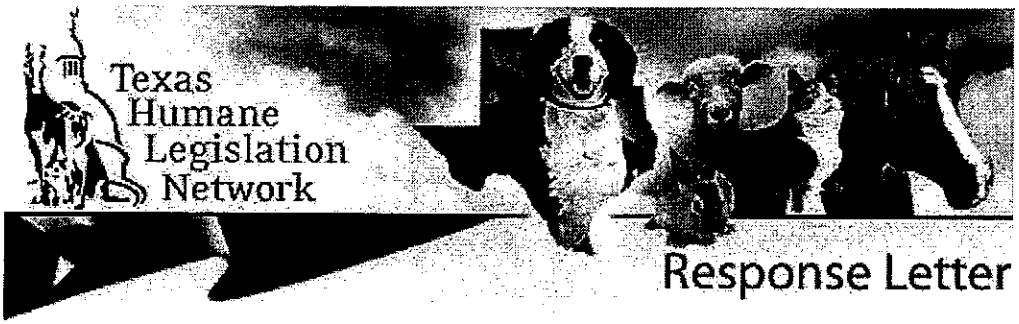
Kathleen Hamilton

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:16:10 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Gigi Ray
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:31:31 PM

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Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Bowling
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:13:32 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Anderson
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 11:19:27 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. Please don't let improper facilities remain improper.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking if at all. But if someone is going to do it, it should be someone who has been tuaght the proper, humane way of doing these procedures. Otherwise, it's cruel to an animal.

Thank you in advance for protecting the welfare of these animals with stronger, better regulations.

Respectfully submitted,

Marline Manassian
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:38:08 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

In order to comply with the legislative intent and spirit of the recently-passed legislation establishing humane standards for large-scale commercial pet breeders, the following revisions are respectfully requested for the proposed regulations thereunder:

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Ear cropping, tail cropping, debarking and declawing are surgical procedures that should only be performed by licensed, trained veterinarians and with sufficient anesthesia and analgesia to prevent suffering by, and risk of infection in, the animals.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). Please revise this provision to expressly include *all* licensed breeders under the requirement for increased cage sizes as called for under the legislation. Increased sizes for enclosures are among the most vital aspects of improved humane conditions and care for breeding animals, and all of these creatures should be accorded the improved conditions intended under the provision.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). Please revise the regulation to prohibit stacking of dog enclosures. Stacking of enclosures creates extremely unhealthy, unsanitary conditions for the dogs, subjecting them to increased risk of disease and making them miserable.

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Please amend this provision to eliminate wire flooring in enclosures. Wire flooring is very dangerous for the animals and inflicts unnecessary pain and risk of infection. *All* licensed breeding facilities should be covered by this provision, without exemption for existing facilities.

Thank you very much for your attention and concern. I look forward to seeing these revisions implemented in the final regulations!

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Koning
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 9:39:58 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Nemer
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:51:44 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

laurie durante

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 9:43:46 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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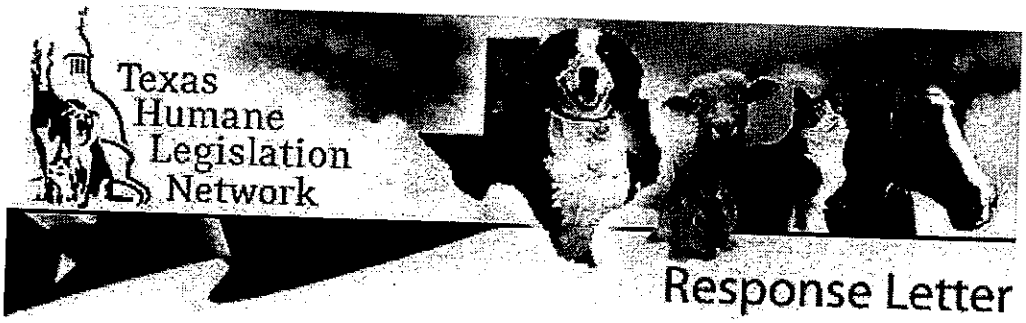

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Respectfully submitted,

Frances Vernon
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:56:02 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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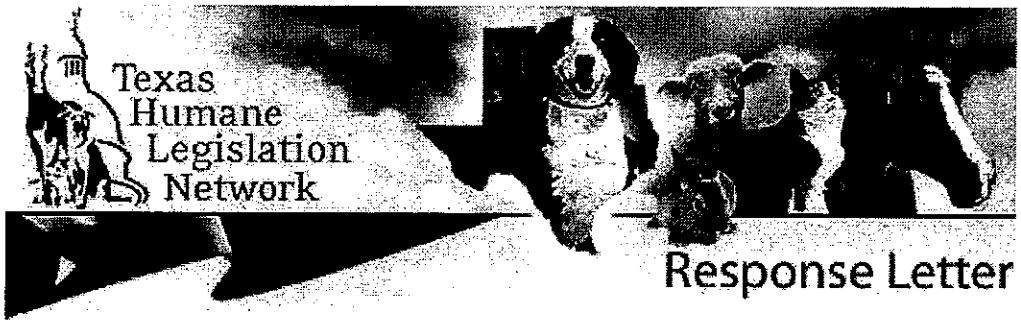

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

jennifer stone
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:20:03 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Suryakusuma
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:30:43 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Lucas Suryakusuma
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:29:56 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Carry Suryakusuma

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:31:22 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Roswita Atmadja

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:32:38 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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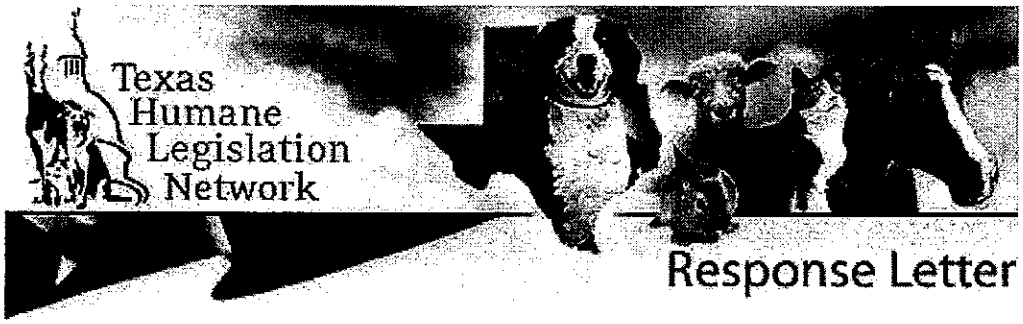

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Juniarti Atmadja
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:31:54 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pechacek
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 4:59:58 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

florine sanchez
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:39:33 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Leila Lewis
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:41:54 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

tony roger valenzuela vertrees
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:41:43 AM

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Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Crystal McMahon
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:22:09 AM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Dione Owens
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:11:52 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Garry Walling
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:18:15 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Allen
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:28:19 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

April Desabrais
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:42:51 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Mathias
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:35:28 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Beth Friedrich
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:45:30 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Marie Hemphill
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:53:55 AM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Johnson
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:21:13 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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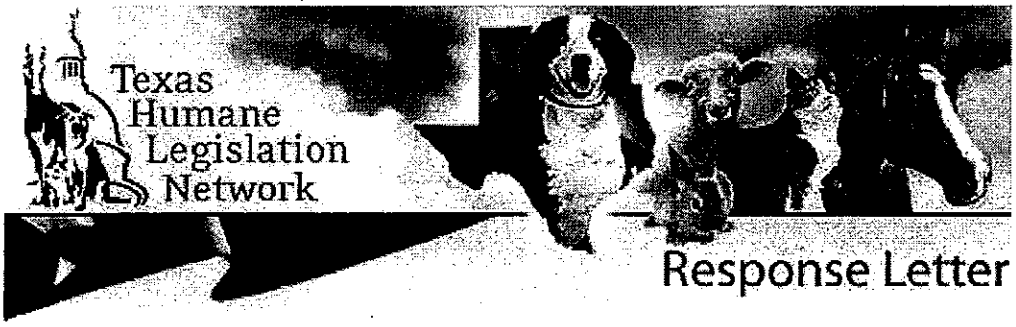

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Respectfully submitted,

Courtney McGee
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:23:19 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Pritchard
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:30:35 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Anita Daniels
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 7:54:56 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Richard

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:36:20 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Mechelle Strange
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:30:27 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Mata
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:05:38 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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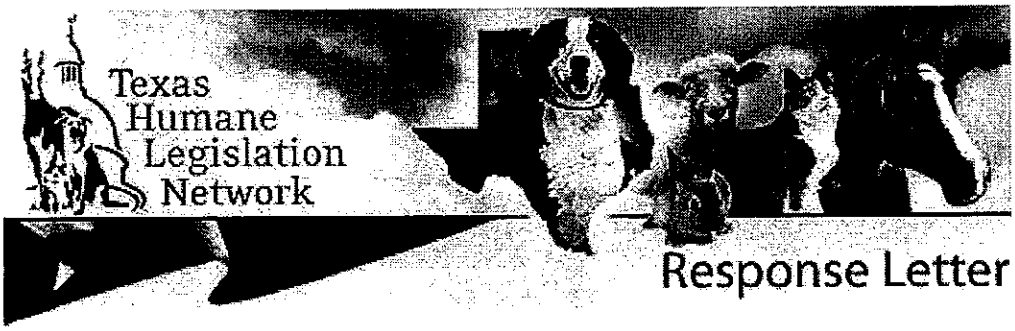

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn DeRousse
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 7:05:37 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Gnader

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 5:00:39 AM

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Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

jodi dybala
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 12:04:16 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Wied

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 3:11:19 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Julie Risk
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 6:35:18 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Merlene Fritts

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 7:14:26 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

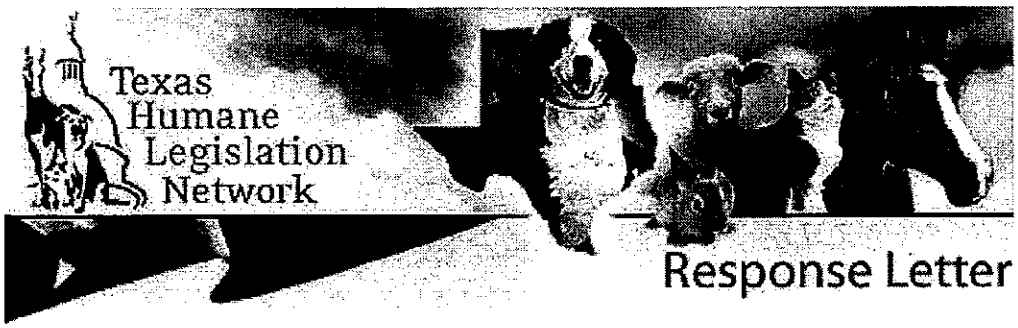
Respectfully submitted,

John Buquoi
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:13:10 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

David Dixon
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 7:22:25 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

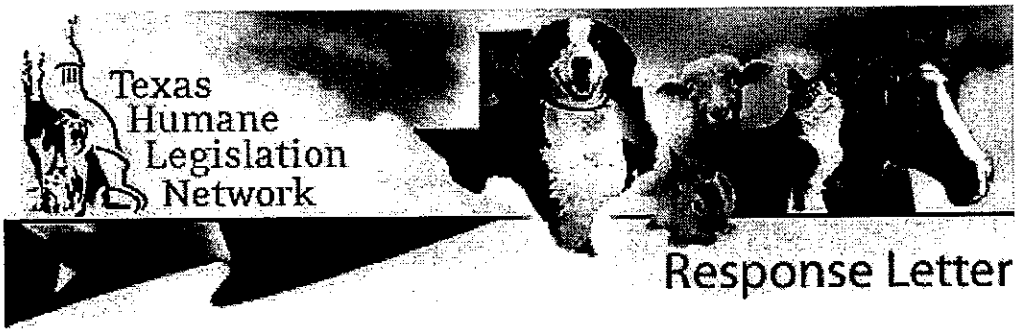
Lauren Aiken

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 4:09:45 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Delarios
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 4:12:33 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra de la Cruz
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 1:40:01 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Kim Ritter

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 4:30:16 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

Please make these changes below. We feel they address what would otherwise result in more animals suffering. We understand people need time to make changes but no one should be exempted from treating animals humanly. Grandfathering in the cases below is not acceptable Barbara & Bernard Spaulding

100% wire flooring (91.102 and 91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably cruel confinement. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Spaulding
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 5:40:28 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Respectfully submitted,

Paige Callaway
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 2:51:27 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

scarlett smith

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 5:12:13 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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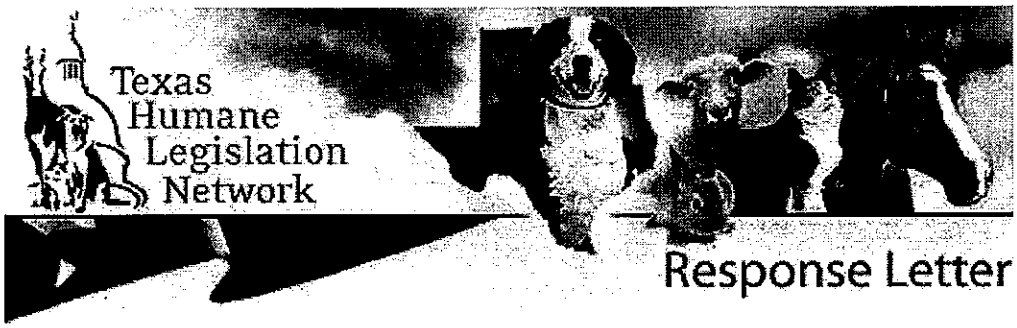
Respectfully submitted,

Gabbi Malka
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 4:23:37 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Rina Kilby
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 1:50:21 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Cara Murray

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:28:51 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Price
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 2:17:46 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Annnamari Lannon
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 2:07:04 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorena Ventura

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 3:54:10 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorena Mendoza
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 3:58:19 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Please help stop the suffering of these poor helpless animals. Unfortunately, there are far too many people who view animals (dogs specifically) as a way to make a quick buck without giving any regard to the animal they are breeding. It sickens me and should absolutely not be tolerated in our great state.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Cook
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:27:45 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelley Reed
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:39:37 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

sam urioste

[redacted]4

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:46:20 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Maynard

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 12:05:02 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Marisa Hettinger
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 12:06:10 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Lingo
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:46:08 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Susan Sneed
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:50:41 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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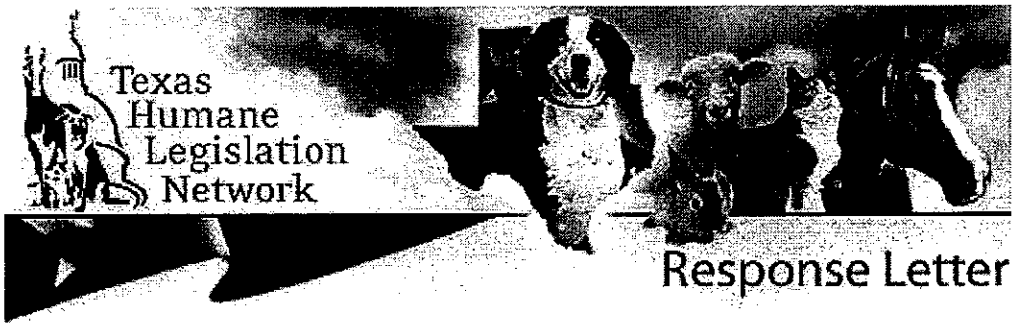

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Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Lane

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:10:41 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Cathe Evins
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 1:20:45 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

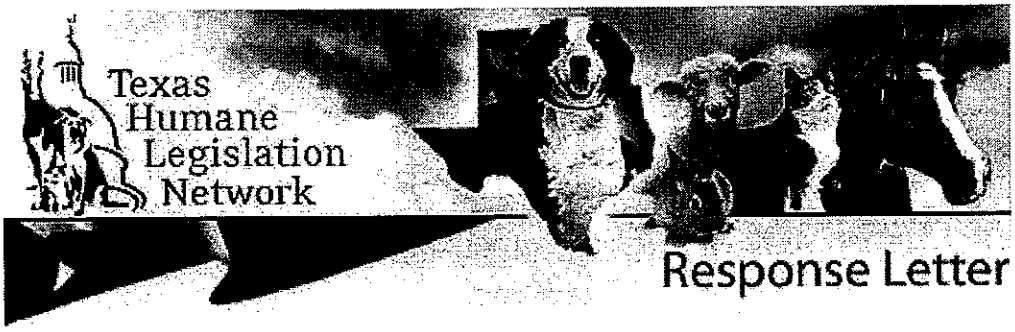
Esmeralda Guajardo

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:46:14 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Jill Goldin
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:00:20 AM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger Temple
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 12:50:01 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Hough
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 1:28:03 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette Salinas

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:22:38 AM

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Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Shana Staub
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 12:20:50 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

It's time that we cracked down on abuse of animals in the state of Texas. Allowing animals to live under these mass breeding circumstances in cruel and inhumane. The cages, stacking of cages and surgical laws need to be strengthened and more closely regulated.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruthann Panipinto
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:39:09 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Upchurch

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:59:22 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Dillon
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:38:35 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Dan Desabrais
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:38:00 AM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rogers
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:18:21 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Goldin
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:59:37 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Barrett
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:23:16 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Bell
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:36:33 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Scott Hadden

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:14:16 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Morgan Martindale
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:01:08 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Freed
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:55:03 AM

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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

April Miller
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:41:07 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Thompson
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:43:50 AM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Brielle Giard
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 5:08:35 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Corinna Duncan
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 6:36:58 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Head
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 5:02:19 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gold
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 3:55:38 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Maria Schultz
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 6:36:47 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Chad Hartmann
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 4:35:33 PM

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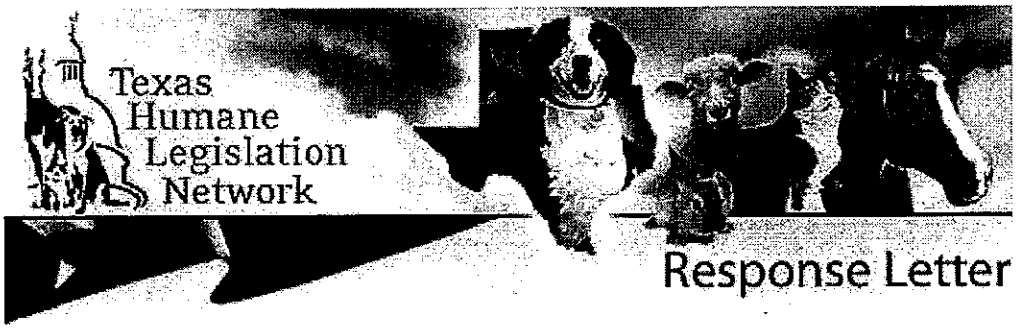
Respectfully submitted,

MICHELLE LAMMERS
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 5:55:46 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Vinyard
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 4:24:37 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Wynn

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 6:51:34 PM

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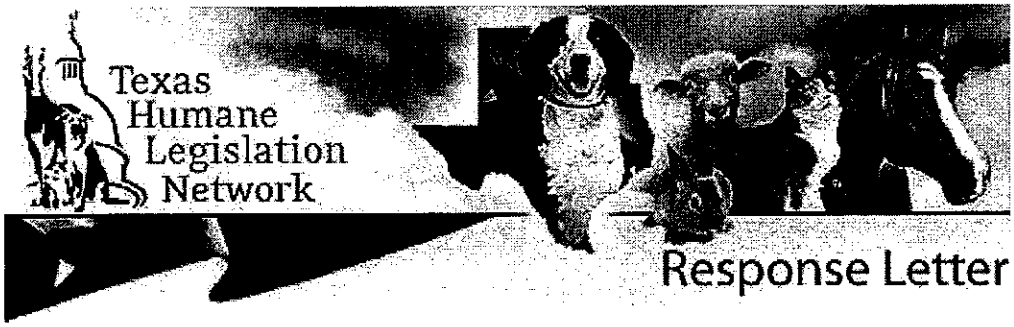
Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Bishop
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 5:23:42 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Lacey Whitlow
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 4:31:37 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Odem
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 3:09:19 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

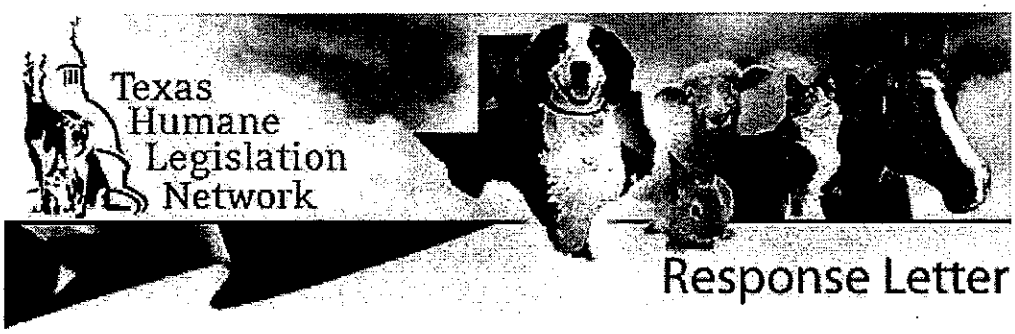
Respectfully submitted,

Sara Carmichael
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 12:24:13 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top



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Respectfully submitted,

Kimber Marshall
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 12:41:31 PM

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Return To Top

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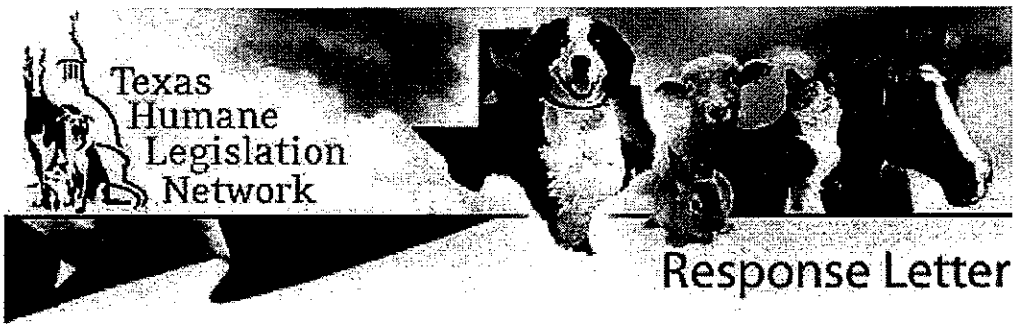
Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Sewell
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 12:02:08 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top



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Respectfully submitted,

Norma Burnias-Zamora
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 1:50:17 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

jenny cohen
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 1:53:45 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Irwin Supernaw
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 1:31:55 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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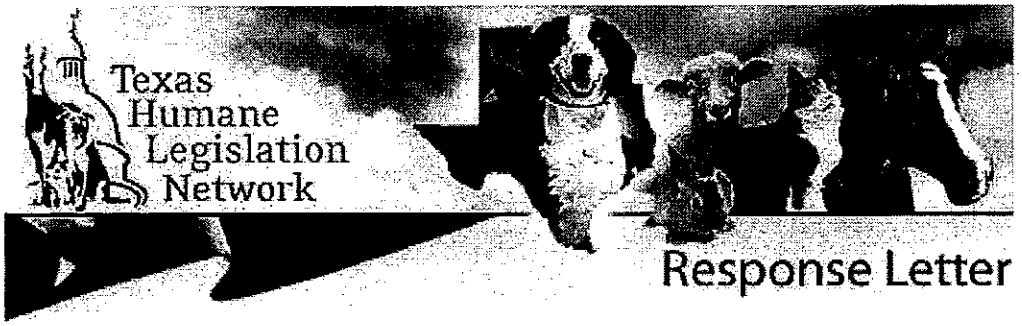
Respectfully submitted,

Bo Beland
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 12:53:56 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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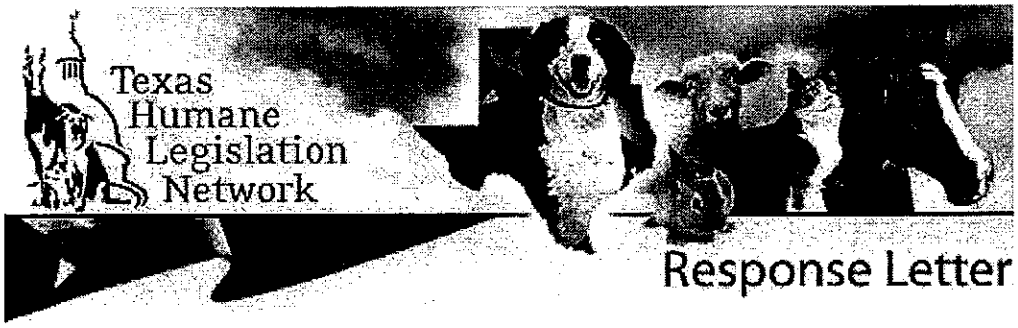
Respectfully submitted,

Faye Scolnic
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 2:44:32 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

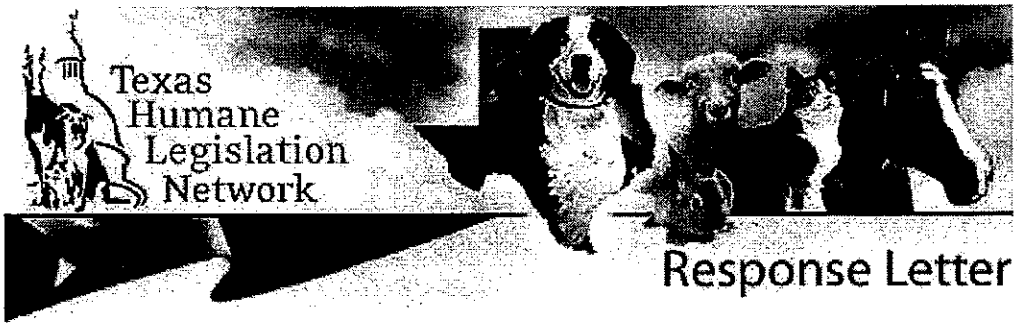
jenny cohen

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 1:53:39 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

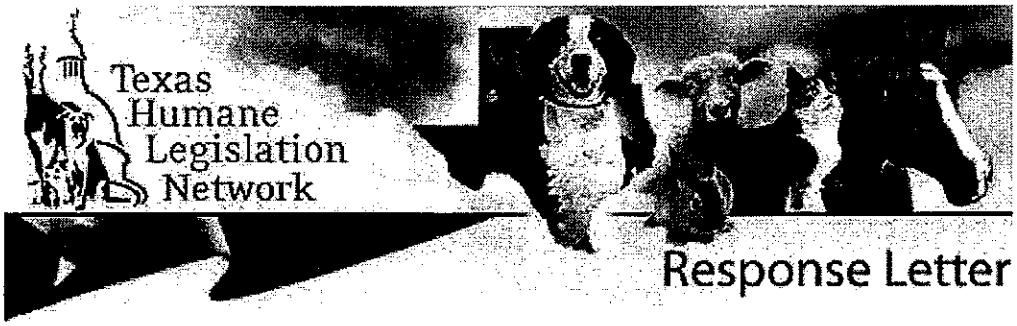
Liza Howard

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 2:45:39 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Monahan
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 10:21:16 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

sarah tucker

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 10:56:34 AM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

We are years behind countries such as Australia and England who do not kill millions of animals each year because they have mandatory spay/neuter laws that are strictly enforced. When are we in the United States going to wake up to this horrific problem and how many animals are going to suffer until we do?

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Shelton

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 10:37:40 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Nicolle Poole
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 11:27:23 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Katie Scullin
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 12:00:11 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Ron Forwark

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:44:05 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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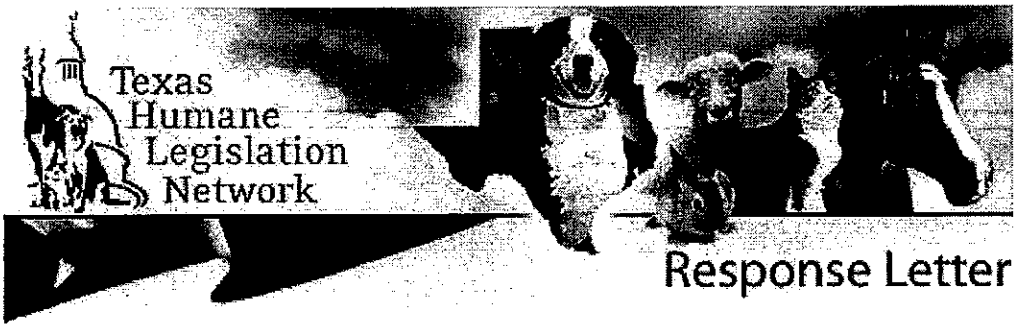
Respectfully submitted,

CINDY LEE
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:31:38 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Faustina Curry
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 10:47:30 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Coffee
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 6:56:32 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Toney
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 6:59:51 AM

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Return To Top

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Harrison
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 9:08:10 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Ferrell

[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 11:15:39 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Tusa
[redacted]

SENT 02.15.12 at 8:37:04 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Carol Veal

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 8:33:46 AM

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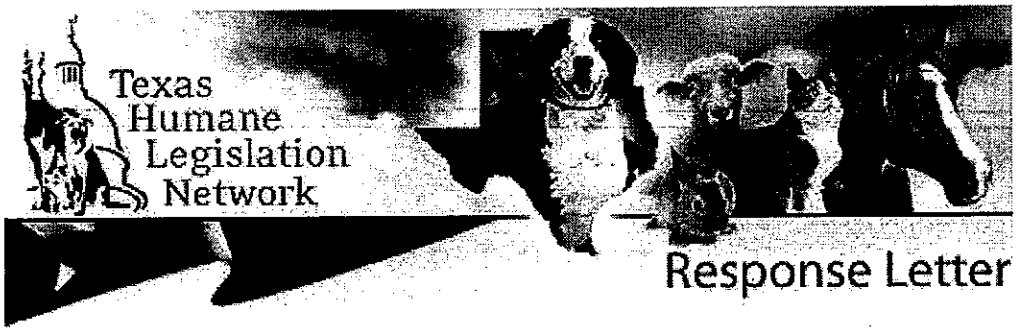
Respectfully submitted,

Christen Lurie
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 8:22:20 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

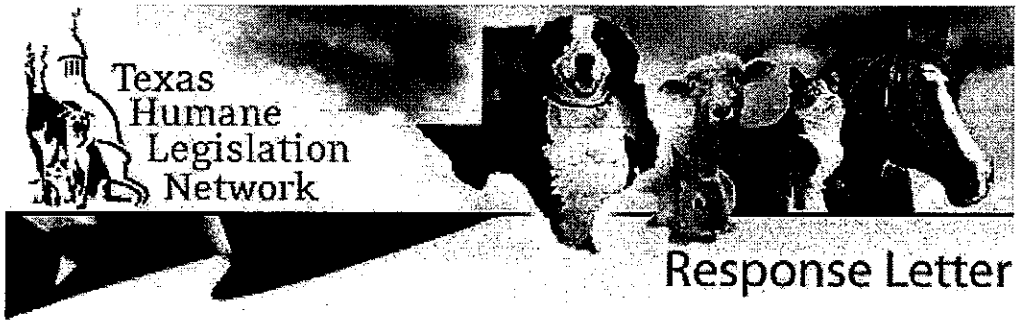
kristin bocanegra

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 8:32:44 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

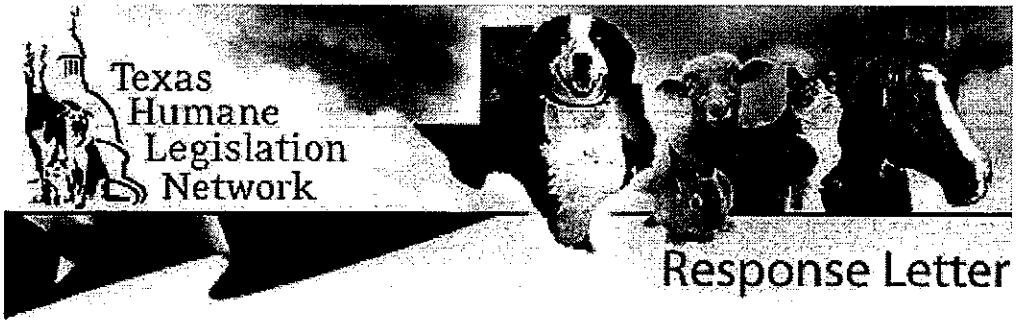
Sara Wheeley

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 8:08:22 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Peterson
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 7:23:51 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Dixon
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 7:20:19 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

From: Abbey Kelly [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Abbey Kelly

From: Olga Alexis Regal [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Olga Alexis Regal

From: Angel de la Torre Garcia[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angel de la Torre Garcia

From: Ian G [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Ian G

From: Jill Hinely [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
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Sincerely,

Jill Hinely

From: Sara D [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
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Sincerely,

Sara D

From: Joseline Rosario [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
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Joseline Rosario

From: Julia Johnson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julia Johnson

From: Kimberly C [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Kimberly C

From: Kimberly C [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Kimberly C

From: Marieke Pain [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Marieke Pain

From: Kimberly C [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
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Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
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Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Megan Clark

From: Robin Folden <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robin Folden

From: Valeska Telford[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Valeska Telford

From: Connie Mills[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Connie Mills

From: Lucilla Vacondio [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lucilla Vacondio

From: Steffi Sanchez <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steffi Sanchez

From: Kelly Kallaher [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Kallaher

From: Cathleen Baniqued[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cathleen Baniqued

From: J B[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

J B

From: David Lewis[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Lewis

From: Andrea Silva[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Andrea Silva

From: Stephanie St-Germain [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie St-Germain

From: L C-B [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

L C-B

From: John Junkins[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Junkins

From: Emma Smi[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emma Smit

From: Ariel Decaro[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ariel Decaro

From: Beverly Swanson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beverly Swanson

From: Alexis Lilly[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alexis Lilly

From: Radiance Graves [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Radiance Graves

From: Lindsay MacDonald[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:40 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay MacDonald

From: Mary Ann Wentzel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:40 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Wentzel

From: Giuliano Polichetti[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Giuliano Polichetti

From: Elinor Vega [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elinor Vega

From: Sara Peace [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Peace

From: Vanessa Seager[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Seager

From: Morgan Clark [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Morgan Clark

From: Marcia Hagin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marcia Hagin

From: S A W [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:13 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

S A W

From: Darian Bear [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darian Bear

From: Joe Tumine[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joe Tuminello

From: Erica Steczak[redacted] .
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erica Steczak

From: Elena Gudenburg [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
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Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elena Gudenburg

From: Daniela Barnellini [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Daniela Barnellini

From: Kira Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kira Smith

From: Seconical Kum[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Seconical Kum

From: Monique Paauw[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monique Paauw

From: Anuschka Linden [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anuschka Linden

From: Roxane Dumont [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roxane Dumont

From: Ana Lopes [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ana Lopes

From: Daniela Velasco [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Daniela Velasco

From: Ghadah Al Huwaider [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ghadah Al Huwaider

From: Joana Maria Mancellos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:15 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joana Maria Mancellos

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

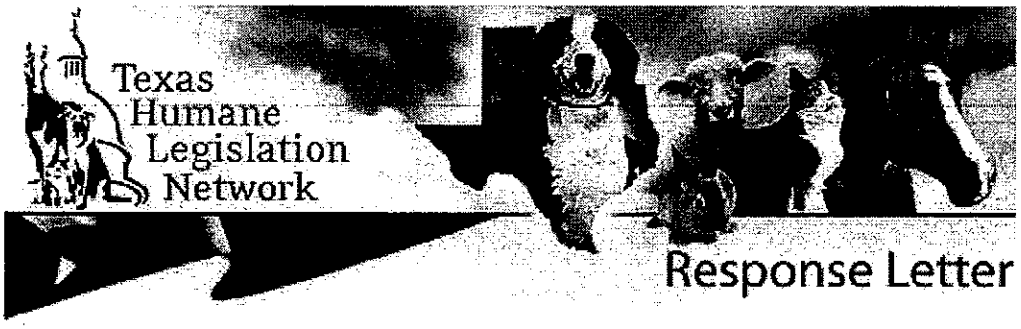
Respectfully submitted,

Pat Lockett
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:04:33 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

NANCY FIKE
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:44:54 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Echart
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:44:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

whitney smith

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:46:36 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Lehe
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:34:50 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Sellars
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:05:57 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

NANCY FIKE
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:40:03 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Walker
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:11:16 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Magrath
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:42:37 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). NO ONE, INCLUDING VETERINARIANS SHOULD PERFORM TAIL DOCKING, EAR CROPPING OR DEBARKING. Only veterinarians should perform declawing.

Respectfully submitted,

susan quinn
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:21:27 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Anything less puts animals at risk for extreme pain and infection.

I urge you to take the time to review the above and strengthen Texas law. These animals require our voice and laws to fight for their lives. They are not a commodity and should not be treated as such.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Maus
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:58:28 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

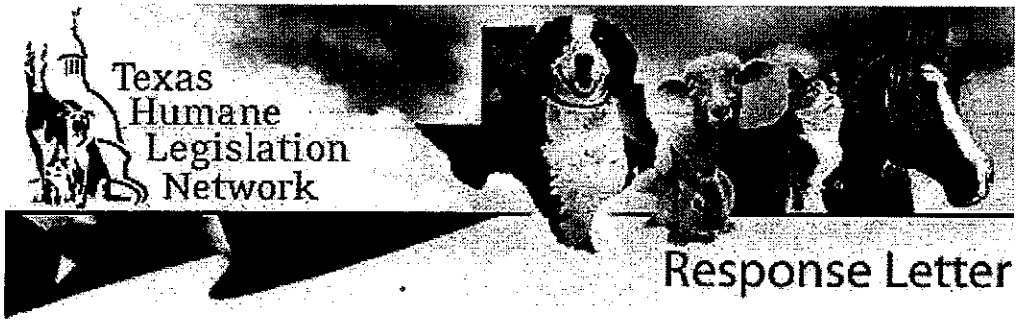
Respectfully submitted,

Dewayne and Brenda Brogdon
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:37:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Dogs can't speak out for themselves and sadly, greed makes many people turn a blind eye to things we all know are wrong. Imagine your pet being kept like these poor animals are, it's heart breaking the suffering and misery that is every minute of their life. Please support the changes above to help the dogs unfortunate in life to be in a puppy mill (and cats too).

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Rodriguez
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:23:58 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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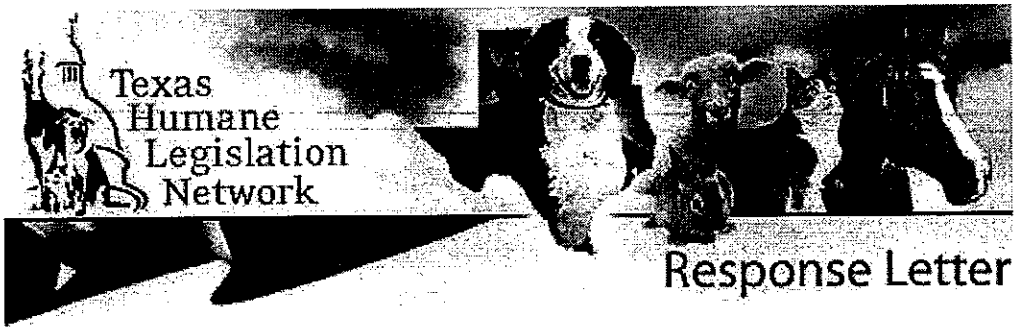

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Meegan

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:58:31 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Candace Miller
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:48:49 PM

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Pat Austin
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:58:30 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

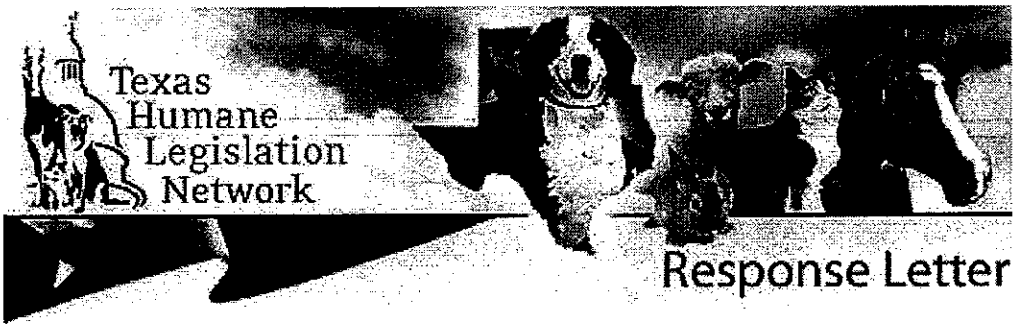
Chris Snoberger

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:54:51 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Kim Cole
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:06:15 PM

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Please make these changes to truly advance the cause of humane breeding practices in the state of Texas.

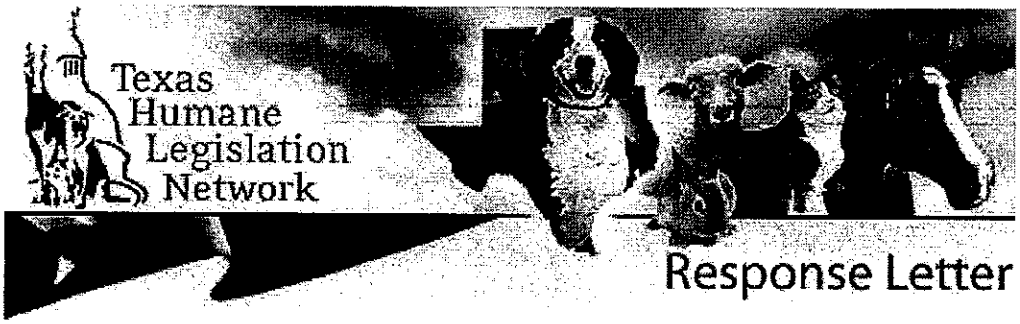
Respectfully submitted,

Rainbow Di Benedetto
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:37:27 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Schrader
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 1:14:56 PM

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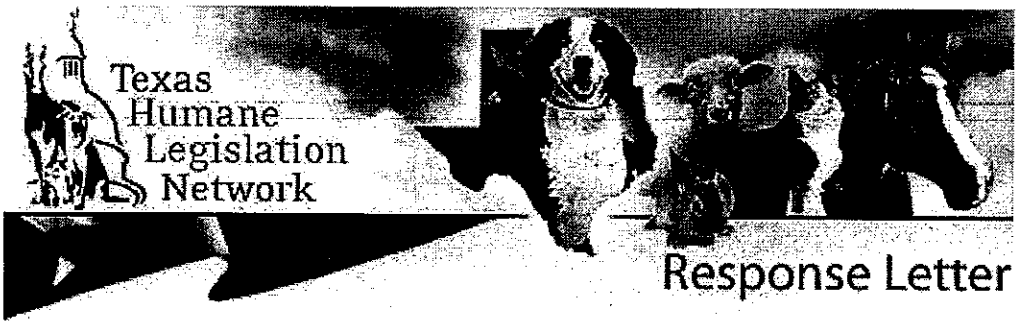
Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Carla Marian
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:47:12 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

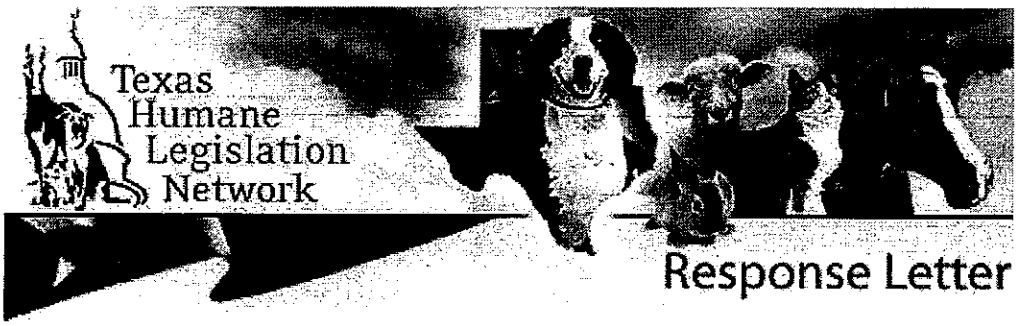
Respectfully submitted,

Arturo Sierra
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 4:01:43 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top



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Respectfully submitted,

margaret kermani
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 2:10:57 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Mercedes Pang
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 3:49:26 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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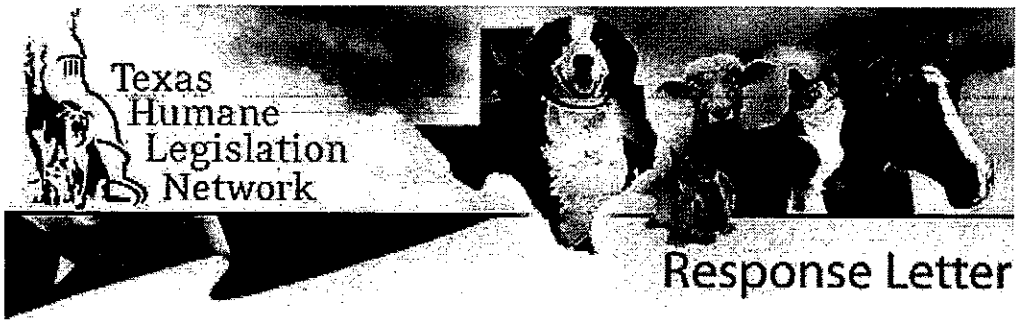

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Respectfully submitted,

Vannette Pollinzi
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 1:24:59 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Manuel Arriaga
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 3:06:07 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Glen Jones
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 4:20:36 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Smith
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 3:53:43 PM

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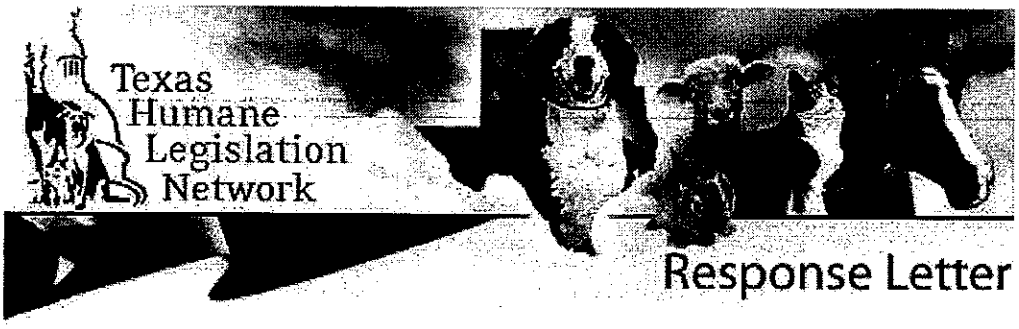

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Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Kilby

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 2:41:25 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Ignacio Tripodi
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 2:37:37 PM

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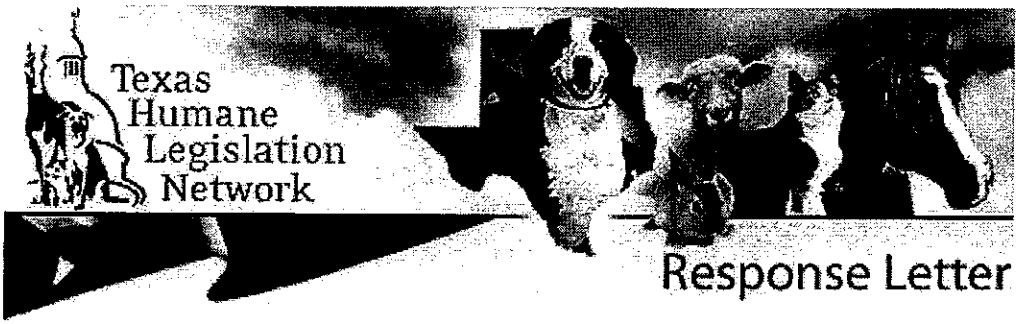
Return To Top



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I fostered dogs in San Antonio and I have seen, first-hand, how cruelly so many animals are treated. Breeders bring one more variable into the game in that money is directly involved. Personally, I believe that breeding for profit should be completely banned without an extremely stringent, regulated set of laws, however, I will support and demand any change that benefits the animals.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Pappas
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:01:35 PM

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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Lynch
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:05:27 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Flores
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:00:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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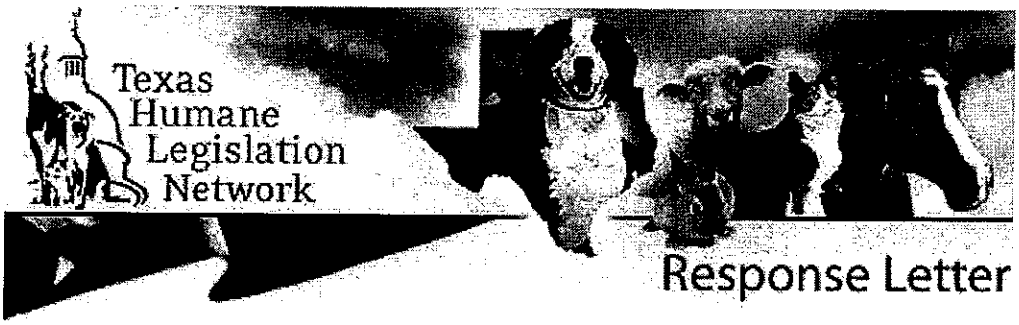

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

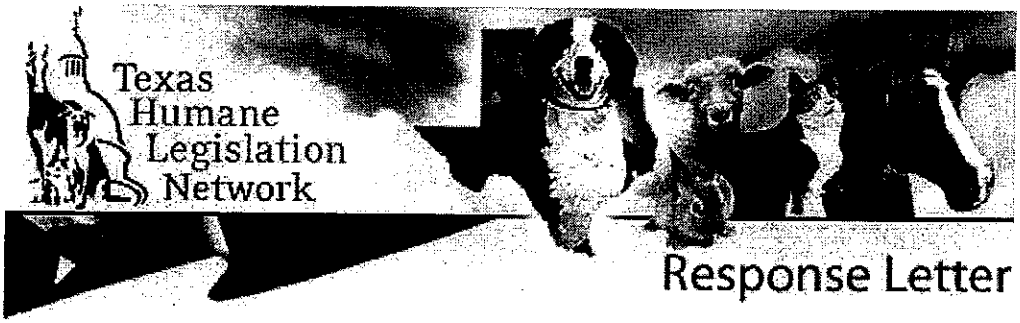
Respectfully submitted,

Amy Holt
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:07:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ?cruel confinement?. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Holloway
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:07:48 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

John Reilly
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:41:29 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wood
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:45:06 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

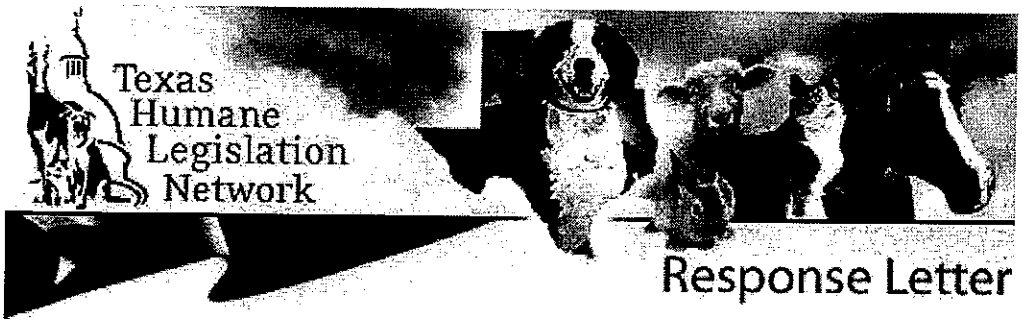
Respectfully submitted,

Penny McCool
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:54:22 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Mendieta
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:46:21 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

I believe you'll agree that my once runs are neither unrealistic or draconian, nor do they place undue burdens on kennel owners. Please consider and include these reasonable requirements.

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. Many dogs taken from long term wire floored confinement suffer from quite painful deformities caused by the wire.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). While I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I cannot accept the idea of allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which was intended to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you must include a date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Epperson
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:48:07 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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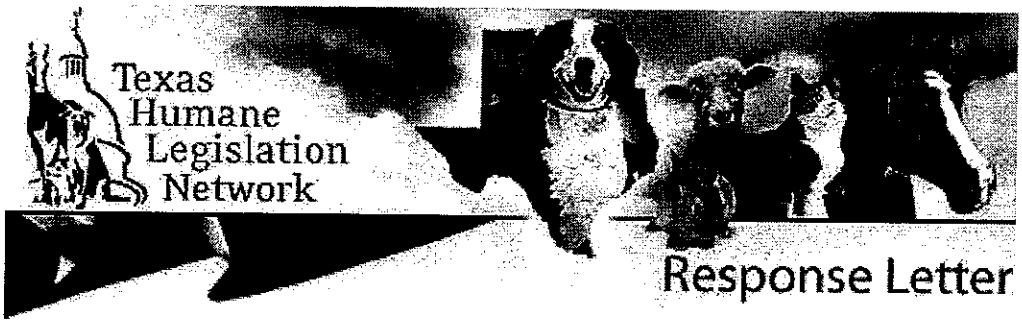

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Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Phree Phillips
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:25:10 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Please help make life better for these mill dogs, We owe them better.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Hoffman
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:27:11 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

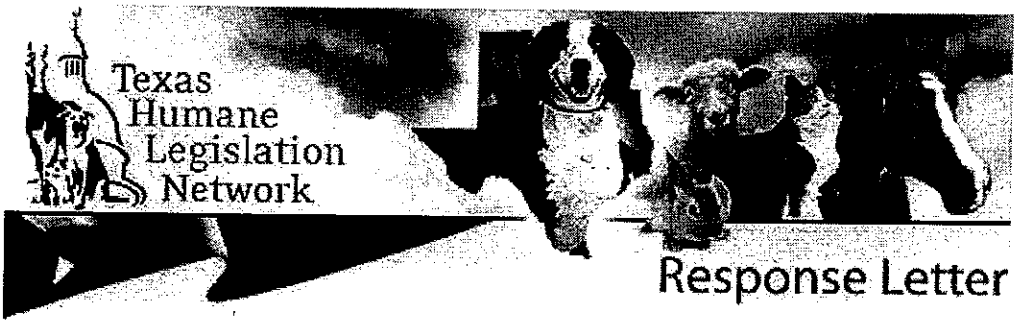
Emily Daniels

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:30:07 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Virden
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:35:02 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Wiseman
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:31:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

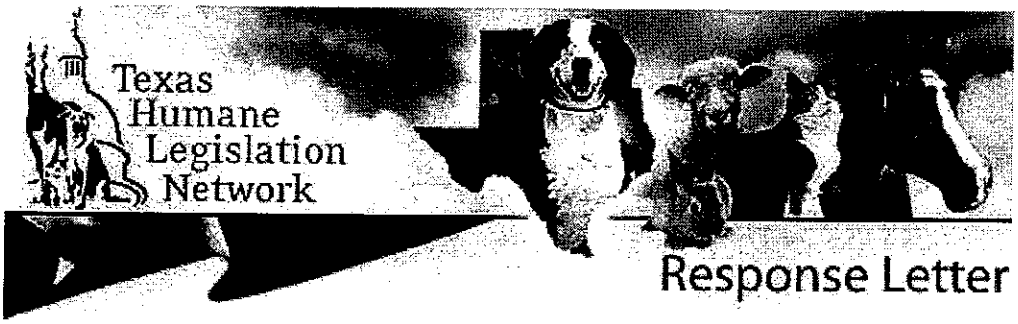
Respectfully submitted,

Mario Contaldi
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:37:52 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Cage Sizes (◆91.104). We agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but we disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

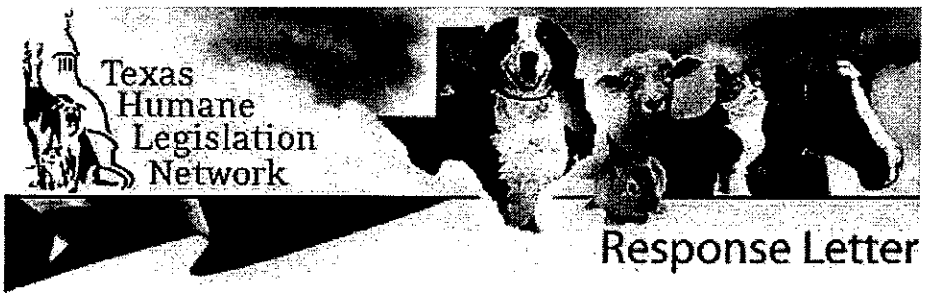
Respectfully submitted,

James and Donna Monroe
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:38:57 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

I strongly feel these regulations are necessary for the safety and well being of the animals. We adopted a dachshund from Central Texas Dachshund rescue in 2008. He, Emmitt, was one of the dogs of the Rockport breeder that was shutdown for having 54 of the dogs in a singlewide mobile home with no utilities. Emmitt has scars around his nose/face from the cage he was in and still carries some emotional scars from whatever happened in that place; and it's been almost four years.

Thank you for your consideration,
Brad Boyd IV

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Boyd IV
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:40:18 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Warford
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:23:19 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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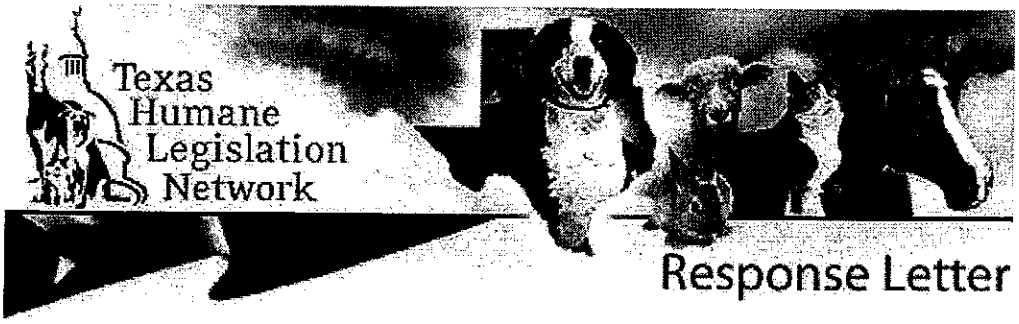

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

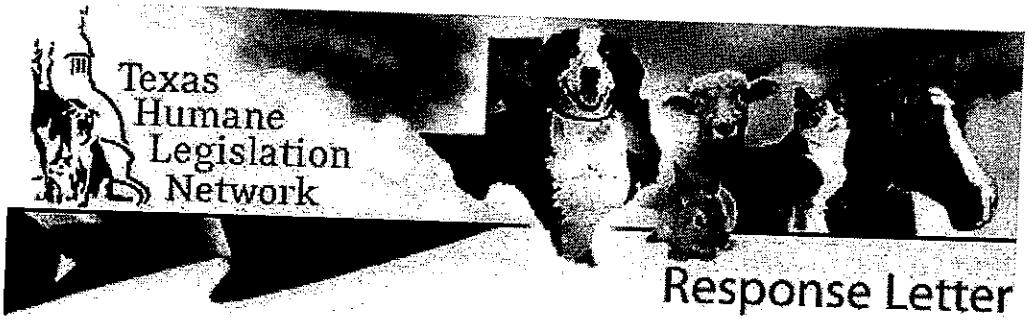
Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Shelby
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:21:07 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Broda

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:23:19 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Hansen
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:03:22 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Boyd
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:09:05 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

VIKI LINTHICUM
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:05:24 PM

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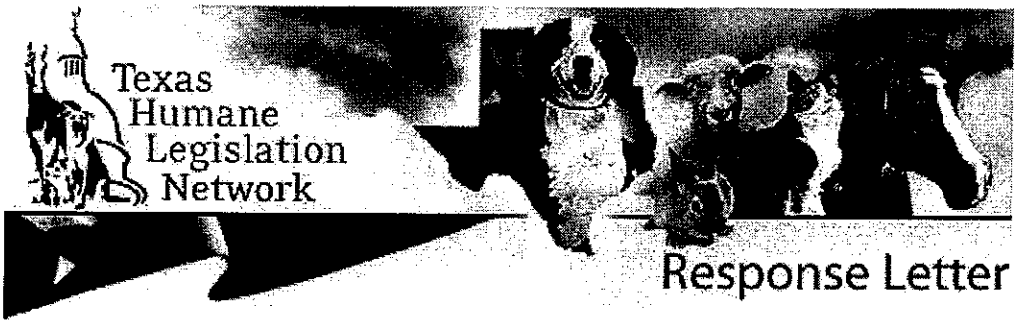
Respectfully submitted,

Christine Moore
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:10:00 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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If they are good responsible breeders then they most likely follow these practices anyway. Don't you think it's a bit ludicrous to pass legislation and then find a way to let everyone out of it? Please do the right thing, the humane thing. If you have any doubts, I urge you to look into the deplorable conditions so many of these innocent animals suffer.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl McDonald

[redacted]45

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:18:37 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

karen davis
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:08:16 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

David Guyer
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:15:53 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

LAURIE LONGMAN
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:13:02 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Dianna Stiefer

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:39:41 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Stacie Virden

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:45:08 PM

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I have watched countless videos of undercover footage of Puppy mills. It is an outrage thst this is allowed to happen.No animal deserves the kind of treatment that is going on inside these puppy mills. I live in Texas ans Im horrified that this has been going on. It is a shame that so many animals are being kept and treated the way they are. I urge to Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations .

Respectfully submitted,

Heather P.

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:48:28 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Steven Chang
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:23:31 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

denise moore
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:21:20 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Elissa Genova
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:44:14 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

PAIGE MCGEE
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:44:33 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Laura Indergard
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:14:56 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Lin Callison
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:43:56 PM

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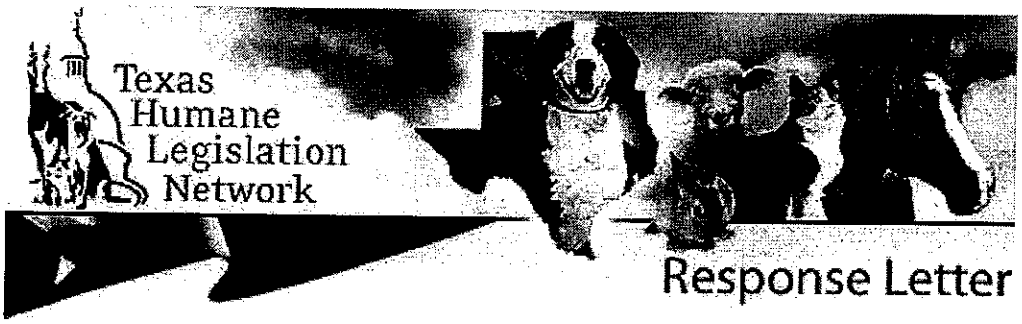

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Respectfully submitted,

Karen Doty
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:39:42 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

William Boykin
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:33:33 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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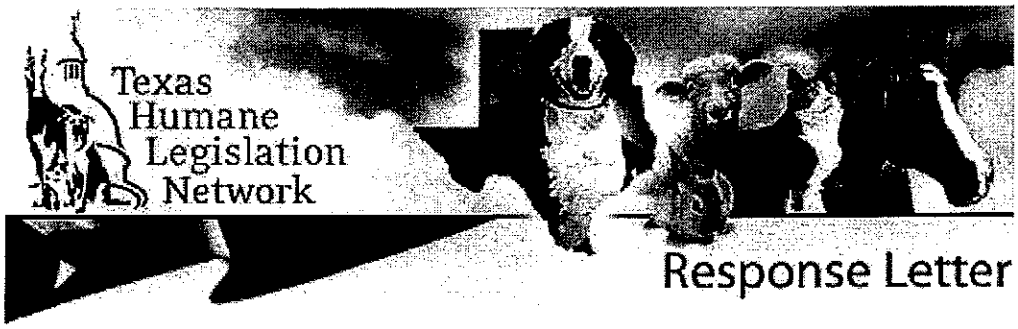
Respectfully submitted,

Lara Matisek
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:15:13 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

JEREMY BUTLER
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:43:39 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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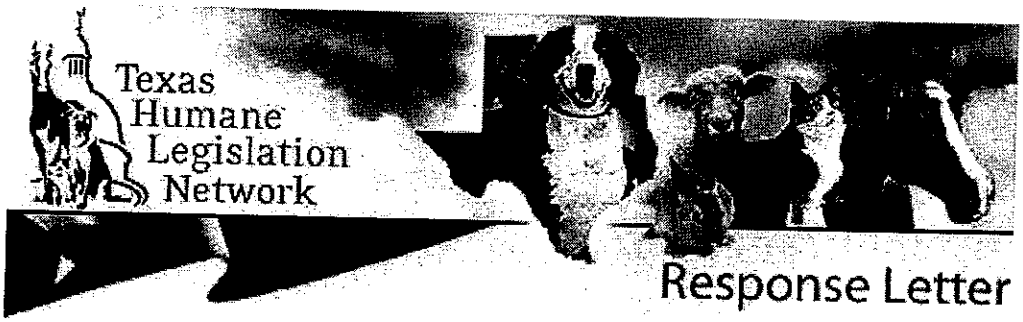

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Respectfully submitted,

Trisha Mcgee
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:35:34 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

kay ashton
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:31:58 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

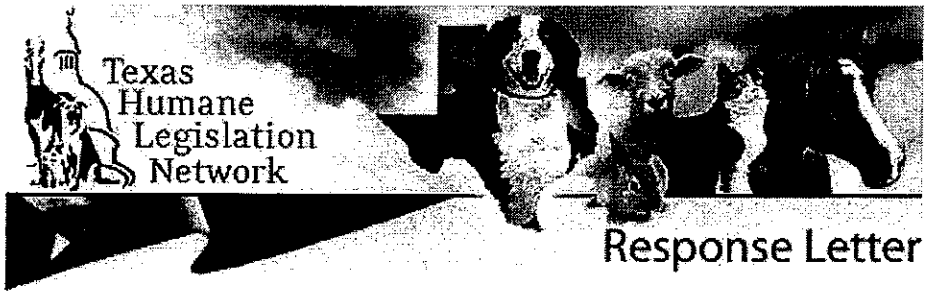
Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Ryan,DVM
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:28:36 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

I am a person that is right now fostering 2 cocker spaniels that have been rescued from shelters in the area I live. Breeders need to be held to very high standards for the animals well being. There are hundreds of pets each day around this country dumped, left in cages all day, picked up by animal control or just let go because people don't accept the full responsibility of the pets they purchase. Rescue groups are overwhelmed with helpless & homeless pets like the cocker spaniel because they are over breed and the consumers are not educated in the true facts about these animals need for grooming, training and get the proper health care for them.

Respectfully submitted,

Dezre Peal
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:26:40 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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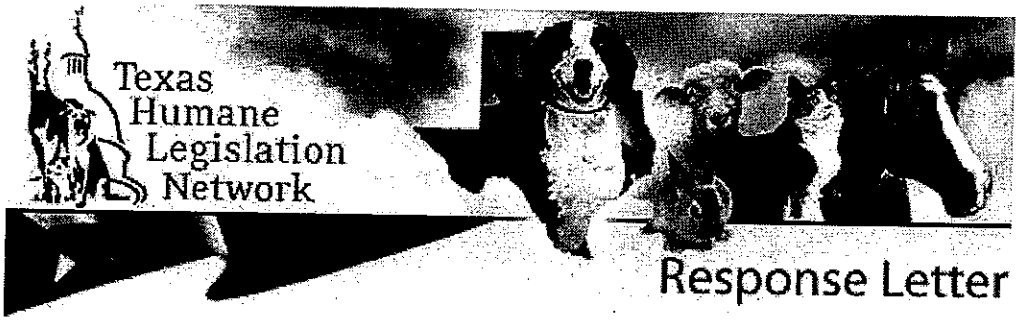

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Respectfully submitted,

Christy Steindorf
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:31:10 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Flores
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:59:39 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

mikal clark
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:59:15 PM

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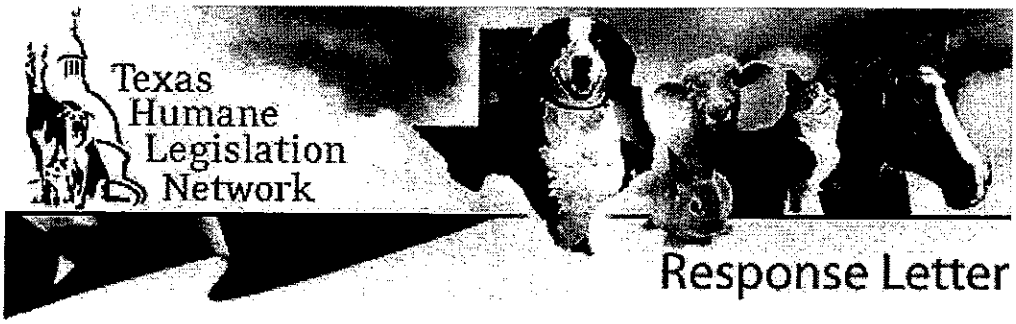
Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Robey
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:01:58 PM

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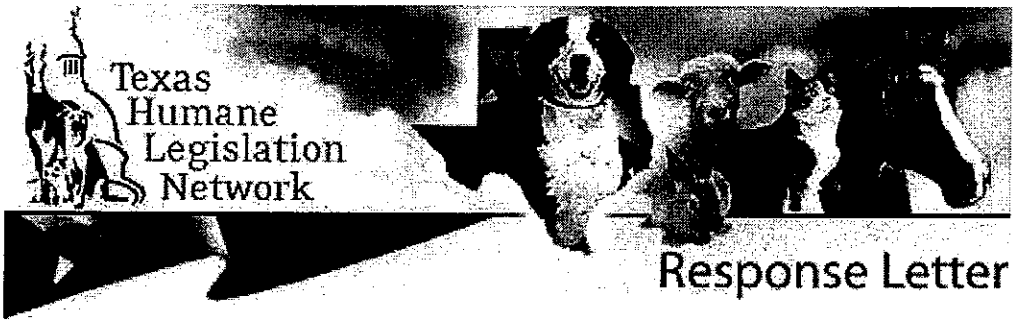
Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Madeleine Pickens
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:16:58 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

jewell maida

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:19:59 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Kynama Wald

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:24:41 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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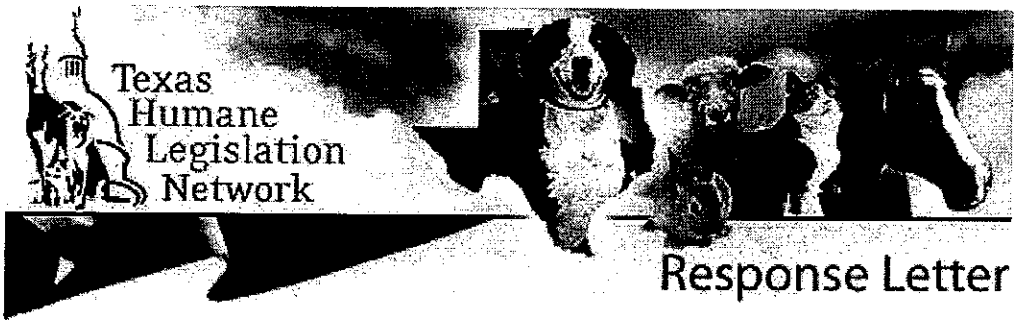

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Respectfully submitted,

Christine Marquette
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:37:11 PM

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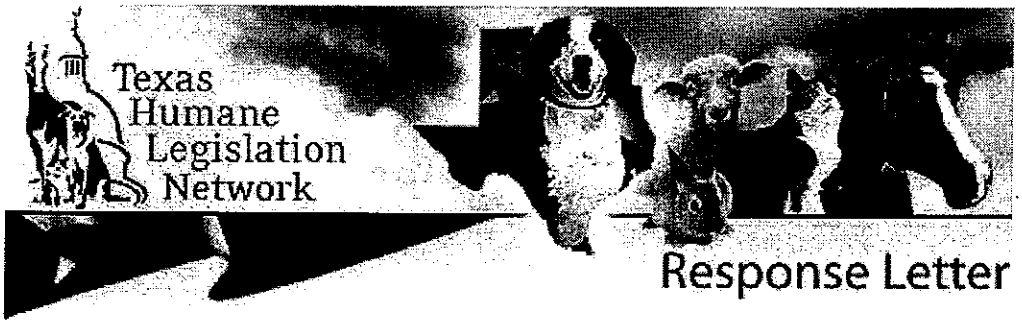
Return To Top



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Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Clark
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:37:10 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Bobby Wallace
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:49:45 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Rob Maca
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:51:57 PM

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To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Wallace
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:50:47 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

LISA BROOKS
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:51:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

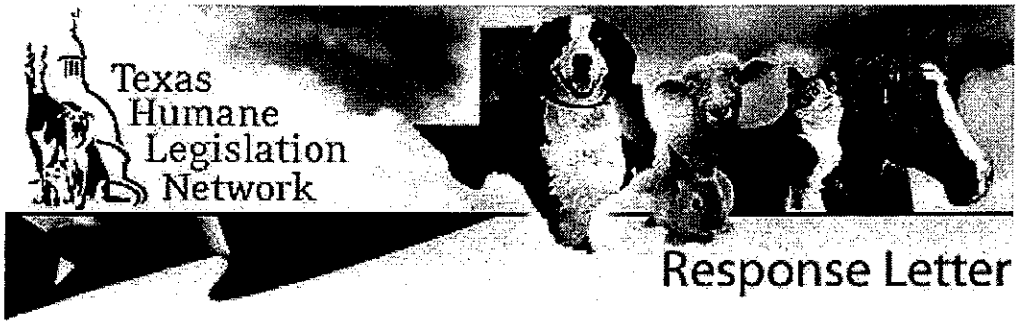
Respectfully submitted,

Roy Mohr
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:54:02 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kirkpatrick
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:59:12 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

Wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104), even partial, amounts to cruel confinement. Absolutely no grandfathering.

Cage stacking (◆94.104) is unacceptable. No animal --except rare people-- likes to be urinated and defecated upon.

Cage sizes (◆91.104) should be increased and all breeders should be in compliance -- absolutely no exceptions.

Veterinary procedures (◆91.112) should not include tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking, which are unnecessary and painful mutilation of animals. Only licensed veterinarians should perform necessary treatments and surgeries.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores Proubasta
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:53:15 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Cigie Moore
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:53:48 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

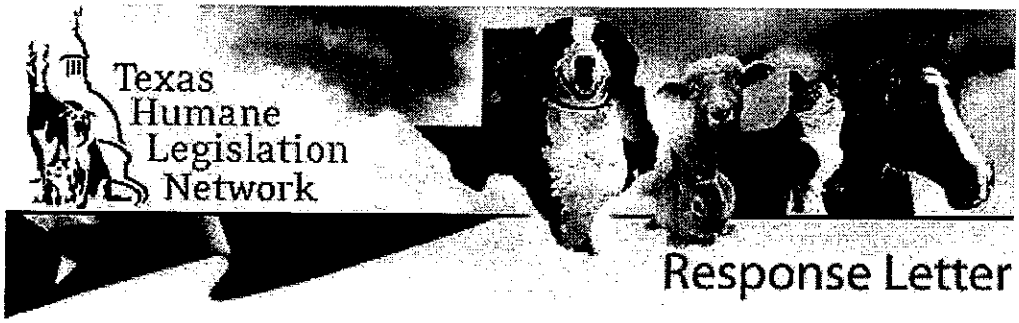
Respectfully submitted,

Sulma Sorto
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:58:06 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Sara Tierney
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:10:04 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Ballard
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:21:28 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Marino
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:24:47 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Mike Vandervoet
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:27:18 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

sabrina killingsworth
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:28:05 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

John Cunningham
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:29:16 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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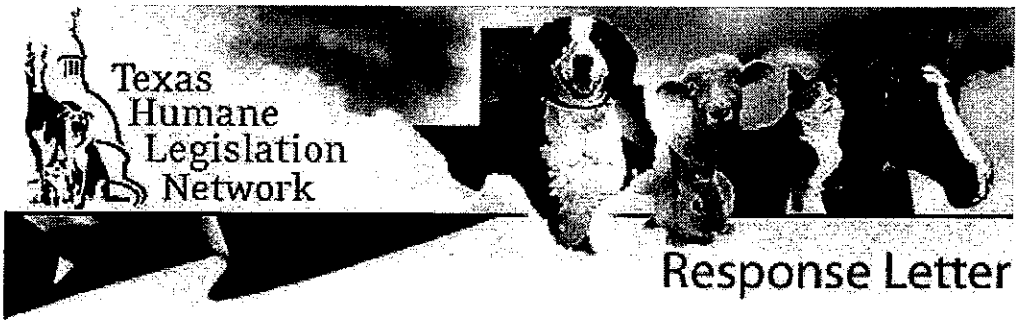

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Respectfully submitted,

Debra Allen

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 4:30:22 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Michelbook
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:35:43 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Summer Davis
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:40:04 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Michele Metziner
[redacted]1

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:38:09 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

Since I have been a Kennel Diirector for one of the large shelters in the state the fact that this is even having to be discussed is a crime. I have spent hours trying to coax a dog that is from a puppy mill only to have to make the decision to euthanize it becasue there was no coming back. I challenege you to leave your desk and go to the puppy mill-- and then tell me that is it OK to treat animals this way.

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Wittliff
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:46:27 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Leon
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:49:18 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

MacKenzie Garfield
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:49:04 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Galyon
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:48:57 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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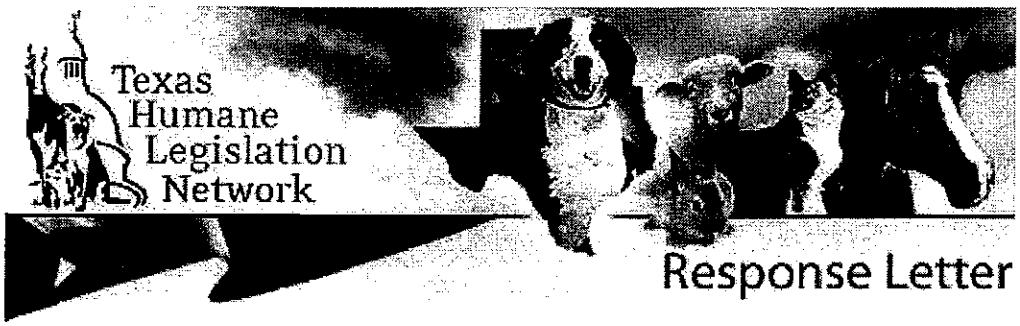
Respectfully submitted,

Carol Slack
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:03:08 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top



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Respectfully submitted,

Jim Slack
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:04:46 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

melissa Orton
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:05:07 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Bodden
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:07:33 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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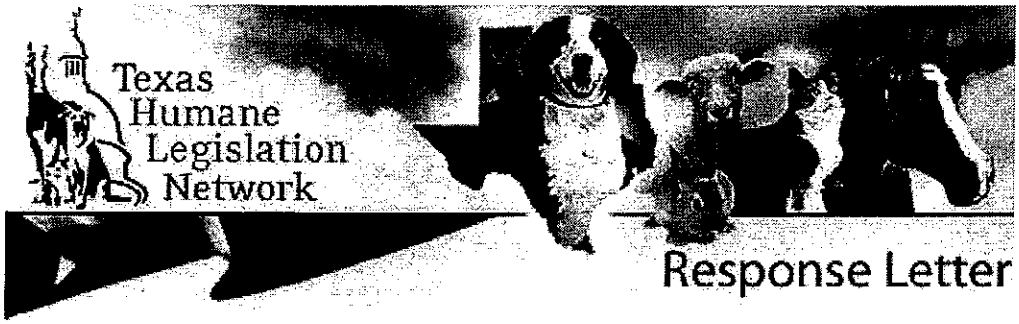

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Respectfully submitted,

Julie Mahoney
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:06:23 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Angelica Wurth
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:10:45 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Eaton
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:12:25 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Suzy Swingle
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:33:44 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Sue Babb

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 2:48:18 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Beatty
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:35:01 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

krystina gonzalez
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 3:34:48 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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From: Barb Batangan[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/19/2012 1:13 PM
Subject: Gift?

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erule.comments@license.state.tx.us, Tagged in photo View Here 4260kzaixnmaaa

Erule. Comments - Comments on the Proposed Breeders License Regulations and Fee Structure

From: Michael Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:48 PM
Subject: Comments on the Proposed Breeders License Regulations and Fee Structure

To whom it may concern,

Below are my comments of the **proposed Breeders License Regulations and Fee Structure**:

§91.10.Definitions.,

(19) Wire or Wire Mesh--Any metal, alloy or other material which allows a free air flow through the material when used as, or constructed to be used, as flooring or walls or ceilings for any structure required by this chapter. The strands of metal, alloy or other material must be completely encased with a plastic or rubberized coating and designed so the animal's paws are unable to extend through, or become caught in, the floor.

Comment: STRIKE: "or walls or ceilings" - Walls and ceilings of some kennels/yards are composed of chain link fencing and are not encased plastic or rubberized coated. Chain link is very common material used in kennel throughout the US and including shelters and rescues. If not allowed, it would become very costly to breeders to have it replaced.

§91.50.Inspections--Prelicense.

(c) Before the prelicense inspection may be conducted, applicant must pay to the department the required inspection fee and the reasonable expenses of the department related to its licensing and inspection duties under this chapter.

Comment: STRIKE: "and the reasonable expenses" This word is very ambiguous and leaves the door open to charge the breeder for anything the department deems it so. All fees should be disclosed in proposal.

§91.58.Responsibilities of the Department--Donations, Disbursements and Reporting.

(a) The executive director shall develop procedures for the acceptance, conversion, and deposit of all donations offered by individuals, clubs, organizations, and all other sources.

Comment: ADD: "All donations shall be made public and list by name, club, organization, ect. No anonymous donations will accepted."

§91.80 Fees.

Comment: All fees stated in the current §91.80 Fees proposal are exorbitant for breeders. These fees are on top of the required additional vet fees that will be levied and any additional operational changes need to comply with regulations. Also just because a breeder has the number listed does not denote size of breed. Toys produce less puppies compared to larger breeds and generally young females are not bred until a year and a half or two years of age. Puppies that are sold/adopted are the only income of a breeder's businessWe feel that a flat license fee and no inspection fees are more inline with USDA and other states. This also allows the breeder to budget for their yearly fees. USDA fees are based on the total of animals sold in the previous year and not the amount of animals housed. The current format will put breeders out of business in Texas or force them to move out of the state. We do realize that this program is to pay for itself but lawmakers where told from the beginning that there are not enough breeders in the state to sustain the program and it was ignored. Please align the fee structure to USDA or similar state programs with flat fees. This will encourage a lot of breeders that on the fence about getting a license to possibly get one.

§91.102 - 113 Standards of Care-

Comment: Please keep ALL standards of care at USDA levels with the exception of what is stated in 1451. This has worked very well at the federal level and is what most breeders are at or can come into align with. Anything more will be very costly to all breeders.

§91.104.Standards of Care--Primary Enclosure.

(iii) The interior height of a primary enclosure must be at least 12 inches higher than the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure when it is in a normal standing position.

Comment: STRIKE: "12" and replace with "6" per UDSA - If this were to stay, our current housing for some would have to be replaced, most of ours are 6 to 8 inches. To replace current enclosures to 12" would cost me around $6,000 to $7,000.

§91.112.Standards of Care--Veterinary Care.

(a) Annual hands on examination. A licensed breeder shall have each animal used for breeding examined by a veterinarian at least once in every twelve month period and provide the animal with any treatment recommended by the veterinarian. The annual examination required by this section must be hands on by the veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical records related to each animal.

Comment: Strike: all, Replace with: "A licensed breeder is required at least one regular veterinary examination a year for a breeding animal." - As stated in HB 1451 - Please be aware that "hands on" could become a highly exorbitant cost to the breeder. No private or public organization or association should dictate what "hands on examination" should be in the examination. This could lead to blood work, temperature taken, fecal work, ect and the breeder having to pay for each item for each dog. The examination should be determined by the vet and breeder.

(b) Euthanasia and surgical procedures. Only a veterinarian shall be allowed to euthanize an animal or perform a surgical procedure such as caesarian birth.

Comment: STRIKE: all, Replace with: "Only a veterinarian shall be allowed to euthanize an adult animal or perform a surgical birth of an animal." - As stated in HB 1451 - The

current wording would prevent breeders from performing common practices of docking tails and removing dew claws of three day old puppies. This would greatly increase expenses for breeders if a vet was required to preform these procedures, which requires no administering of painkillers or applying of stitches. Taking puppies to a vet's office would also make them highly susceptible to deadly diseases and viruses of which they are not inoculated against at that early age. If puppies were to bring disease or virus back to kennel, it would wipe out the kennel causing major emotional and financial difficulties to the breeders business.

I sincerely hope that you all are listening to the breeders. We are involved and engaged in the day to day dealing and care of breeding animals and puppies/kittens. We have the knowledge and the backgrounds to inform the department of what is truly feasible and maintainable in a breeding business. Thank you for allowing us to comment on these regulations and fees and we hope that this will encourage the department to change to our recommended comments.

Thank you,
Andy Smith

Erule. Comments - Fw: Texas Breeder Proposed Rules and Fees

From: Vikki Markaverich [redacted]
To: Texas Rules & Regulations <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:49 AM
Subject: Fw: Texas Breeder Proposed Rules and Fees

Subject: Texas Breeder Proposed Rules and Fees

Costs are the predominate concern here. All we ask is that you have considered all the messages sent to you regarding the extreme vet requirements that will cost too much, high current monthly expenses,
and the expensesive upgrades that will be required,

Why are dog breeders being required to pay for inspections when no other occupation inspected under TDLR pays for inspections?

We ask that we not be over regulated and that a "common sense" approach to all the rules and regs will prevail.

Thank you.

Erule. Comments - Fw: TX Breeder Proposed Rules and Fees

From: Vikki Markaverich [redacted]
To: Texas Rules & Regulations <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: Fw: TX Breeder Proposed Rules and Fees

Again, I beg you to consider.

Gentlemen,

The Dog Breeders of this state have the following issues with the subject Rules and Fees:

1. The veterinarian fees are much too costly.

2. Fees associated with the license are completely unacceptable and prohibitive for any professional dog beeder.

3. Why must dog breeders pay an inspectoin fee? Other occupations inspected by TDRL do not pay an inspection fee.

Exhorbitant fees, vet inspections, monthly expenses, together with required upgrades will put some of us out of business in Texas. We simply do not want this to happen.

Thank you.

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:55 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today as an SPCA contributor, volunteer and former owner of two Old English Sheepdogs to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. Our OESs were purchased from breeders who provided their pups with clean kennels, healthy food and quality vet care. Why should other dogs receive less care from their breeders?

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitaryand allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for following up on my request to protect the health of dogs and cats, not the wallets of unscrupulous breeders.

Sincerely,
Charles Riepe
[redacted]

From: Giuliano Polichetti [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Giuliano Polichetti

From: Bridgette Boettjer[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bridgette Boettjer

From: Jen Egan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jen Egan

From: Ashley Morehouse [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Morehouse

From: Aislinn McCarthy <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aislinn McCarthy

From: Gina Hayward [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Create a positive change for the animals of the world.
Gina Hayward

Sincerely,

Gina Hayward

From: Brittinee Dennis [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brittinee Dennis

From: Lilly Nava [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lilly Nava

From: Ericka G <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ericka G

From: Anja Gallner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anja Gallner

From: Selma Smailagic [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Selma Smailagic

From: Meriska Klien [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Meriska Klien

From: Kim Young [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kim Young

From: Ashley Johnson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Johnson

From: Sara Kenny [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Kenny

From: Madison Butler [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Madison Butler

From: Beth Kuschel[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Kuschel

From: Richard Flanagan <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Richard Flanagan

From: Viviana Gutierrez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Viviana Gutierrez

Erule. Comments

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:03 PM
Attachments: dottedline350.gif; dottedline600.gif; tmobilelogo.gif; tmobilespace.gif

To whom it my concern, please do not let puppy mills do whatever they please. Stop the maddnes people we vote for that do not change this are sick. Wire cageages ,stacked,none vets doing procedures. This is nuts. Help the puppies. Katherine Gill [redacted]

T · ·Mobile·

stick together

This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

From: Silke Poppinga [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Silke Poppinga

From: Alina S[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alina S

From: Alissa Siegfried[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alissa Siegfried

From: Nicole Salyers [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicole Salyers

From: Pamela Muñoz <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pamela Muñoz

From: Maya Lauren [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maya Lauren

From: Francisca Flaque <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Francisca Flaque

From: Samantha Karpinski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samantha Karpinski

From: Claire Slattery <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claire Slattery

From: Blanca Lara [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Blanca Lara

From: Kayla Fender[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:38 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kayla Fender

From: Sunny Fenwick [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sunny Fenwick

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Dennis Campbell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:04 PM
Subject: Breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Jean Campbell
[redacted]

From: Marissa Staal[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marissa Staal

From: Faith Timbang [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 1:20 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Faith Timbang

From: Alexandria Wong [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 1:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alexandria Wong

From: Tracey MacDermott [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 1:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tracey MacDermott

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 12:52 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Shari Glover
Shari L. Glover
[redacted]

From: Martina Buzz[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 12:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martina Buzzi

From: Erin Edwards [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 12:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erin Edwards

From: Karina Hoshikawa [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 12:20 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karina Hoshikawa

From: Jodie Darrell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 12:20 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jodie Darrell

From: Hayley Mckay [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:56 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hayley Mckay

From: Kelly Palmer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:36 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Palmer

From: Donielle V [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:36 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donielle V

From: Kayla Wyant <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:26 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kayla Wyant

From: Kim Green [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:18 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kim Green

From: "Guy R. Lusher" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:18 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Guy R. Lusher

From: Beata Hancsak <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:18 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beata Hancsak

From: Jessica Corral [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:18 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Corral

From: Giovanni Fioretti [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Giovanni Fioretti

From: Tayla Dickinson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:48 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tayla Dickinson

From: Stephanie Ladroue [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:46 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Ladroue

From: Samantha Karpinski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:45 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samantha Karpinski

From: Yoliann Cabeza [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:41 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Yoliann Cabeza

From: Tarah Trammell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:29 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tarah Trammell

From: Sorraya Brashear-evans [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:58 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sorraya Brashear-evans

From: Elisabetta Bucciarelli [redacted]m>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elisabetta Bucciarelli

From: Danielle Williams [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:53 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Danielle Williams

From: Chloe Dion [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:45 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chloe Dion

From: MAYRA SILVA [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:29 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

MAYRA SILVA

Erule. Comments - Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

From: "Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN)" [redacted]
To: "Ms. Melissa Rinard - Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:43 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations
CC: vanessa yono [redacted]

Texas Humane Legislation Network | Response Letter

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

vanessa yono
[redacted]

SENT 02.21.12 at 7:41:57 AM

Erule. Comments - Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

From: "Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN)" [redacted]
To: "Ms. Melissa Rinard - Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:16 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations
CC: Derek Wooldridge [redacted]

Texas Humane Legislation Network | Response Letter

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ?cruel confinement?. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek Wooldridge
[redacted]

SENT 02.21.12 at 3:15:19 PM

Erule. Comments - Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

From: "Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN)" [redacted]
To: "Ms. Melissa Rinard - Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:10 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations
CC: melanie madison [redacted]

Texas Humane Legislation Network | Response Letter

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

melanie madison
[redacted]

SENT 02.21.12 at 7:08:32 PM

From: Silvia Zuliani [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 12:48 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Silvia Zuliani

From: Kelly Ann [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 1:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Ann

From: Diane Ashton[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 1:14 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diane Ashton

From: Silvia Zuliani [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 1:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Silvia Zuliani

From: Tara Dempsey[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 1:42 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tara Dempsey

From: Sarah Benham [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 1:56 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Benham

From: Tess Stapleton [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I was shocked to see the standard of the proposed rules for the cat & dog breeding mills. How can any organisation get through day by day knowing that the animals in these mills are so poorly treated. I strongly hope that your household & family pets are not brought up with the same discusting standards that these animals in the mills are. You should really be ashamed of yourselves!

I now respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Please! & Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tess Stapleton

From: Sara Chaudhary[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:15 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Chaudhary

From: Ashley Acda [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:17 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Acda

From: Ashley West [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:21 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley West

From: Becky Seaman[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 3:51 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Becky Seaman

From: Jade Cox [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jade Cox

From: Taran Edwards [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Taran Edwards

From: Alessandra De sio [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:21 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alessandra De sio

From: Pauleen Stuart robson[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pauleen Stuart robson

From: Abby Martell[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:15 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Abby Martello

From: Dawn Baca[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:18 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Baca

From: Deborah Halifa [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:16 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah Halifa

From: Rory Burns [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rory Burns

From: Jasmine Troughto[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:27 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Troughton

From: Sarah Major [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 7:45 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Major

From: Brid Leahy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 7:41 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Brid

Sincerely,

Brid Leahy

From: yt yt [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

yt yt

From: Camille Flores [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:50 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Camille Flores

From: Mariacristina Daminelli [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:50 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mariacristina Daminelli

From: Jean Carroll [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jean Carroll

From: Jennifer Kotlyar [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kotlyar

From: Melanie St-Pierr[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melanie St-Pierre

From: Elizabeth Larin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:59 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Larin

From: Julie Martin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 7:35 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and régulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Martin

From: Tty Gg [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:45 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tty Gg

From: Chloe Dion [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:45 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chloe Dion

From: Vikki Markaverich [redacted]
To: Texas Rules & Regulations <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:49 AM
Subject: Fw: Texas Breeder Proposed Rules and Fees

Subject: Texas Breeder Proposed Rules and Fees

Costs are the predominate concern here. All we ask is that you have considered all the messages sent to you regarding the extreme vet requirements that will cost too much, high current monthly expenses,
and the expensesive upgrades that will be required,

Why are dog breeders being required to pay for inspections when no other occupation inspected under TDLR pays for inspections?

We ask that we not be over regulated and that a "common sense" approach to all the rules and regs will prevail.

Thank you.

From: Kyle Manders [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:47 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kyle Manders

From: Claire Smolinski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:46 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claire Smolinski

From: Angela Lucas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angela Lucas

From: Johnatan Abramson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Johnatan Abramson

From: Nan Kelsick[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/22/2012 11:42 AM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

* Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

* Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

* Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

* Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and should only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

* Please end "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Nan Kelsick
[redacted]

[Description: Picture5]
Director of Caring Ministries and Adult Education
[redacted]

From: jose ruiz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring(§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking:There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures:Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature:Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Jose Ruiz

From: "Stafford, Gloria SFW" [redacted]
To: "'erule.comments@license.state.tx.us'" <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/22/2012 10:52 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill Objection

Ms. Melissa Rinard,
Legal Assistant,
General Counsel's Office,
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Gloria Stafford
[redacted]

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail.

From: Trina Glezman <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:03 AM
Subject: URGENT!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Trina Glezman
[redacted]

From: Kristien Vanvinck[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 10:33 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristien Vanvinck

From: Shari Black Velvet [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 10:33 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shari Black Velvet

From: Kristy Vizzone [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 10:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristy Vizzone

From: Romina Locatelli [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 10:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Romina Locatelli

From: fg ggg [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 10:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

fg ggg

From: vin kumar[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 10:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

vin kumar

From: Natalie D [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:17 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natalie D

From: Vicki Ruhmann [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:54 AM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
>2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and >unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
>
>3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as >ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical >procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
>4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best >efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and >unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum >standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." I for one have two dogs and have experienced the love and companionship they bring - No living creature should be subjected to such deplorable conditions.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Vicki Ruhmann
[redacted]

From: Kelly Duval [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Duval

From: brin azzarello [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

brin azzarello

From: Karol Collao [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 7:39 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karol Collao

From: sarah kayias [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 7:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

sarah kayias

From: Sue Dusheiko[redacted]n>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:38 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sue Dusheiko

From: "Isa F. Villamil" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:38 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Isa F. Villamil

From: Kirsty Jones [redacted]m>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:08 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kirsty Jones

From: Cristina Nunez [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:37 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cristina Nunez

From: Caroline Madsen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Caroline Madsen

From: Linda Sobolewski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 2:37 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Sobolewski

From: Rachel Dickens [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 2:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Dickens

From: Karyn Curry [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 2:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karyn Curry

From: Nicolle Brancazio [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 2:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicolle Brancazio

From: Stephanie Hilbert [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 2:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Hilbert

From: "masson" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:51 AM
Subject: Ms Rinard

..Masson lionel

[redacted]

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Masson Lionel

From: Katrin Harnohs [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:37 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katrin Harnohs

From: May Blue [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:37 AM
Subject: A different approach

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

May Blue

From: Brandon Budrow[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:37 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brandon Budrow

From: Felicity Adler[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Felicity Adler

From: Emilie Caba[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:08 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emilie Caba

From: Tara Wooli [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:34 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tara Wooli

From: Jay Cooper[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:34 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jay Cooper

From: Ciara Ocasio[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:34 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ciara Ocasio

From: Sydney Provines [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sydney Provines

From: Brianna Villagomez[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brianna Villagomez

From: Michael Carrier <[redacted]m>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Carrier

From: Enzo Sanchez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Enzo Sanchez

From: Thaisha Paez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thaisha Paez

From: Dawn Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Smith

From: Carmela Flores [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

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Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carmela Flores

From: Sarah King [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah King

From: Luci Shaw [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luci Shaw

From: Megan Buschkopf [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Megan Buschkopf

From: Michelle Young [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Young

From: Jaclyn Furlong [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Furlong

From: Sylvia Chuang [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Chuang

From: Cassandra Gallina [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Gallina

From: Kailin Feng [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 10:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kailin Feng

From: Sabrina McNatt [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/21/2012 9:45 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Sabrina E. McNatt

Sabrina McNatt

From: Ashley Garia <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

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Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Garia

From: Alexis Roldan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alexis Roldan

From: Jenna Hun[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenna Hunt

From: Sam H[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sam H

From: Tara Collins [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tara Collins

From: Caroline Coelho [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Caroline Coelho

From: Ang Panezott [redacted]m>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 9:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ang Panezott

From: Denise Carlson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Denise Carlson

From: Rebecca Browne [redacted]n>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Browne

From: Gina Hayward [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 7:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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You have the choice to work in your field, breeding and selling animals.
Animals do nit choose this for themselfs so you can at least make make there existence healthier and provide them with the basic comfort !!!

Gina Hayward !!!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gina Hayward

From: Roni Zeigler [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 7:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

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Sincerely,

Roni Zeigler

From: Dana Wells[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 7:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Dana Wells

From: Katherine Elizabeth [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 7:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katherine Elizabeth

From: Katie Harp [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 7:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katie Harp

From: Kayla Marinier [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Kayla Marinier

From: Juan Aguirre <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:43 PM
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Sincerely,

Juan Aguirre

From: joana weinmann [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:43 PM
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Sincerely,

joana weinmann

From: Vicki Ulibarri [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:43 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vicki Ulibarri

From: Lyasia Mapovila [redacted]m>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:13 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lyasia Mapovila

From: Debbie S key [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Debbie S key

From: Georg Frankenstein [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:13 PM
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Sincerely,

Georg Frankenstein

From: Louise Howard [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 6:13 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Louise Howard

From: Marco Antonio Lopez MD [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

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Sincerely,

Marco Antonio Lopez MD

From: Mayte Perez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mayte Perez

From: Heather Mcmillan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Mcmillan

From: Marion Martin [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marion Martin

From: Paul Ruderman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Ruderman

From: Heather Murphy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Murphy

From: Michelle Hidson[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Hidson

From: Johanna Torres-Wirshing [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage-stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Johanna Torres-Wirshing

From: Angie Cheung <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angie Cheung

From: Amanda Gomez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Gomez

From: Abby Grenier [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:34 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Abby Grenier

From: Regina Naranjo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Regina Naranjo

From: CJ Gettle [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

CJ Gettle

From: Aimee McCartin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:09 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aimee McCartin

From: Amanda Stankiewicz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Stankiewicz

From: Hillary White [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hillary White

From: Hillary White [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hillary White

From: Mara Gahrmann[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mara Gahrmann

From: Giuliano Polichetti [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Giuliano Polichetti

From: Sandy Thygesen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sandy Thygesen

From: Mark Holden [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I urge you to make changes to the breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act. Grandfather clauses allowing breeders before the passage of the Dog and Cat Breeders Act to continue using cage-stacking and wired cage methods should be removed. Surgical procedure on animals should only be done in necessity (de-clawing, ear and tail removal, etc. should be forbidden unless in medical intervention), and all licensed breeders need to keep hospitable temperatures for the animals.
The current rules in this new act do not demonstrate the bare minimum, and more state funding should go towards these causes.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Holden

From: Tess Stapleton [redacted]m>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tess Stapleton

From: Sarah Currie [redacted]u>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Currie

From: Mel Delacruz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mel Delacruz

From: Sofia Guerra [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 3:15 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sofia Guerra

From: Noemi Sehn <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 3:15 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Noemi Sehn

From: Odyssa Abille <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposedj rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Please have compassion for the poor animals.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Odyssa Abille

From: Christopher Robertson[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:46 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher Robertson

From: Erica Steczak[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:46 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erica Steczak

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/21/2012 2:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 21, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Kaylan Symes [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kaylan Symes

From: Frederic Paiem[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:04 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frederic Paiement

From: Steve Schill [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:04 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steve Schill

From: Patricia Tarantino [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:05 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Tarantino

From: Bekah Huffm[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:05 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bekah Huffman

From: Jess Ika [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:05 AM
Subject: C'mon. Be realistic with the effects these "changes" won't make...

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jess Ika

From: Hannah Sullivan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:05 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hannah Sullivan

From: Monica Perez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica Perez

From: Emily Marks [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily Marks

From: Symantha Duggan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Symantha Duggan

From: Silvia Quadros [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:08 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Silvia Quadros

From: "Y.D. Jordan" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Y.D. Jordan

From: "Y.D. Jordan" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Y.D. Jordan

From: Melody Bousque[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melody Bousquet

From: Tty Gg[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tty Gg

From: Lís Leahy[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lís Leahy

From: Linda Aitk[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Aitken

From: stephanie Kim [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

stephanie Kim

From: ghy bbh [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:33 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

ghy bbh

From: David Mallem[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:34 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Mallem

From: Briar Wagner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:04 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Briar Wagner

From: Yaknel Elorza [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 5:34 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Yaknel Elorza

From: The Wolf [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:35 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

The Wolf

From: Annie Barc[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 7:05 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Annie Barce

From: Grant Goldberg [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 7:06 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Grant Goldberg

From: Brittany MacDonald [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 7:36 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brittany MacDonald

From: Lexy Curri[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 7:36 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lexy Currie

From: Maggie Harsh [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 7:37 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maggie Harsh

From: Myk Pudlo-Umney [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 7:38 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Myk Pudlo-Umney

From: Lorraine Rowe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 8:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Rowe

From: Danielle Milling [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 8:07 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Danielle Milling

From: Mary Galumbec[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 8:08 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Galumbeck

From: Leslie Zevach [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 8:41 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leslie Zevach

From: Zach Brooks [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 8:42 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Zach Brooks

From: Chaitali Luthra [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 8:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chaitali Luthra

From: Bailie Duncan[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bailie Duncan

From: Jordan Mackinno[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jordan Mackinnon

From: Matt Collins [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Matt Collins

From: Sarah DeGracia [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders ' Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah DeGracia

From: sabrina baribeau [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

sabrina baribeau

From: Tanya Biglieri [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tanya Biglieri

From: "A. Brown" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A. Brown

From: David Mallem [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Mallem

From: Laura Banham [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 9:40 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Banham

From: Anna Carlsson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anna Carlsson

From: Karl Wilson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karl Wilson

From: Alejandra Lara [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alejandra Lara

From: PAUL HERBST [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

PAUL HERBST

From: Nicole Watson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicole Watson

From: Carol Grier [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carol Grier

From: Phil Bradley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Phil Bradley

From: Leigh-Anna Plumpton [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leigh-Anna Plumpton

From: Peter Emmler [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peter Emmler

From: Michaela Summers[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michaela Summers

From: Carter Rourke [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carter Rourke

From: Giuseppe Campo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Giuseppe Campo

From: lily britton[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

lily britton

From: Levi Miller [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Levi Miller

From: Jillian Marquis[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jillian Marquis

From: Levi Miller [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Levi Miller

From: Ben Kremer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ben Kremer

From: Luisa Ferrao[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luisa Ferrao

From: Marley Boyle [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:10 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marley Boyle

From: Imanuel Mattes <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Imanuel Mattes

From: Claus Pedersen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claus Pedersen

From: joe berard [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

joe berard

From: Caitlin McClelland [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Caitlin McClelland

From: Lindsey Lospalluto [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:42 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Lospalluto

From: Steve Bushell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 12:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steve Bushell

From: Houssam Mayassi [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Houssam Mayassi

From: Monica H [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica H

From: James Westfal[redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/22/2012 1:24 PM
Subject: HB 1451

Did not comment on proposed rules since I could not even get a reply as to where to find the final copy of the law as passed.

PS: totally unreasonable and unfair to responsible breeders. Legislature needs to revisit this farce at the next session.

From: autumn Dalman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:42 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

autumn Dalman

From: Adrianne Brutscher [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 1:42 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adrianne Brutscher

From: Amy Cupedr[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 2:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amy Cupedro

From: Taylor Siebers [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 2:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Taylor Siebers

From: Sharon Vincent[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 2:57 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Vincent

From: Jessica Russo[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Russo

From: Jordan Hally [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:27 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jordan Hally

From: Vikki Markaverich [redacted]
To: Texas Rules & Regulations <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: Fw: TX Breeder Proposed Rules and Fees

Again, I beg you to consider.

Gentlemen,

The Dog Breeders of this state have the following issues with the subject Rules and Fees:

1. The veterinarian fees are much too costly.

2. Fees associated with the license are completely unacceptable and prohibitive for any professional dog beeder.

3. Why must dog breeders pay an inspectoin fee? Other occupations inspected by TDRL do not pay an inspection fee.

Exhorbitant fees, vet inspections, monthly expenses, together with required upgrades will put some of us out of business in Texas. We simply do not want this to happen.

Thank you.

From: Larissa Haensel[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Larissa Haensel

From: Jessica Williams [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Williams

From: Judith Kreuzer[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judith Kreuzer

From: Paula Figueiredo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 3:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paula Figueiredo

From: "Welch, Elizabeth [BISON]" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 4:48 PM
Subject: PUPPY MILL LAW

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Liz Welch

[redacted]

From: Jane Surtees [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 4:57 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane Surtees

From: Little B [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 4:57 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Little B

From: Abigail Saldana [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 4:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Abigail Saldana

From: Vivian Savarese[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 4:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vivian Savarese

From: William McAvoy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 4:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

William McAvoy

From: Alejandra Lossada [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 4:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alejandra Lossada

From: Joslyn Bann[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 4:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joslyn Banner

From: Rachael Pudlo-Umney [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachael Pudlo-Umney

From: hanna medley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

hanna medley

From: Sol Marinozzi Bjorck[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sol Marinozzi Bjorck

From: Shayla Reeves [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:47 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shayla Reeves

From: Cindy Negro[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:47 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cindy Negro

From: Skyla Swai[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Skyla Swain

From: Joyce Sofia [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 6:51 PM
Subject: Dog & Cat Breeder Regs

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to respectfully ask you to strengthen the proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, not weakened.

In addition, please work to ensure there are no grandfathering of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joyce A. Sofia
[redacted]

From: Maria De Los Angeles Lara Gutierrez[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us[redacted]
Date: 2/22/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maria De Los Angeles Lara Gutierrez

From: Zuheily Labrador [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Zuheily Labrador

From: Liz K [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Liz K

From: Ingrid Vides[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 7:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ingrid Vides

From: Tyisha Pagan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 7:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tyisha Pagan

From: Kristin Hall [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 7:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristin Hall

From: Emina Mahmutovic[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emina Mahmutovic

From: Alysha Edelman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:04 PM
Subject: Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards!

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully URGE YOU to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alysha Edelman

From: Isobel Potter [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:04 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Isobel Potter

From: Mary Rapp <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:18 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Rapp

From: Rachael Weave[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:18 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachael Weaver

From: Steve Broyles [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steve Broyles

From: Miku Shah [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Miku Shah

From: Biff Johnson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Biff Johnson

From: Gina Peterson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 8:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gina Peterson

From: Tracy Arsenault[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tracy Arsenault

From: Carrie Jaimes [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carrie Jaimes

From: Jenny O'Brien [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenny O'Brien

From: Jane Kaufman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane Kaufman

From: Kelly Southard [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Southard

From: Kelly Southard [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Southard

From: Kessy Stevens [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kessy Stevens

From: Herman Stey[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Herman Steyn

From: Herman Stey[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/22/2012 9:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 22, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Herman Steyn

From: Missy Ma[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:57 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Missy Mac

From: Missy Mac <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:58 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Missy Mac

From: Kristyn Midoux [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:58 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristyn Midoux

From: Christy Nobe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christy Nobe

From: Jasleen Grewal [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jasleen Grewal

From: Natalie Castro [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natalie Castro

From: Stephanie Oberloh [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Oberloh

From: Jentry Ruether [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jentry Ruether

From: Brielle Bolinsky [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brielle Bolinsky

From: Katya Moreno [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katya Moreno

From: Judy Blac[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judy Black

From: Lisa Hooper [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/17/2012 11:01 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring(§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

*Veterinary Procedures:*Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

*Temperature:*Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hooper

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:18 PM
Subject: Support HB 1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: _erule.comments@license.state.tx.us_
(mailto:erule.comments@license.state.tx.us?)

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

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Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference

in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Stark

From: Robert Taylor [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/13/2012 7:28 PM
Subject: Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities.
However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would

appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,
Bob Taylor
75219

Bob Taylor

From: <marymims1@austin.rr.com>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:39 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill
Attachments: Humane.docx

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

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is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely

Mary Mims

[redacted]

From: Tamara Remhof [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 8:25 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
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rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

I strongly agree with this letter and urge you to strengthen the provisions.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Tamara Remhof

From: "Connie Wilxocen"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 8:30 PM
Subject: HB 1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Connie Wilcoxen

From: "Karla and Rob Genter"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 8:56 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

My husband and I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has us very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

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Thank you for allowing us to submit our comments and recommendations. We would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Karla and Rob Genter

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Erica Nelson <[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 9:11 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:
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The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Erica Nelson

From: "Debra White" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:16 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Sincerely,

Debra White

From: Diane Petersen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:20 PM
Subject: Stop Breeding Mills in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
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Your Name

SPCA of Texas 2400 Lone Star Dr., Dallas, TX 75212

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Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
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Sincerely,

Diane Petersen

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:25 PM
Subject: RE: Recommendations and Regulations

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts"

are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Linda Konicek

From: Kat Higman[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 10:53 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities.
However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect

thereto.
Sincerely,
Kathryn L. Higman RN

From: "Patti Glenn" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 10:57 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

I adopted a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel from a Rescue group (Lucky Star Cavaliers) that rescues only from puppy mills. Suzie came from a puppy mill in Oklahoma or Missouri. She had been used as a brood bitch for about 4 years and had at least 8 to 10 litters. Despite being a "spoiled 4 legged child that sleeps on the bed" for almost a year, she has never explored the house – where you put her is where she stays. She is afraid to move from that location. She will only eat in the dark so her food is at the foot of the bed since she will not jump down. This all because she was "totally mistreated in a puppy mill". Please make the laws stronger...no animal deserves what Suzie did – her spirit is totally broken, she does not even know how to play. It has improved in the past year, but there is a long way to go.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

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Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Patti Glenn, REALTOR®, GRÍ, ABR, SRES, Associate Broker

[redacted]

The best compliment you can pay me is a referral to your family & friends

Description: Me with hat- photo for business cards (small) Description: JF EmailSignatureImage 2007 (small size)

Texas Law requires all real estsate licensees to give the following information about brokerage services to prospective buyers, tenants, sellers, and landlords

<http://www.trec.state.tx.us/pdf/contracts/OP-K.pdf>
http://www.trec.state.tx.us/pdf/contracts/OP-K.pdf

From: "Carol Duncan" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: <mailto:erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

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I am a member of a breed rescue group. Last year, we participated in the rescue of 183 Border Collies living in deplorable conditions in a large breeding operation. Most of them had lived on wire flooring. There were many with injured feet, including one who lost a foot. Many others had teeth worn down to the gums from chewing at the wire enclosures in which they lived 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Their conditions were heartbreaking. Please do not let these conditions occur again.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Carol S. Duncan, LCSW

Member #66327, Association of Pet Dog Trainers

Associate Member #279, International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants

[redacted]

From: "Nilson, Gary[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 11:12 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us<mailto:erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

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Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

I personally have bread dogs for a number of years, on a very small scale, and produced a loving and cared for product that made good hunting dogs and pets. The suggestions and opinions herein above reflect what I have learned while engaged in that avocation.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Gary J. Nilson, P.E.
Reservoir Engineering Advisor
Barnett Shale Team
Pioneer Natural Resources
[redacted]

[redacted]

Statement of Confidentiality:
This message may contain information that is privileged or confidential. If you receive this transmission in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete the message and any attachments.

From: "Hatch Orgs"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
CC: "Pam Hatch - Orgs" <hatch.orgs@bobnpam.com>
Date: 2/8/2012 11:25 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules HB 1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly support the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 there are some areas of the regulation that will possibly be unenforceable as the rules now stand.

I am not a breeder or animal activist - but I do love animals, I have owned a number of dogs and other animals in my lifetime and I have a great concern in wanting to see the puppy and kitty mills held accountable to be responsible or be put out of business. At the same time I appreciate our reputable and responsible breeders and their professionalism and dedication to their animals and do not want to see them over controlled or penalized because of those less responsible. It is a fine and difficult line to walk! I would also like to state that I would like to believe and hope that "responsible breeders" would not be heavily impacted by tightening of the following areas of the rules while puppy mills likely will be - but then that is what this law should impact - puppy mills and irresponsible breeders!

I have read HB1451 in it's entirety, as it now stands and encourage you to consider tightening the regulations in a few of the areas of the bill. I found these items raised by the SPCA to be valid concerns - although I have taken a bit different approach on several. The last item on temperature concerns me and I feel I am not knowledgeable enough to speak to it but concur with the concern raised by the SPCA and thus have included it as part of my email.

a.. 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): It is my understanding that the single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." My assumption is that a responsible breeder would not subject their animals to this type of abuse. Therefore, a responsible breeder would not be grossly impacted by tightening this requirement by eliminating 100% wire flooring altogether. And, if need be set a limit on the grandfathering to force compliance by having the breeder become compliant within three years of this law going in to effect by reducing out of compliance enclosures by 30% of the total the first year, 50% of the remaining total the second year and finally 100% of the remaining total the third year (or some similar measurable formula).
b.. Cage Stacking: Breeders should be strongly encouraged to avoid stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other OR limit by total height so that proper inspection and attendance to the animals can occur. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than the current version of the rule.
c.. Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance - perhaps an approach as mentioned above regarding wire flooring. Again one would think "responsible breeders" would be minimally impacted.
d.. Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

From: Melissa Priddy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:19 PM
Subject: comments on TDLR proposed Dog Breeder Laws

Ms Rinard,

My 2 daughters and I are ethical hobby breeders (we won't be able to say we are breeders in state of Texas is we do not become licensed by Sept 1, 2012?), 2nd and 3rd generation handlers/groomers as well. We breed our dogs to carry produce better than the last generation, with emphasis on health, temperament, and sound structure to better the breed and perpetuate our bloodlines, giving us the next generation of our line to carry on with. We sell our extra pups with legally binding contract stipulating that they are to be spayed and neutered as part of purchase agreement unless they agree to health test, title, and are other experienced breeders who know about genetics and health disorders), requiring that for any reason dog can no longer be kept that it is returned to us (not a rescue or animal shelter). We spent almost $10,000.00 rescuing/hiring PI/vet costs to treat dogs/shipping/ airline crates/etc., to make sure that our own dogs that we sold were rescued back (unwanted/abandoned/dogs that could no longer be kept by buyer for unforeseen situations) in 2009 to vet, re-home, keep if not able to be re-homed. With 2012 new TDLR rules we will now have a set number of pups per year that we are allowed to place for any money (even to cover vet bills and/or shipping expenses to get them back) which will punish and count against ethical breeders who rescue... new rules are not allowing for rescue! Ethical breeders who have been responsible breeders in taking care of the puppies/dogs they have produced will now have a very hard time taking back unwanted puppies if they also desire to breed to keep their bloodline and their numbers in their breed prolific enough to keep their breed with enough diversity to keep it from going extinct from health issues. Also, as dog lovers and wanting to help with homeless animals produced from irresponsible pet owners who will still be allowed to breed, we will no longer want to rescue anyone else's dogs either as it counts against us as another dog/puppy we sell or re-home unless we are willing to pay all vet bills and charge no adoption fee to help re-coop some of our expenses for fostering animals in need. To myself, these laws look to be very discriminating against AKC show breeders and exhibitors who do not mass produce puppies and know very well about proper care and health testing of their animals, not to stopping animal abuse and puppy mills. Shouldn't these laws be aimed more at irresponsible pet owners whose dogs run loose to have a litter every heat cycle with no rabies vaccines, no worming, no medical care and that are also a possible health concern to the public as well as being an animal abuse case or people who breed just to produce mass numbers with no use of the dog other than to produce puppies to sell? These breeders/owners will never be fined/punished as they do not breed AKC registered dogs nor exhibit them in the public's eye to be seen. Also, all breeds of dogs have such unique needs and care that there is no way to sum them all up to the same one condition of feeding, care, exercise, and temperature conditions needed. Lots of vet notes may go unread or unheeded by inspector and animals taken away from breeder when they are caring properly for their dogs. I see a lot of more hurt people, hurt animals, and lawsuits being activated in the future due to these laws being poorly written, very vague and irrational, and put in place to give unfair treatment to upstanding individuals who love and cherish their dogs and have tremendously helped to breed the healthiest, best individuals of their purebred breed. The majority of these people are not "puppy mills" and this law does not look like it is activated to pursue and diminish puppy mill and animal abuse, just harass purebred hobby dog breeders and diminish the best breeders and dogs of the purebred dog breeds. Sorry, I do not have much legal background and don't quite know the wording, but this group of laws do not match up with the written purpose for which it is stated for coming into being. If it is to do as it actually says... to stop puppy mills and stop animal abuse, you are barking up the wrong tree and aimed at hurting the wrong people. If we are aiming to lower pet

population and incidence of animal abuse, why are rules set so harshly against ethical show breeders who do provide the best care and spare no expenses on their dogs? It is also my understanding that my family will need to be licensed as a high volume breeder and obtain a license in order to be able to state that we are breeders even if we breed 1, 5, or sometimes no litters a year because we don't breed to produce the most puppies, and be punished for holding back potential intact show prospect females over 6 months of age... too young to know if teeth, size, movement are good enough to keep them or rule them out for showing/breeding our next generation. Another question... we breed for our own main purpose of showing in the AKC dog show conformation ring, which does not count as much as herding, hunting, working, (how do you prove the other uses of these dogs and why do they need no licensing?) but yet AKC show entries is very easily verifiable in public records. Isn't this discrimination against dog show exhibitors? Why are AKC show breeders being discriminated against? Or is the main agenda to discourage/stop all purebred dog breeding or limit it down to such a small number that the breeds cannot be sustained? Many professional hobby breeders have been mentored on the best ways to provide their breed/breeds the best care for their individual needs. The people making these laws would have done well to learn from these people and it would have helped them better understand the animals and what is needed for their care. I think we are all for laws protecting animals and consumers, but puppy mills may be the only source of pet production left standing if laws are not made more reasonable and less vague. Hobby breeders raise their puppies with better care, better health, better socialization, and understand quality than puppy mills. We need to encourage hobby breeders and rescue.

Melissa Priddy
Antigua Show Dogs
[redacted]

From: Linda Armijo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:23 PM
Subject: Hb 1451 must be improved and strengthened

Melissa
Rinard, Legal Assistant

General Counsel's Office

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments
and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms.
Rinard:

I strongly
supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will
significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities.
However, the
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and
standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized
unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed
Rules are strengthened.

The major
problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102
and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104);
grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only
a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102;
and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking,
ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100%
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(§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and
cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire
life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire
floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must
be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring.
Also, there should not be any
grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and
inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

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stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is
unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for
the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit
only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal,
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Sizes: I
agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with
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Thank you
for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. Please keep in mind, this is just the tip of the iceberg. The statute is a good start, but really, long term, we need to basically limit the size of breeding facilities and make it very difficult (read: expensive) for breeders to stay in business. Our society is saturated with unwanted and in-bred animals which have a gamut of psychological and medical problems created by unchecked breeding and a lack of fresh bloodlines.

Sincerely,

Linda Armijo
Duncanville, TX

Think critically, get involved. It's your country!

From: Justin Ridge [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:16 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

From: "Pat Watker" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:20 AM
Subject: FW: URGENT: 60 SECONDS OF YOUR TIME CAN HELP DOGS AND CATS LIVING IN TEXAS PUPPY MILLS!
Attachments: TDLR Letter Individual.docx

Email to:

Ms. Melissa Rinard

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

From: Ginny Townsend [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 2:12 PM
To: Pat Watker
Subject: FW: URGENT: 60 SECONDS OF YOUR TIME CAN HELP DOGS AND CATS LIVING IN TEXAS PUPPY MILLS!

Can you send out?

Ginny Townsend

[redacted]

To the world you are just one more rescue person,

but to a rescued pet, you are the world.

From: Jonnie England [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 1:47 PM
To: Friends of Animals
Subject: URGENT: 60 SECONDS OF YOUR TIME CAN HELP DOGS AND CATS LIVING IN TEXAS PUPPY MILLS!

To everyone who cares about animals:

We need to flood the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation with emails so they will strengthen their draft of their minimum standards of animal care in puppy mills. Right now the standards are very weak, and will legally allow dogs and cats in puppy mills to continue to suffer.

It's vitally important that you take action-literally one minute of your time-and tell them of our concerns.

URGENT: 60 SECONDS OF YOUR TIME CAN HELP DOGS AND CATS LIVING IN TEXAS PUPPY MILLS!

Background: You may have heard that the "Puppy Mill Bill" was passed in the Texas legislature in 2011, which means that there are at least now minimum standards of care for animals living in "large-scale commercial breeding facilities" in the state of Texas. This was a massive win for the animals (and the first step in a puppy mill crack down) by the Texas Humane Legislation Network <http://www.thln.org> (THLN.org), and it will help us combat the horrific conditions that tens of thousands of animals live in within Texas' estimated 1,500 puppy mills. The new law requires basic animal care and makes puppy mills subject to inspections by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to ensure animals are properly cared for under the law.

HERE'S WHERE WE NEED IMMEDIATE HELP FROM AS MANY TEXAS CITIZENS AS POSSIBLE: Now that the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation has drafted details about the minimal standards of animal care in puppy mills, it has been noted that several of these standards are very weak and provide little, if any, comfort or protection to the animals residing in these deplorable facilities. We need you to take 60 seconds before February 17, 2012 to sign your name and address to the attached, pre-written email asking for them to strengthen the minimal standards of animal care.

AND PLEASE TELL EVERY ANIMAL LOVER YOU KNOW TO DO THE SAME! If we flood them with emails indicating widespread concern over this issue, then we have a better chance of getting the minimum standards strengthened to provide for better care and comfort to these poor animals. Time is of the essence, so after you sign and email your letter, please cross-post, forward, post on Facebook...do everything you can to spread the word. Countless lives are depending on YOU!

Thank you!

Jonnie England

Director of Animal Advocacy and Communications

Metroplex Animal Coalition

Opt to Adopt! Visit www.DallasAnimalServices.org.

Stop Animal Cruelty...for Mercy's Sake.

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia J Walker

From: "Ken Givens" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:29 AM
Subject: Petition for puppy mills in Texas
Attachments: Ms.doc

Ken Givens

Hugo Reed & Associates, Inc.

Land Surveyors / Civil Engineers

Texas Licensed Surveying Firm 100676-00

Texas Registered Engineering Firm F-760

[redacted]

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

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Respectfully submitted, Ken Givens

From: Rachel Vogt Walden [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:37 AM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
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Thank you for
allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Rachel Walden

Rachel V. Walden, [redacted]

From: dch [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:49 AM
Subject: H.B. 1451, The Licensed Breeder Bill

2-10-12

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Ms. Rinard:

Following the passage of H.B. 1451, The Licensed Breeder Bill, the *Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) released their Proposed Rules and Standards as required by the statute.*

*Several of these standards are very weak and provide little if any comfort or protection to the animals in large breeding facilities.** *

*Although there are many areas of concern, the Texas Humane Legislation Network has identified the following 4 priority issues that must be changed. ** *

* *

1. WIRE FLOORING

TDLR's proposed rules dealing with flooring in licensed breeder facilities {Section 91.102 (e)(A)} require that at least 50% of the floor be solid flooring with the remainder being allowed to be wire or wire mesh. *However, these proposed rules do not apply to existing breeder facilities. These existing breeder facilities are allowed to have 100% wire or wire mesh flooring.* This "grandfathering" of current breeding facilities is terribly flawed and will result in thousands of animals living their entire lives on wire flooring with no relief. We must get this "grandfathering" provision out of the proposed rules and require all breeders, both current and future, to have at least 50% solid flooring where the animal can stand, sit, lie down and turnabout freely on a solid surface, to seek relief from the wire flooring.

** *100% wire flooring in primary enclosures is inherently cruel confinement.* By licensing (grandfathering) this practice, the TDLR is "gutting" the intent and purpose of the statute which is to improve the health and wellbeing of the animals who spend their entire lives in these cages. Also, by licensing (endorsing) the practice the TDLR is making the state animal cruelty statute (cruel confinement) more difficult or impossible to enforce. This is a giant step backward, not forward.

** *Dogs forced to live on wire flooring for long periods of time* suffer from foot and leg injuries, including chronic, painful sores, infections and cysts between the toes, toenails that curl into the paw pads from lack of pressure on the nail, and toenails being ripped out when they get caught on the wire.

** *Wire flooring increases drafts in extremely cold weather, making it difficult for dogs to maintain their body heat**.*

* ** **Wire flooring in most cases is less sanitary than solid flooring.* Feces do not readily fall though wire mesh, so the dog(s) grind it though the wire with their feet which creates terribly unsanitary conditions. Both the dogs and the wire flooring become caked in feces and debris, making cleaning very difficult if not impossible.

** *One can provide 50% solid flooring easily and at

little expense by providing a resting board, rubber mat, or bedding. **This does NOT require restructure of the enclosure for breeders.*

2. CAGE SIZES

TDLR's proposed rules dealing with cage sizes {Section 91.104 (3)(A) and (B)} require that primary enclosures be twice the size currently required by the USDA regulations for USDA licensed breeders. *Again, however, the TDLR proposed rules exempt current breeder facilities from these requirements and allow them to continue using the smaller cage sizes required by the USDA regulations.* The reason given is that it would be cost prohibitive to require current breeder facilities to double their cage sizes. Although this has some merit, there must be a specific time frame for current breeder facilities to come into compliance with the larger size caging requirements. *I ask that they be given three years to come into compliance - to wit: until September 1, 2015. Also, I ask that any new cages built at these facilities must come into compliance with the larger cage size requirements at the time they are installed. ***

* ** **The Licensed Breeder bill was passed to protect the well being of animals forced to live their entire lives in small cages.*To "grandfather" existing breeders from increased cage sizes equates to 1)
ignoring the will of the legislature and 2) allowing licensed breeders to continue the "status quo" of tiny barren wire living quarters.

3. CAGE STACKING
TDLR's proposed rules {Section 91.104(E)} allow the stacking of dog cages up to three tiers. I ask that there be no stacking or, if any stacking is allowed, that it must not exceed one cage on top of another*.*

* ** **Stacked cages encourage gross overcrowding* of animals and are often so high or low - caretakers or inspectors can't easily see the dogs to check on their wellbeing.

** *Stacked cages with wire flooring* allow urine, feces and wastewater from higher cages to rain down on dogs below.

** *Stacking makes it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow* to reach all parts of the enclosures - allowing many dogs and cats to live in total darkness and neglect.

*4. SURGICAL PROCEDURES *
TDLR's proposed rules {Section 91.112(b)} require that only a veterinarian be allowed to euthanize an animal or perform a surgical birth procedure on an animal. *This section should cover additional procedures that only a veterinarian shall perform, such as tail docking, ear cropping, debarking, and claw removal. Currently, it is common for these procedures to be performed by breeders (non-veterinarians). ***

* ** **These procedures are veterinary procedures because they are surgical in nature*, and should include prescription drugs and/or anesthesia for pain - neither of which can legally be obtained and used by a lay person.

** *A strong argument can be made for animal cruelty*, should a breeder/lay person dock tails, cut ears, remove claws, or cut vocal cords without prescription pain drugs or antibiotics.

Thank you for your time and attention so very much needed regarding this legislation.

*
*

*D C Harris, [redacted]

From: "Kathy Troop" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:19 AM
Subject: FW: URGENT: 60 SECONDS OF YOUR TIME CAN HELP DOGS AND CATS LIVING IN TEXAS PUPPY MILLS!
Attachments: TDLR Letter Individual.docx

Please stop the cruelty.

Kathy Troop

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

From: "Lori Foster" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:38 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Lori Foster

Lori Foster [redacted]

[redacted]x

[redacted]

The information in this transmission is intended only for the personal and confidential use of the designated recipient(s) named above. This message may be an attorney-client communication and as such is privileged. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient named above, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error, and any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this document in error, please notify this office immediately by telephone, and delete the original message from your system. THANK YOU.

From: "l.perkett_verizon_mail" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:49 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

The following is a comment written by the SPCA of Texas to which I agree completely. Wire flooring, Cage Stacking, Exempting current licensed breeders fro cage size requirements, Surgical procedures by other than a Vet or Vet Tech, and 'Best Efforts' for temperature for animal housing are ALL unacceptable for humane treatment of animals. Please note my concurrence to these comments.

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Your Name

In Christ,
Ellen M. Perkett

From: Christina Sumner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christina Sumner

From: Meagan Noonan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Meagan Noonan

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>, <info@houstonspca.com>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Strengthen dog & cat breeder regulations please

Dear Ms. Rinard:

Please strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Forcing animals to live on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. Their feet are very tender even when they get to run outside. Can you imagine only having a wire floor to stand, sit, or lie on?
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Urine and feces dropping from one cage onto another below it is not only disgusting, but certainly unhealthy and unsanitary!
3. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. What is a "best effort"? Federal regulations are only minimum standards, and should be strengthened, not weakened.

Existing breeder mills should never be grandfathered to avoid compliance with regulations.
We continue to see too many cases of the inhumane conditions those poor animals are subjected to.
Dogs and cats have life expectancies of several years; they are not "cash crops" like corn and hay that are harvested every year, then replanted.

Thank you for considering my comments of this matter.

Respectfully,

Shirley Bowen
[redacted]

From: Kathy Miller [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kathy Miller

From: anette petersen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM

Dear Ms. Rinard: I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully, Anette Petersen [redacted]

From: Robyn Elisher <[redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Robyn Elisher.

P.S. I am an avid animal lover and any that had an animal should be to. Let's stop this MADNESS

Sent from my iPhone

From: "Kim" <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Kim Kron
[redacted]

From: Sam Redford [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sam Redford

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lydia Bennett
[redacted]

From: Ann Butler [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ann Butler

[redacted]

From: Alex B [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alex B

From: Amelia Dophal [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amelia Dophal

From: Marty Schuh [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marty Schuh

From: Beth Kuschel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Kuschel

From: Shana Ortega [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shana Ortega

From: Luis Ortega [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luis Ortega

From: Tania Zapien [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tania Zapien

From: Judy Collard [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Judy Collard
[redacted]

From: Dawn White [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn White

From: Tania Zapien [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tania Zapien

From: Melissa Villegas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa Villegas

From: Lisa Bruder [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bruder

From: Simonetta Vigil [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Simonetta Vigil

From: Raymond McDaniel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Raymond McDaniel
[redacted]

From: dorey s [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully, Doreen Simmonds RN

[redacted]

From: Carole Kocian [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Carole Kocian
[redacted]

From: "S. Kouts" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Susan Carnaby
[redacted]

From: Jennifer Clanton <[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Proposed Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clanton
[redacted]

Jennifer Clanton #203
Team Leader Lone Star Lovers
[redacted]

Help us set a world record and find a cure for breast cancer!
http://www.athenascup.org

From: Taylor Green [redacted]n>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 12:38 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Taylor Green

From: Sydney Packer <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 12:39 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sydney Packer

From: Donna Eyssi [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 12:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Eyssi

From: Jules Astor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jules Astor

From: Sarai Rivera [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarai Rivera

From: Melanie Grothe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melanie Grothe

From: Katelyn Koski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katelyn Koski

From: Roe Romano [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:13 AM
Subject: Regulations

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roe Romano

From: Francesca Lavelle [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Francesca Lavelle

From: Marena Skinner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:13 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marena Skinner

From: Hanna Mills [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

(null)

Sincerely,

Hanna Mills

From: Vincent Pollak [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vincent Pollak

From: Jennifer Colandrea [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 1:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Colandrea

From: Brogan Jones [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 2:14 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brogan Jones

From: Ann Doan <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 2:15 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ann Doan

From: Suzanne Wakeling [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 2:15 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Wakeling

From: Om Patel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 2:15 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Om Patel

From: Cindy Leary [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 2:39 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cindy Leary

From: Amy Simmons [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 2:39 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amy Simmons

From: Lauren Terrill [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 2:39 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lauren Terrill

From: "Lisa H." [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 3:08 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa H.

From: Adrienne Miller [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 3:09 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Miller

From: Kate McEachen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 3:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kate McEachen

From: Madolyn Taylor [redacted]n>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 3:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Madolyn Taylor

From: Kate McEachen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 3:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kate McEachen

From: Anouchik Sarkissian [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 4:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anouchik Sarkissian

From: Shrenik Khasgiwala [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 4:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shrenik Khasgiwala

From: Gregor Banic [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 4:11 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gregor Banic

From: Ccff gf [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 4:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ccff gf

From: Alison Yates [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 4:41 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alison Yates

From: Sarah D [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 4:42 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah D

From: Rich Lee [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 4:42 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rich Lee

From: Jennie Downerd[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 4:42 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennie Downerd

From: Nathalie Leblanc [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nathalie Leblanc

From: Rachael Pudlo-Umney [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachael Pudlo-Umney

From: Charlie O'Keefe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlie O'Keefe

From: Nicola Weston [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicola Weston

From: Nicola Weston <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicola Weston

From: Rachael Pudlo-Umney [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:12 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachael Pudlo-Umney

From: Emily Palmarchuk <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:42 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily Palmarchuk

From: Samantha Deur [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samantha Deur

From: Julia Baingo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julia Baingo

From: Christina Ronci [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:43 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christina Ronci

From: Lucinda Connolly <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 5:47 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lucinda Connolly

From: Christopher Roschinski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher Roschinski

From: Amanda Cheng [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Cheng

From: sarah kayias <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

sarah kayias

From: Ian Taylor [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ian Taylor

From: Kathy Comfort <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Comfort

From: Dominika Dyrkacz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dominika Dyrkacz

From: Elisa Gomez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:48 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elisa Gomez

From: Marcia Gonçalves [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:49 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marcia Gonçalves

From: Fabian Vor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:49 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Fabian Vor

From: Courtney Peirce [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:49 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Courtney Peirce

From: Tess Stapleton <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:49 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tess Stapleton

From: Claire Duque [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:49 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claire Duque

From: Catherine Duchesne [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:49 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Duchesne

From: Carla Javier [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 6:49 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carla Javier

From: Eveline Covre [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eveline Covre

From: Anthony Az [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anthony Az

From: Theresa Candela[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Theresa Candela

From: Mark Holden [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Holden

From: Emily Heath [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily Heath

From: Isabel Medayo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Isabel Medayo

From: Jennifer Rudy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rudy

From: León Felipe Arellano Luna [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

León Felipe Arellano Luna

From: francesca pistoletti [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:23 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

francesca pistoletti

From: Kelly Murdoch [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/24/2012 7:25 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 24, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Murdoch

From: "Steve & Judy Epperson" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: hb 1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant

General Counsel's Office

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation P.O. Box 12157

Austin, TX 78711

I have been breeding dogs since 1982. I have had small numbers to large numbers over the years. I have tried all kinds of situations to keep my dogs in. I have used inside pens on the floor with newspaper or shredded paper for absorbent material , outside pens with them on the ground, outside kennels with gravel, and kennels or cages inside with wire floors. In the last few years I have researched the USDA regulations and standards and have modeled my kennel in that fashion. My adults are kept in family groups of 2 to 4 in large covered pens with concrete floors and the puppies are raised inside a building in cages with coated wire floors. I have found that to be the very best way to raise disease free, parasite free healthy happy puppies and adults. The USDA standards are easy for any breeder to comply with and has served the welfare of the dogs and puppies well. I think we should keep it to USDA standards and nothing more! The extra cost of changing things that would have no bearing on improving the health or welfare of the animals would push most of the smaller and many of the larger breeders out of business.

Sincerely,

Judy Epperson

Breeder and hopefully a licensed breeder.

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 12:48 PM
Subject: dog and cat breederd regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Your Name
Street Address
City, State Zip
Phone Number
Email Address

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Haley Morgan

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jolene Blackburn

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gillian Cockburn

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mlil Lally

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ana Molina

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jolene Blackburn

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Gates

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:50 PM
Subject: Rules for HB1451

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am emailing you in response to the rules and regulations that are being implimented for HB1451 by TDLR. Personally I feel that by using the minimal USDA guidelines that they have set forth, most breeders will be able to comply and encouraged to be licensed. Any additional requirements that the Animal Rights Activists are pushing will cause many breeders to have to quit breeding or reduce their dogs/cats adults to be under the limit required for a license. Breeders that are willing to comply are good and ethical breeders that strive to produce some of the best in their breeds. They aren't the "backyard" breeders, puppy mills, etc. They sincerely care about their animals and want the very best for them. Overregulating them will produce such a burden on them that the fees, remodeling, etc. will be too much on them financially when the economy is already in dire-straits. They can't afford to build or remodel their existing facilities.

USDA has served the US for many years and have some of the best rules governing our country. Please take this into consideration when implimenting your regulations. I'm sure by doing so, you will be pleased with the number of compliant breeders.

Sincerely,

Max Coffman
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:50 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Patty Ahrens
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Danilo Oviedo

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Haley Labrasca

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards HELP!

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Doug Chisholm

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lauren Opryszek

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:56 PM
Subject: Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

11 February 2012

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge
you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as
published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit
the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their
entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit
the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary
and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please
prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as
ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are
surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their
"best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague,
ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations,
which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT
weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing
breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific
conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of
suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider
animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your
consideration.

Respectfully,

Eileen Olson

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:59 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Alison J Durkin

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:59 PM
Subject: Please strengthen regulations to protect dogs and cats

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Ann Stranahan Rph
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:59 PM
Subject: mills are outrageous

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,Becky Riordan [redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 1:03 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Albert Gueniot
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 1:05 PM
Subject: Puppy mills-please support the strongest laws against puppy mills.

Denise Wallace
[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:10 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard: I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened. In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully, Katie Killough [redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:11 PM
Subject: URGENT

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Judy Henry
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:12 PM
Subject: Re: proposed regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Katherine E. Cook, J.D.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:16 PM
Subject: please listen

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills.
Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Stacy Thrash
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <ertule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:19 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anna Etherton

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:19 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natalie D

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:19 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nida Ahmed

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:19 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lalitha Sabesan

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:19 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Glover

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:19 PM
Subject: PLEASE Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards!

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

J S

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:23 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sue White
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:23 PM
Subject: Proposed legislation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I ask that you take a moment and picture the scenarios mentioned below. I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Can you imagine an entire existence like this? Please, help.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Roger Johns

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 1:24 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant,
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Dear Ms. Minard:
I was moved to tears after reading about the heartbreaking existence that these poor dogs and cats are forced to live . It is inhumane and I beg you to use your
influence to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published
in the Texas Registry on January 20.
1 .Prohibit the use of wire flooring for all
facilities. Having animals spend their
entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2 . Prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows
feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical
procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking. Debarking, and dew claw removal. All surgical procedures should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their best efforts regarding temperature
control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous
and unenforceable. It also weakens the
federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened,
NOT weakened.
There should be no grandfathering of existing breeder
mills. Dogs and cats currently living in
these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a
future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider
animals a cash crop.
These so called breeders should be closed down, treated as criminals and convicted of cruelty
to animals. Most Texans would agree with
me.
Please protect our animals from further abuse. Thank you for
your kind consideration.
Patricia Kouts [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 1:28 PM
Subject: Important

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Rojas
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:31 PM
Subject: Please help

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th .
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Nancy Parks
[redacted]

My heart goes out to the kind and loving animals treated this way. Makes me so so so sad. :(

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shelby Ferreira

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Megan Clark

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:52 PM
Subject: dog and cat regulations

Dear Mrs. Rinard,

Please strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeders regulation as stated in the Texas Registry on January 20, 2012.

No wire flooring on cage floors.

No stacking of cages, so they have to defecate on top of one another.

Only licensed Vets should be able to perform surgery on any animals.

Strict temperature control in all breeding facilities.

No grandfathering of existing breeder mills. All should be required to comply.

We are asking for at least humane treatment of these animals.

Please take immediate action on these requests.

Thank you,

Barbara hazard

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:54 PM
Subject: Breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I encourage you to strengthen the regulations recently published regarding dog and cat breeders.

My initial reaction is to outlaw all dog breeding, but I know that is not the reality. A number of years ago, my mother went to buy a Chinese Crested from a breeder, without my knowledge. She was so appalled at the conditions the dogs were living in, she felt she had to buy one *at any cost* just to get a dog to safety. These dogs were stacked in wire cages in a cold garage. I won't go into the health issues of these dogs other than to say they were severe. After talking to friends about it, they had their own personal horror stories. Because these conditions seem more prevelant than rare - I strongly encourage you to implement the following rules:
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

My husband and I have two adopted rescues, Moon Pie & Mallomar. We have no association with breeders, but after falling in love with our girls, we would never buy from a breeder. But I know many people still will, and that is why we need strgon regulations.

Sincerely,

Larissa Lindsay & Stuart Bailey
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:55 PM
Subject: Animal Breeder Regulatory Improvement Suggestions

To whom this concerns,

As a person who has been involved with animal rescue efforts, I have encountered sad situations where animals suffered from injures that could have been easily prevented if the right guidelines were required and followed. The following straightforward regulatory changes could go a long way in helping preventing many of these heartbreaking situations from occurring. Please consider making these changes in order to promote more humane treatment and improve the standards for animal breeding in our State.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces

2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.

3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

Thank you so much for giving this important matter your full attention. And, please do reply back to let me know your thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,

Janice Nice
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 1:56 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jo Jeffries

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 2:01 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am shocked that any area in the U.S. would tolerate blatant cruelty to living, feeling beings. Dogs and cats do not deserve to live lives of misery and pain. Our society should, at the very least, strive to cultivate compassion and basic decency. I urge you to strengthen the dog and cat breeder regulations proposed in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and claw removal. Only licensed veterinarians should perform these surgeries.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous, and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations, which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Consider the recent story of a chihuahua who was recently rescued after having spent 15 years in a tiny cage, giving birth to litter after litter of puppies several times per year. That would be the equivalent of a human being spending her entire life -- from infancy -- in a cold, filthy prison cell and being rescued at 80 or 90 years of age. If you include a "grandfather clause," you are taking away the last glimmer of hope for those animals who are already wasting away in inhumane conditions. Don't those animals deserve an ounce of compassion -- a few years of diminished suffering -- as much (or perhaps MORE than) anyone else?

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Sonja de Lugo
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:07 PM
Subject: proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Patti Bozeman
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:12 PM
Subject: Please strengthen dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ryan Smith
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:12 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Amy Hardberger

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 2:14 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Chessa Threlkeld
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:15 PM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I have always provided a home for a dog in my life for over 40 years. Only two of these were breeder dogs and I personally knew the breeder. I urge you to do all that you possibly can to make the regulations for breeding dogs and cats as strict as possible. These innocent animals do not deserve the inhumane treatment received in so many of these facilities.
From personal experience, a friend of mine bought a small dog from a puppy mill, unfortunately she did not realize it was a mill, and has spent in excess of $5000 returning that sweet animal to health. I need not point out, that most people would not have the resources to do what she did for this dog. Of course, with proper laws, such should not have been required.
I am not opposed to breeders. I am opposed to "mills" whose only goal is to make money and the treatment of the animals does not register on their radar.

Please consider the following:
No wire flooring in cages - unimaginable!
No stacking of cages
No surgical procedures not performed by a veterinarian - I thought docking and ear cropping had been legally prohibited. If not, they should be!
No grandfathering. Let's bring everyone under more humane regulations as soon as possible. Why should anyone be allowed to abuse these animals for one day longer.

I beg you to do all that you can to strengthen these regulations. I would be so proud to have the State of Texas to be first among states to stand up for the rights of animals and stop some of the inexcusable abuses that unscrupulous breeders are "legally" getting away with.

Thank you so much for listening to me and the many other concerned citizens who will write you about the regulations.

Shirley E. Rose
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 2:17 PM
Subject: proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Shelly Locke
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 2:20 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Justin Harrison
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claire MacDonald

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:25 PM
Subject: Strengthen the dog and cat breeders regulation

Dear Ms Rinard:

Am frustrated that dog breeders, that are not veterinarians, are still able to do surgical procedures on dogs and cats without laws that prohibit this .

Why would breeders be allowed to stack wire cages where animals can urinate and allow feces to pass to other cages? Breeders should have a sanitary facility that does not allow diseases and filth.

If we are a civilized country we should be able to protect the animals not to just put a bandaid on this Puppy Mill Bill.

Thank you

Paula Evans
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynne Gordon-Watson

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ray Drewery

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Daniels

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:25 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. jana moore
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:26 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill regulations need to be strengthened

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Susan E. Baerst
[redacted]

PeoplePC Online
A better way to Internet
http://www.peoplepc.com

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:27 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
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4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mary Kemp
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:27 PM
Subject: Do what is right - breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Please do what is right.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
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4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mr. James Williams
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:27 PM
Subject: Texas Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mickie Arriaga
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cassiana Curry

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:30 PM
Subject: Animal Cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Deirdre Smith

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 2:35 PM

I am appalled that "puppy mills" are allowed to exist. I believe there should be a mandatory fine and jail time for those operating these outrageous mills. I don't know of a dog who ever asked to be abused and being truly "man's best friend" deserve a decent life. If dogs are lost, or masters can no longer take care of them they do have places you can take them.

In many states it is against the law; why not Texas?

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:36 PM
Subject: Puppy mill bill

Ms. Rinard - I'm copying information regarding the puppy mill bill that I received today. Though the comments are not specifically my own, I can assure you that I agree wholeheartedly that this bill needs to be clarified and strengthened. Please take my opinions, and those of others to the powers that be in order to provide some help for these suffering creatures in our state. A. Lynette Parsons, P.O.Box 1467, 404 Oak Street, Anahuac Tx 77514

am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:45 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Barbara Drozd
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 2:58 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Savannah Mcshan
[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:58 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
June Kollar
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicole Meeds

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hayley Day

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 2:59 PM
Subject: Please strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th .

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Gale DeVoar Sr
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christina Ivan

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kate Lambert

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jacob Labarbera

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Hellens

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kate Mcgill

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jan Cibulka
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Every day the animal shelters around this area are executing many, many dogs and cats. I don't fault the shelters for this but I do fault the owners of these animals, who have dumped them for some sorry reason or another. We don't have to be in a great hurry to replace every animal that is executed at a shelter or in fact dies naturally. These are in fact living, breathing lives we are dealing with, and those who are propagating the replacements, ie. Breeders, nee d to be held to the highest standards .Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mr. Gary Oviatt
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:04 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Rosa Lopez
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
CC: "SuesStuff5703@aol.com" <SuesStuff5703@aol.com>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:11 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills/and and Continued Animal Abuse

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grand fathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

"While we have the gift of life, it seems to me that only tragedy is to allow part of us to die - whether it is our spirit, our creativity, or our glorious uniqueness."
-Gilda Radner

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 3:18 PM
Subject: Attn: Ms. Melissa Rinard

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Of course, the perfect solution would be to outlaw any and all breeding of animals of any kind, with heavy fines and/or long prison terms.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Carolyn McDaniel
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:29 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Dr. Luba Levy
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gregory Smith

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

Please strengthen the rules and standards for pet breeders in Texas. Cages are already a grim way for an animal to live, but the present rules allow for further cruelty by stacking the cages and keeping the animal exposed to waste matter from above. An all-wire cage bottom should also not be allowed and animals should be given adequate shelter from the elements.

I urge you to promote the above improvements in the Dog and Cat Breeders Act. As the rules are currently written, the animals are not adequately and humanely protected.

Thank you.

Andre' Gorzell

Sincerely,

Andre Gorzell

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle LaFauce

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sunnie Watson

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alan Mills

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Jimenez

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Juan Aguirre

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:31 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Miss CAROLYN VO
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:32 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

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These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mavreen Gayton
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine June

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Vogel

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Abella

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:47 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on Jan. 20.

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on Jan. 20.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Maria E. Saade
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 3:54 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Richard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsatitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be preformed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous, and unenforcable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, not weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions is rampant in Texas. They should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop".

Thank you for your consideration and reading my comments.

Respectfully,

Loyd Brooks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 3:58 PM
Subject: legislation

Dear Ms. Melissa Rinard:
My name is Sompong and I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. I understand that most breeders are responsible and kind to their animals, but many individuals who do this for a living have no regards to the humane treatment of animals and only have financial incentives in mind. Specifically, I would like to respectfully urge you to prohibit the use of wire flooring for all animal breeding facilities, prohibit the stacking of cages above one level (for it is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below). Please only allow licensed veterinarians to perform surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. And finally, please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards. If possible, please do not allow "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you so much in advance for your consideration.
Sincerely yours,
Sompong Vongpunsawad[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenna Hunt

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, PLEASE REMOVE ALL GRANDFATHER CLAUSES that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; FORBID THE USE OF CAGE STACKING;BAN BREEDERS FROM PERFORMING SURGICAL PROCEDURES (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to KEEP AMBIENT TEMPERATURES AT ALL TIMES.

As currently written, the proposed rules WILL NOT PROMOTE the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

JoLynn O'Shea-Walker

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Closjans

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hsiao-Huei Guh

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sumith Fernando

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Bamber

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alexis Osborne

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Klein

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Klein

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Lindsey

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Morehouse

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Borg

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
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Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Candace Hall

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anna Segal

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lily Shore

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maya Lauren

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Liat Segal

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: (no subject)

91.106-b 300 is to much. usda is 100-----

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:32 PM
Subject: PLEASE MAKE BREEDERS ACCOUNTABLE!!!! Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laci Linder

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:33 PM
Subject: PLEASE MAKE BREEDERS ACCOUNTABLE!!!! Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laci Linder

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maria Palacios

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 10:47 PM
Subject: (no subject)

91.112-----b------should not include dew claws,tail docking -----A -vet looks at dogs when he vac.for rabies,if something is wrong he would see it then

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diana S

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennie Downerd

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brenda Shoemaker

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jade Ilona

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Renee Junkin

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Jimenez

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angi Olsen

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kim Tarby

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lost From Orion

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarai Rivera

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher Terrell

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Audrey Shepard

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicole Watson

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dionna Jarrell

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Farah Burchell

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Albairis Carrero

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

MARIA E GONZALEZ

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Miller

From: Kimberley Wartell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 7:39 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking:
There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures:
Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature:

Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank
you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Wartell
[redacted]

From: "Michael G. Smith (CSI)" [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 7:24 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Mike Smith

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Allie Brodt

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angela Maria

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Herman Rhein

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Howard Curtis

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Hillard

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Miller

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lila Cahue

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Moghadamian

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Moghadamian

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Moghadamian

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Edith Gardner

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carmen Alzamora

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robin Hood

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Goh Samantha

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Goh Samantha

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Douglas

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brianna Wilson

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stefan Lindström

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sadie Keith-verfaillie

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shreyan Das

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 11:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

frank noce

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joseline Rosario

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tanya Golitschenko

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Please Help Innocent Animals -- Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janet Delaney

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven Rodriguez

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen Ward

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Macy

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tammy Ohrn

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amber Dayhare

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Bollman

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ethan Lake

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roni Cohen

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shalonda Dunn

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kosta Boutsalis

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie O'Donnell

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:01 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lainy McFarland

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian Power

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

"Many of the prisoners died in the concentration camps through deliberate maltreatment, disease, starvation, and overwork, or were executed as unfit for labor"- Wikipedia

The way the animals are treated currently is no better than a concentration camp and we should be ashamed!

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

Our moral value and respect of animals reflects on us. We have never understood, when a puppy mill dog is bought at a pet store the same type of treatment is considered cruelty. Gives a new meaning to "from farm to market".
As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.
These dogs who make people money must, we in Champions with our pets believe, be treated with basic rights. Clean water, food, grass to run on, and real vet checks is the least the should have.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

P. & S. Teixeira

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Hughes

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Quinn Deery

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Pearce

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Flynn-Williams

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Olivia Prowell

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
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Sincerely,

McKynzie nielsen

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
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Sincerely,

elizabeth anderson

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maria Rendon Hughes

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Greg Rosas

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:31 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ranjana Varghese

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:31 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darien Stefani

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:31 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah D

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:31 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Isabel Gonzalez

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:31 AM
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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Please remember that cats and dogs, although not human are also living breathing creatures just like you and I, and can feel pain just like we can. Please help them in every way you can.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paras Hafiz

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 12:31 AM
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Sincerely,

Preston Pohler

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
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Sincerely,

Sara Jane Howell

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Steven Sanchez

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To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Sincerely,

kertu viira

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Sincerely,

rittling michel

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
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Jeanette Webb

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Sincerely,

Marvin Perner

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Omara Cant tell

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Sincerely,

Marco Miranda

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
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Sincerely,

Anja Blancani

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Sincerely,

Michelle Young

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Sincerely,

Sandra Cantu

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Sincerely,

Bonnie Neely

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Sincerely,

Deva Francis

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
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Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christina Pietrowski

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katie Shephard

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa Swift

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jillian Marquis

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lois Quinn

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Breeannda Melvin

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ryszard Kaczka

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dominika Dyrkacz

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christina Ronci

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

DEBBIE BELL

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marcia Gonçalves

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frederike Scherr

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Taner Ucar

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shawn Quinn

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amy Johnson

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.
Carol Grier

Sincerely,

Carol Grier

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed TEXAS Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders.

In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Henning

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alicia Quintana

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laurette Chartrand

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

carpathia wales

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

The Dog and Cat Breeders Act is a wonderful new law passed to lessen the suffering of animals in large breeding facilities and promote the health and safety of cats and dogs bred to sell on the retail market. In order for this new law to provide the comfort and protection intended for animals in large breeding facilities the rules and standards need to be strengthened.

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chrissy Flatt

From: [redacted]
To: erule.comments <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:10 AM
Subject: Nail Art Products

Dear Purchasing Manager,
We are Nail Arts Queen Online Shop which specialized in designing, manufacturing Nail Art Products,
Our product list is :
1. Nail art and decoration;
2. Nail tools & Nail Salon Equipment;
3. Nail Sticker & Nail Tattoo;
4. UV gel, UV Lamp;
5. Nail polish, Nail tips, etc.
If you would like to know more about our nail arts products, please contact us in following way:steven@nailartsqueen.com.
Best Regards,

Steven

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Genevieve Petre

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

sarah kayias

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

L C-B

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

lancy dmello

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Cather

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Clara Blair

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Hetzel

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Pillers

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Goldsmith

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natalie-levi Greer

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

maryse bacri

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Catoire Corinne

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Fleming

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alejandra Jimenez

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Keshia Moein

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lenka Schrottova

From: [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Beauchamp

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Simon Karstensen

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily Robida

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily Robida

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A. Brown

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Aillaud

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paquerette Preborski

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aino Ermel

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica Blanchard

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Rice

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Norton

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angel de la Torre Garcia

From: [redacted].
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alicia Townsend

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elaine Miller

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Braxton

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Sincerely,

Cheryl Braxton

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

lynne stokes

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

muriel brachais

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sue Dusheiko

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emma Langley

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alan Edgerton

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Pollard

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Southey

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Merilyn Stone

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kwong

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Southey

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Merilyn Stone

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marsha Prunty

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marsha Gauthier

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Geraldine Kennedy

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

sabrina baribeau

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
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Sincerely,

Maddy Walsh

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
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Sincerely,

Hannah Waters

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Miguel Tascon

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Annie Gebe

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
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Sincerely,

Larissa Torres

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karyn O'Neill

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sally May

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

CLAUDINE CAILLET

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Becky Seaman

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 5:12 AM

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should bechanged to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra F. Lewis
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marie Hernandes

From: Monica Campbell <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:41 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica Campbell

From: Deborah Circello <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:41 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Deborah Circello

From: Nicolas Rodewyk [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:41 AM
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Sincerely,

Nicolas Rodewyk

From: Addison Calcagnini [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 11:41 AM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Addison Calcagnini

From: renee choi[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

renee choi

From: Kristy Turner[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristy Turner

From: Alex Townsend <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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Sincerely,

Alex Townsend

From: Rae Johnson <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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Sincerely,

Rae Johnson

From: KIMBERLY SCHMIDT <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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Sincerely,

KIMBERLY SCHMIDT

From: Jordan Taffel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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Sincerely,

Jordan Taffel

From: KIMBERLY SCHMIDT [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
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Sincerely,

KIMBERLY SCHMIDT

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Peter Angerer[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Peter Angerer

Sincerely,

Peter Angerer

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Sophia Aquila [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sophia Aquila

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Sincerely,

Krista Londos

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To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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Krista Londos

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To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Tatiana González [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:10 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tatiana González

From: Leah Korce [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leah Korce

From: Samantha Guldemundt [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samantha Guldemundt

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Krista Londos

From: Krista Londos[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:11 PM
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Krista Londos

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Mandy Kühn[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mandy Kühn

From: Krista Londos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Krista Londos[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Londos

From: Michelle Nakoff [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Nakoff

From: Patricia Schneider[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Schneider

From: Natasha Kellar[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natasha Kellar

From: Jantal Osteen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jantal Osteen

From: Cassandra Gallina[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Gallina

From: Ina Stinus [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ina Stinus

From: Rina Lindemuth[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rina Lindemuth

From: Géraldine Fontaine [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Géraldine Fontaine

From: Matthew Lugauskas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Matthew Lugauskas

From: Irene Mitropoulos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Irene Mitropoulos

From: "Derrick Legg" [redacted]
To: "Erule.comments" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:44 PM
Subject: Check out my photos on Facebook

Hi Derrick,

I set up a Facebook profile where I can post my pictures, videos and events and I want to add you as a friend so you can see it. First, you need to join Facebook! Once you join, you can also create your own profile.

Thanks,
Derrick

To sign up for Facebook, follow the link below:
http://www.facebook.com/p.php?i=100003464782769&k=AQB2O_LfWdAhGYnybgdUk3M6cos1O8NpbSB8MF8pB8hcvP3Tei1ywel1n0WIeR2ihfv0r9pihpmMxlmwtHap1hpgScs&r

Already have an account? Add this email address to your account:
[redacted]

==========
This message was sent to erule.comments@license.state.tx.us. If you don't want to receive these emails from Facebook in the future, please follow the link below to unsubscribe.
http://www.facebook.com/o.php?k=4a7a05&u=100000167034084&mid=5b085f1G5af31a6efce4G0G8
Facebook, Inc. Attention: Department 415 P.O Box 10005 Palo Alto CA 94303

From: Amanda Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Smith

From: Brittany Negro[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brittany Negron

From: Alan Mills[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alan Mills

From: Kelsy Sweene[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelsy Sweeney

From: Valentina Gambino [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Valentina Gambino

From: Adolfo Lopez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adolfo Lopez

From: Sarah Gouliard[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:40 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gouliard

From: Marissa Flores [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marissa Flores

From: Jacqueline Lemons[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Lemons

From: Ana Brave[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ana Bravo

From: Anja Krause [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anja Krause

From: Quinn Deery[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Quinn Deery

From: Nicole Roberts[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicole Roberts

From: Sandi Deitrich[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sandi Deitrich

From: Dan Skube[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 1:41 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dan Skube

From: Carmela Flores[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carmela Flores

From: Natalie Sperling[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natalie Sperling

From: Skay Young [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Skay Young

From: Heidi Cash[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heidi Cash

From: Elizabeth Loebl [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Loebl

From: P Rutherford[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

P Rutherford

From: Sam Redford [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sam Redford

From: Patrice Helmuth[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrice Helmuth

From: Courtney Glondeniz[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Courtney Glondeniz

From: Brittany Atkinson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brittany Atkinson

From: manuela menconi [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

manuela menconi

From: Billy Laura[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Billy Laura

From: Laura Gentry [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Gentry

From: Laura Armstron[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Armstrong

From: Mark Armstrong [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Armstrong

From: Billy Armstrong [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Billy Armstrong

From: Amy Steindl[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amy Steindl

From: Beau Pieraccini [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beau Pieraccini

From: Billy Laura [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
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Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Billy Laura

From: Laura Aol[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:11 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Aol

From: Emelie Grönberg[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emelie Grönberg

From: L Vresloot [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

L Vresloot

From: Patrick Fisher [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Fisher

From: Chris Mercer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Mercer

From: Lindsay Conklin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Conklin

From: Tatum Oerth [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:24 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tatum Oerth

From: Mark Rea[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Rea

From: Anastasia Katsagoni [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anastasia Katsagoni

From: Mark Hofmann [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Hofmann

From: Kyra Shields [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kyra Shields

From: Stephanie Hilbert[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 2:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Hilbert

From: hanna medley[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:05 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

hanna medley

From: Tim Victorella[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tim Victorella

From: Carrina Rowe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carrina Rowe

From: Rachel Murphy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Murphy

From: Laura Juarez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Juarez

From: Caitlin Mino[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Minor

From: Shabana Akhtar [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shabana Akhtar

From: Merilyn Stone <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Merilyn Stone

From: Rochelle Pincus[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Pincus

From: Keren Bar [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Keren Bar

From: Bettina Reithmeier [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bettina Reithmeier

From: Konstanze Radke[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Konstanze Radke

From: Rosemary Gorora [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Gorora

From: Rachel Wilding [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Wilding

From: Aurélie Tagarroso [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aurélie Tagarroso

From: Nick Brannam[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nick Brannam

From: Ciara Wagner <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ciara Wagner

From: Roxanne Delgado [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Delgado

From: Bonnie Loeffler[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Loeffler

From: Kathrin Terwiel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathrin Terwiel

From: Eloise Loof, [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eloise Loof

From: Stefanie Krehbiel[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Krehbiel

From: Lydia Daniel[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lydia Daniel

From: Hiroya Orimo[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hiroya Orimo

From: Jeff Lee [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Lee

From: Judith Kreuze[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judith Kreuzer

From: Umbertamaria Maggioni[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Umbertamaria Maggioni

From: Robin Wiedemann [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robin Wiedemann

From: Layla Rosario [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Layla Rosario

From: Shannon Cowett [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shannon Cowett

From: Sarah Purdy[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Purdy

From: Mateo Navarrete [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mateo Navarrete

From: Chrissi Jans [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chrissi Jans

From: Chrissi Jans[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chrissi Jans

From: Hanna Wettergren [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hanna Wettergren

From: Rhonda House [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rhonda House

From: Natasha Harrison [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natasha Harrison

From: Carolin Herter[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carolin Herter

From: Lisa deMontmollin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa deMontmollin

From: "Doster, Terry (Terry Doster)" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:02 PM
Subject: Proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Terry Doster
[redacted]

From: Stephen Hope [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:02 PM
Subject: Animals do not deserve Un-kindness.

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is unkind.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. We can do better than this.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Put lives before profits and God will reward your life.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Stephen Hope

[redacted]

--
Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.
- Jesus

From: Chrisy luder [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:02 PM
Subject: breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. No human would ever function properly on wire flooring, neither should an animal. If they already have limited space let us make an effort to make that space functional.
2. Stacking cages is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below, and such conditions for an extened period of time can create health problems.
3. Any surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal should only be performed by a licensed veterinarian. Without proper credentials these procedures can lead to infection.
4. If leaving a dog in extreme heat or cold can be grounds for animal cruelty, these breeders should have the same regulations.

By allowing these breeders to operate under "minor requirements" we are condoning the mistreatment of animals. Someone has to be their voice.
Respectfully,
Christina Luder
[redacted]

From: Mary Jacques [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:02 PM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Mary Jacques, RN

From: "Burt, Ann" [redacted]
To: "'erule.comments@license.state.tx.us'" <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
CC: "Ellis, Jana" [redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 3:04 PM
Subject: ADVOCACY FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT SPEAK

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us<mailto:erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto. This is very important to many; especially to those who cannot represent themselves.
Sincerely,

Ann Burt
[redacted]

From: Robin Bollman [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:04 PM
Subject: action needed

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Robin Bollman
[redacted]

From: Kathy Clark [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:05 PM
Subject: Rights of Animals - Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kathy and Roland Clark

[redacted]

From: Betty Bruffy [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:08 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Conditions

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Betty Bruffy
[redacted]

From: Kathleen Kelly [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:09 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kathleen Kelly
[redacted]

From: "Mark Coleman" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:10 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

I was outraged when I found the dog that I purchased was from a puppy mill. Within days of arriving home, I knew my new dog was very ill. We spent many months at the veterinarians office- at great expense to me. The veterinarian said he had never seen a dog with as many health issues as my new dog. I was determined to give the dog a fighting chance to have a healthy happy home. When neighbors complained to city officials about her puppy mill (which housed over 100 dogs) and along with my complaints- she just moved. I was told, she probably continued her operation in another county. She was very deceptive and had her clients fooled for she looked like a sweet little lady. I was outraged that the lady thought more of her needs of money, than the needs of animals in her "care". Sadly, she was not prosecuted and 100's of animals suffered under her neglect. You cannot trust that she didn't open elsewhere. She could be licensed in the State of Texas today.

I urge you to do everything in your power to stop this kind of abuse. There is no excuse to allow breeder facilities to become inhumane. It's is the responsibility of the breeder to provide a healthy, sanitary and temperature controlled home for their animals. They should be faced with as many regulations needed to protect the animals in their care.

I am asking you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

Please prohibit use of wire flooring and stacking of cages. Having animals spend their life on a wire floor with urine and feces falling on them is unhealthy.

Please prohibit any non-veterinarians to performing surgical procedures including ear cropping, tail docking, debarking and dew-claw removal. Only a licensed vet should be allowed to accomplish these tasks.

Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best effort" regarding temperature control. This is Texas- where the weather can be extreme and this term is vague. There should be clear minimum standards spelled out.

There should be no "grandfathering" of any existing breeder mills.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Regards,

Mark Coleman

[redacted]

From: Farrah Suarez [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:10 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Farrah Suarez
[redacted]

From: A F [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:10 PM
Subject: Changes to Texas Puppy Mill bill.....Please.....
Attachments: puppy-mill.jpg; puppy-rescue-adoption-2.jpg; Press_Relase_1.jpg; Press_Relase_2.jpg

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. Often these dogs do not get the proper pain medications and antibiotics when performed by non-veterinarians and can easily be injured and often are.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Amber Fisher
[redacted]

From: Melissa Swick [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:11 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Thank you!

Melissa Swick
[redacted]

From: Audrey Reyburn [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Audrey Reyburn

From: María Guadalupe Sexto Rota [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

María Guadalupe Sexto Rota

From: Martina Quast [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martina Quast

From: Sabrina Nishijima [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Nishijima

From: Sverre Bjotveit [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sverre Bjotveit

From: Lauren Buckner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lauren Buckner

From: "Jayne Gillis" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:13 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jayne Gillis

[redacted]

From: Jill Bazzy[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill Bazzy

From: "De Lila Cihat" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:13 PM
Subject: Strengthen breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

De Lila Cihat, [redacted]

From: Sara Peace [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Peace

From: Betsy [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:13 PM
Subject: URGENT: dog & cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Betsy Power
[redacted]

From: Karen Broussard Marlow [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:14 PM
Subject: Please read...

My name is Karen Marlow. And I am writing to ask that the proposed regulations for dog and cat breeders please be reconsidered and strengthened. Please.

I will not take up much more of your time, but please allow me to share one short story with you. My first, and sadly not last, experience with the mistreatment of animals occurred years ago, during an uninvited visit to the Dog Lab of a medical school teaching facility. I was simply searching for a medical student friend. As it turned out, there was no one in the lab but me. When I turned to exit, I heard a whimper and quiet cry of a dog like none I had heard before. I followed the sound to find and see something I have never forgotten. A poor, helpless dog was on his back, with all four paws stretched and tied to the four corners of the examining table. The dog was split open from top to bottom with some of his organs exposed. And the anesthesia was wearing off. And no one... No med student... No doctor... NO ONE was there to help that poor animal. I soon learned that this poor precious animal most likely came from the type of breeders that I believe you are attempting to control.

So, I ask... No, I beg that you use ALL OF THE POWER THAT YOU PERSONALLY HAVE and kindly make some serious changes.

Thank you for your time.

Passionately,
Karen B. Marlow

Sent from my iPhone

From: "Dee Schweinsburg"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:14 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Dee Schweinsburg
[redacted]

From: Sarah Purdy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Purdy

From: "Richard Herder" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:14 PM
Subject: Puppy mills and the conditions therein

Rebecca Herder

[redacted]

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. These breeding animals deserve better. I can't imagine that you would allow your beloved pet to spend its entire life on a wire floor. Certainly this is most cruel and thoughtless.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. How could anyone ever consider this to be sanitary or healthy? Would you like to be in a cage where the dog above you is continually raining urine/feces onto you?

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. My daughter in law is a vet and finds most of these procedures questionable, but if they must be done, why can we not hire a vet to do this?

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you in advance for considering my comments as having any potential value in your consideration regarding this manner.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Herder

From: Mie Petersen[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:15 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Mie Petersen
[redacted]

From: Guadalupe Jimenez [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:15 PM
Subject: Wrong

It's wrong what I was informed about it's bad :(

little lupe

From: Laura Banham [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:16 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Banham

From: Luisa Ferrao [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:16 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luisa Ferrao

From: "Ruth Seeliger" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:16 PM
Subject: Regulations for Dog and Cat Breeders
Attachments: PixelServer?j=SOEP59R45kx-F6SMwH8yIA

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. I have seven rescue cats. Although we have hardwood and vinyl flooring, the throw rugs are their favorite spots for resting. They are conscious beings that are responsive to affection, patience and caring. Cage breeding with no comfort amenities is cruel, and in my opinion, criminal.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of wire cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. This is no better than the poultry industry, where chickens are given antibiotics to overcome the diseases caused by feces dropping through the cages. Any animal deserves the right to a healthy life, especially when hoping to be adopted.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. How would you like to have your fingers cut off by a novice? How long would it take for infection to set in? The same for tampering with vocal chords, or removing finger or toenails? These are conscious beings that come from the same Life Source as we do and deserve the respect of being cared for with expertise and compassion.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened. Regulations ultimately help breeders by providing a healthier environment for the animals they hope to sell.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." This is like considering humans "cash crop", which unfortunately many non-compassionate people do. Humans have a choice to be compassionate or not. The rewards of choosing compassion far outweighs any profit made by inhumane treatment of a living being. What goes around, comes around.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ruth Seeliger
[redacted]

From: Katherine Head [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:16 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katherine Head

From: Stephanie Hilbert [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:16 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Hilbert

From: Susan Lefler [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:16 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Lefler

From: "Peace, Ramona" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:17 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages on top of one another. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully and kindly yours,
Ramona Peace
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| www.WM.com<file:///\\Txhous10fps09\RPeace$\Ramona's\www.WM.com> | ||'|"\,__
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[redacted]

Waste Management recycles enough paper every year to save 41 million trees. Please recycle any printed emails.

From: Brian Cover [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:17 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Brian Cover
[redacted]

From: alex klimkov [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:18 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Alex Klimkov
[redacted]

From: Aliyah Robertson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:18 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aliyah Robertson

From: Howard Haryanto[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:20 PM
Subject: Puppy mills

> Dear Ms. Rinard:
>
> I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
>
> 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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> 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
>
> 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
>
> 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
>
> In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
>
> Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> Howard Haryanto
[redacted]
>

From: "Sarah Fallon" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:21 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Sarah Fallon

[redacted] [redacted]

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From: "Gary and Donna Burrows" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:21 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop".

Regards,

Donna Burrows

[redacted]

From: Christina Grushkin[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:21 PM
Subject: PUPPY MILL BILL NEEDS SOME REVISIONS
Attachments: ASPCA_1.jpg; ASPCA_2.jpg

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
PLEASE LOOK AT THE ATTACHED PHOTOS. WOULD YOU WANT YOUR PET IN THESE CONDITIONS??!!!! PUPPY MILLS/BREEDERS SHOULDN'T EVEN BE ALLOWED ANYMORE.

Respectfully,

Christina Grushkin
[redacted]

From: Liz Scallan[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:22 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard: I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,Liz Scallan
[redacted]

From: "Eda, Stephanie J"[redacted]
To: "'erule.comments@license.state.tx.us'" <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/10/2012 3:22 PM
Subject: strengthen breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. Help us promote healthy and humane breeding practices for those who raise cats and dogs in the state of Texas.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Eda

[redacted]

From: "HOFFMAN, JOY PATRICIA [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:22 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is cruel, unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Joy P Hoffman
[redacted]

From: "Jennifer Shanahan" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:22 PM
Subject: Please make a change!!!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

Can you imagine living your entire life in a cage, without sun, exercise, or love? It is incredibly sad to think that any living being has to live like this. Please take a stand and make a difference to help change the way these poor dogs are treated. At some point, humanity has got to win over the need to make money at all costs.

I urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. Can you imagine the pain they must go through having to stand, sit and sleep on a wire floor?

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. Can you imagine living in other peoples excrements? It is humans that force these poor animals to be in this situation. People who have brains, hearts and the ability to know this is wrong, but do it to make more money.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

G. Jennifer Sindelar Shanahan

[redacted]

Websites:

[redacted]

From: Sue Somers [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:23 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sue Somers
[redacted]

From: Gretchen Heather [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:25 PM
Subject: Issues with the Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
[redacted]

From: John Chamberlain [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:26 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am requesting you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th by including the following:

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their lives on wire floors is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking and dew claw removal. These procedures should only be performed by licensed veterinarians.

4. Please remove references to licensed breeders using their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened,* not* weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death in the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Chamberlain
[redacted]

From: amal melhem [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:29 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Amal Melhem-bertrandt
[redacted]

From: corliss walker [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:29 PM
Subject: Proposed Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am a animal lover (I have 2 dogs) & I am writing today asking you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Corliss A. Walker
[redacted]

--
*Corliss A. Walker
[redacted]
"Failure was never one of my options"
"To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late & to be late is to be dismissed"

From: Clark, John [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:30 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.1) Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities, having animals spend their entire life on wire floor is cruel, and inhumane.
2) Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3) Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These procedures should be performed by liscensed veterinarians.
4) Please remove all references to a lisenced breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phase is is vague, ambiguous, and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills.Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals as "cash crop."

Respectfully,

Tara Lynn Clark
[redacted]

From: Josh Rust [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:32 PM
Subject: From an animal lover

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Your Name
Street Address
City, State Zip
Phone Number
Email Address

Regards,

Josh Rust

Thorntree

[redacted]

From: "Juan Carlos Lozano" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:32 PM
Subject: Regulations

Ms. Melissa Rinard

Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Best Regards,

Juan Carlos Lozano

[redacted]

From: Emil Loewe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
CC: <dekumar@pvamu.edu>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:33 PM
Subject: Proposed Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Rose Loewe
[redacted]

From: Adrienne Low [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:34 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Adrienne

From: Daiquiri Lucas [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill legislation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I had no idea that Texas law currently allows animals to be treated inhumanely, including the use of wire-floored cages, allowing the stacking of those cages, allowing non-veteraniarians to perform procedures, etc. I volunteer at the Houston SPCA and even though they treat their animals very well, seeing them confined to cages day after day is hard enough as it is. Imagining what goes on at "puppy mills" and the like brings me to tears. PLEASE do what you can to change these practices.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Daiquiri Lucas
[redacted]

From: kimberly jarrell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:35 PM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kim Jarrell
[redacted]

From: Bria [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:37 PM
Subject: Texas Registry

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bria Scott

[redacted]

From: Cynthia Darden [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:38 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Cynthia Darden
[redacted]

From: "Glenn & Susan Ramsey" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:38 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills !!!!

[redacted]

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Susan Ramsey

From: "Kathleen Dix" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:38 PM
Subject: Cruelty to Animals

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kathleen B. Dix

[redacted]

From: Susan Schaffner [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:39 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Susan Schaffner
[redacted]

From: KEITH LASSEIGNE [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:40 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal requirements which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no grandfathering of existing breeder mills. dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. I appreciate your consideration in revising the regulations.

In the words of Gandi " The measure of a society can be how well its people treat its animals."

Sincerely,

Keith Lasseigne

[redacted]

From: Peggy Burt [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:41 PM
Subject: COMMENTS & RECS to the PROPOSED RULES GOVERNING LICENSED BREEDERS in TEXAS

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us<mailto:erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Peggy Burt

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Jean Anne Spivey [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Jean Anne Spivey
[redacted]

From: "Katie Lipari" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kathryn Lipari

[redacted]

From: "Kim Nuzzo" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: Strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to ask to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. More legislation is needed to protect these innocent animals. I am asking for the following:

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

These changes will make the Texas dog and cat breeding industry more humane and in the end produce healthier and happier dogs and cats that will be sold throughout our state and our country.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim Nuzzo
[redacted]

From: Micwolf485[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: stop puppy millls

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Deborah Michielson
[redacted]

From: Kulpreet Kaur [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kulpreet Kaur

From: Kulpreet Kaur[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kulpreet Kaur

From: Martin Waghorn [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martin Waghorn

From: Alina S [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alina S

From: Anna Wasinska [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:42 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anna Wasinska

From: Jillian Hacker [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jillian Hacker

From: Rebecca Lopez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lopez

From: Ana Bravo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ana Bravo

From: Chelsea Feneley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Feneley

From: Rick Poindexter[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rick Poindexter

From: Bart Grach[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bart Grach

From: Khadejhia Kassenbrock [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards!

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Khadejhia Kassenbrock

From: Kathryn Matthews[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Matthews

From: Sheila Morris [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sheila Morris

From: Alexandria Hahlweg [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alexandria Hahlweg

From: Jordan Kasteler [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jordan Kasteler

From: susan stanford [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

susan stanford

From: shar kramer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

shar kramer

From: Sharon Philips [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

PLEASE STRENGTHEN the regulations on animal breeding facilities in Texas. It is SHAMEFUL the inhumane treatment and conditions these poor animals live and die in. This is a PREVENTABLE injustice.

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Philips

From: ELke Gonzalez[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

ELke Gonzalez

From: Claudia Masters [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Please ask yourself how YOU would like to stand barefoot on wire everyday, day after day. How would you like to spend every day in a cage where feces and urine could drip onto you from the cages above you?
A grandfather clause is not appropriate. Just because these puppy mill breeders were allowed to torment and neglect their animals in the past shouldn't give them the right to continue to do so. That makes no sense whatsoever.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claudia Masters

From: Deborah Livingston [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah Livingston

From: "Rev. Russell Elleven" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rev. Russell Elleven

From: Ashtyn Lammers[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashtyn Lammers

From: Beth Wheeler [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Wheeler

From: Suzette Puig[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzette Puig

From: Lauren Hennebury [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lauren Hennebury

From: Diana Jung [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diana Jung

From: Suzette Spanhel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzette Spanhel

From: Deborah Scott [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah Scott

From: Casey Griffin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Casey Griffin

From: Serafine Klarwein [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Serafine Klarwein

From: Magdalena Arzola [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Magdalena Arzola

From: Sarah Phillips [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Phillips

From: Olivia King [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Olivia King

From: Bonnie Williams [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Williams

From: Sílvia Peixe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sílvia Peixe

From: Hollee Martin[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hollee Martin

From: Rosemary Gorora [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Rosemary Gorora

From: Kaye Mc Call[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Kaye Mc Call

From: Pauline Moore [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pauline Moore

From: Sandra Woodall [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sandra Woodall

From: Anthony Dean [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anthony Dean

From: Samantha Duffy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samantha Duffy

From: Lyndsay Sullivan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lyndsay Sullivan

From: Mary Long [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Long

From: Cassia Santa Helena [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cassia Santa Helena

From: Cisca Hausman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cisca Hausman

From: Kathy Comfort [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Comfort

From: ana bobbio [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

ana bobbio

From: Catherine Duchesne [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Duchesne

From: Janice Le Flore [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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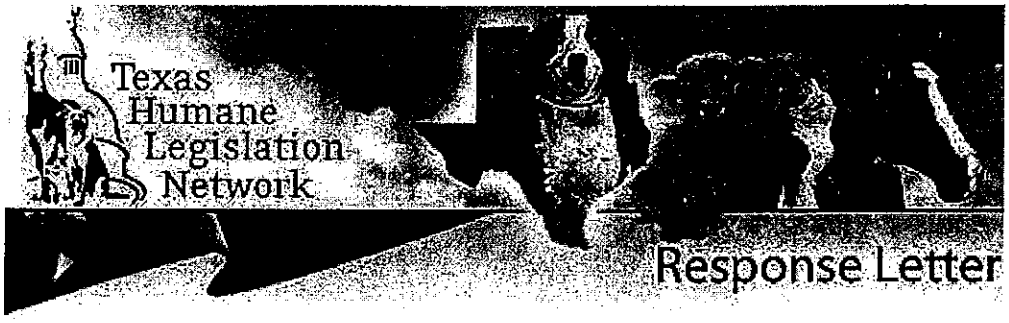
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janice Le Flore



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

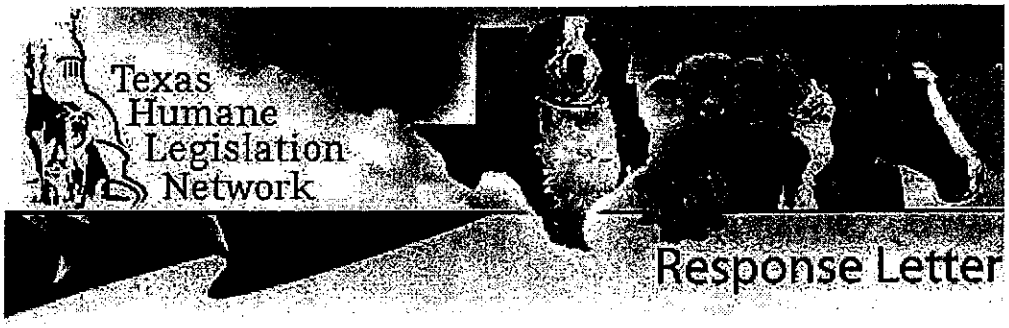
Kandon Sloan

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 10:17:28 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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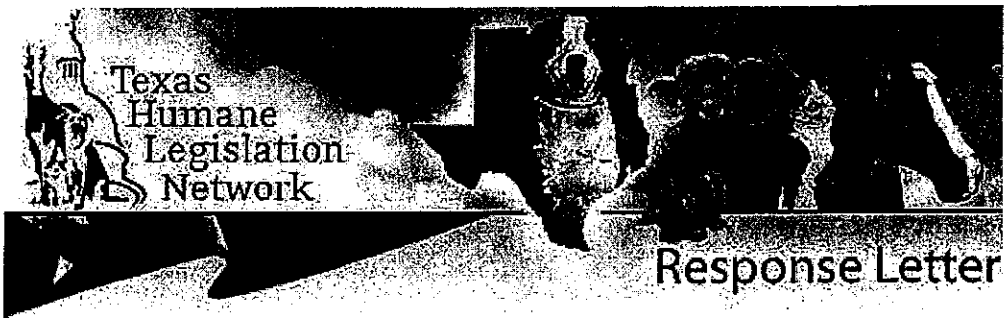
Respectfully submitted,

Cathrine Kinslow
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 10:07:05 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Wise
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 10:04:48 PM

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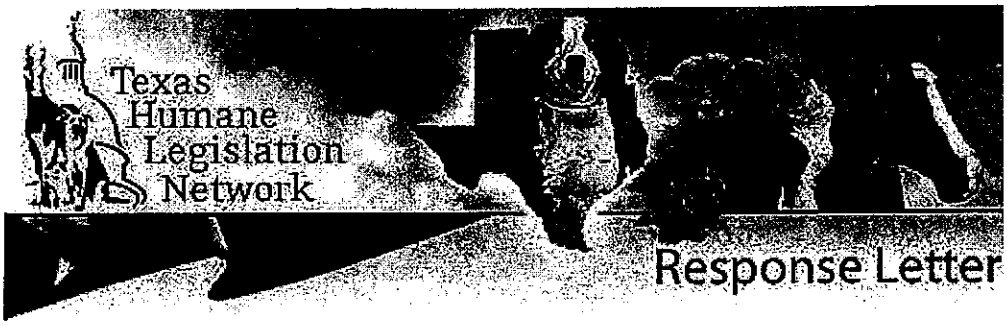

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Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Wiesman

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 9:49:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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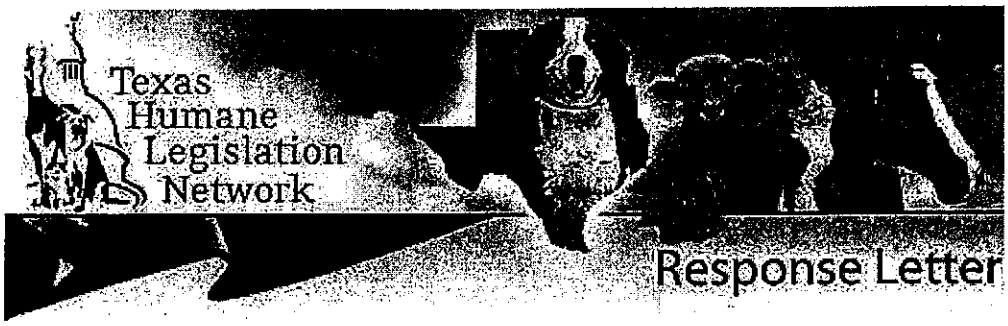

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Wiesman

[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 9:49:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Erule. Comments - Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

From: "Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN)" [redacted]
To: "Ms. Melissa Rinard - Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/16/2012 10:34 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations
CC: Richard Guillen [redacted]

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Guillen
[redacted]

SENT 02.16.12 at 9:33:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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From: "Key, Janet S." [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:36 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

Because animals have no voice, I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Janet Key
[redacted]

From: Melanie Aleman[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:36 PM
Subject: Strength Cat and Dog Breeder Registration

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

There are thousands of animals (not just cats and dogs) that are euthanized every year because they cannot be adopted, while animals also suffer from breeder mills. If we could prevent these mills perhaps more animals can be adopted and thousands of lives can be saved.
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
--
*Melanie C. Aleman
[redacted]
personal email: melaniecaleman@gmail.com
*online portfolio: melaniecaleman.com
deviantart: tuplicka8785.deviantart.com/*

From: Meleen [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:37 PM
Subject: Dog & cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Meleen L. Drewery

[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From: Dalinda Cauble [redacted]
To: '"erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/10/2012 2:37 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Dalinda Cauble
[redacted]

From: Maggie Hahn [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:37 PM
Subject: PROPOSED DOG & CAT BREEDER REGULATIONS

Ms Melissa Rinard

Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office

Texas Department of Licensing & Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Margaret Hahn
[redacted]

From: Bryan Choi [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:37 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bryan Choi

From: John Wilson [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:38 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
John F. Wilson
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:38 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas registry on Jan.20

Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. They have a right to live in a better place because they are living things and this is cruel. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and it allows faces and urine to fall on the animals below. Please prohibit non veterinarias from performing surgical procedures. This puts the animals lives on risk. Dogs and cats currently living in this horrible conditions should not be sentenced to a suffering and painful death at the hands of people who consider animals as cash crop. I am an animal lover and I want animals to be treated with the respect and love that they deserve.

Thank you for your time, for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Angela Galvan
[redacted]

Sent from my HTC on the Now Network from Sprint!

From: Martha Rodriguez [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:38 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Martha Rodriguez
[redacted]

From: Debbie Trimue [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:38 PM
Subject: Strengthen the Proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations as Published in the Texas Registry on January 20th

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Deborah Trimue

[redacted]

From: Andrea McMunn <[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:39 PM
Subject: dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Sincerely,
Andrea Tedori
[redacted]

From: Polina Solis[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:39 PM
Subject: Dog Breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

--
Polina Solis, MBA
[redacted]

From: "Sue Duffield" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:39 PM
Subject: Request for stronger, clearer provisions in dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing to support the SPCA request for stronger provisions in the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Susan L. Duffield

[redacted]

From: Kate Ribe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:39 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kate Ribe
[redacted]

From: "Roe,Kimberly" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:39 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills-More Changes Needed

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Roe
[redacted]

NOTE: NO animal should ever have to live in these conditions. WE are the only advocates they have.

From: Christina Stevens [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM
Subject: Consider new regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Christina Stevens
[redacted]

From: Amy Coquyt [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM
Subject: Please Stop Protecting Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Amy Coquyt

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM
Subject: Fw: Urgent Alert From the Houston SPCA

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Patricia Boyd
[redacted]

From: Chris Collins [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In
addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully
CHRIS COLLINS [redacted]

This electronic transmission and any attached documents or other writings are intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify sender by return e-mail and destroy the communication. Any disclosure, copying, distribution or the taking of any action concerning the contents of this communication or any attachments by anyone other than the named recipient is strictly prohibited.

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM

My name is Dale Francis .Ive been raising dogs for many years and what your doing by putting dogs and other animals stacked on top of each other is a disscrace.we call the dogs,cats,and etc. animals.Iam not sure that we the humans are the animals.think about it.How would you feel if you had to live in such a way.God would be ashamed of the way his gifts to us was being treated.Grow up and do the human thing.

---

53 Year Old Mom Looks 33
The Stunning Results of Her Wrinkle Trick Has Botox Doctors Worried
http://thirdpartyoffers.netzero.net/TGL3241/4f35806fbc2d7120bc57st02duc

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM
Subject: Dog and cat Breeder regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Michelle Wang
[redacted]

Michelle

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Michelle Hiseley

From: "Kerry McEniry" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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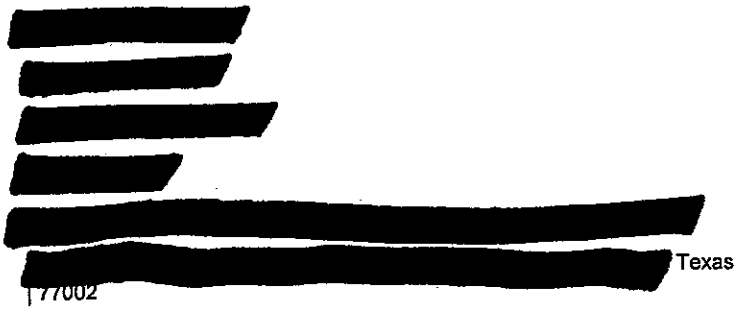
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

5. In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,



From: Brandi Garcia [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:40 PM
Subject: puppy mill bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
[redacted]

From: Bonnie H [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:41 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

All of the above are cruel, inhumane and should be considered illegal.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

From: Amy Hamilton [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:42 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

And seriously, who are the types of people who could possibly be opposed to the above requests?

Respectfully,

Amy Hamilton
[redacted]

From: Jonna Provine [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:42 PM
Subject: Enforcement of breeder regulations

Sent from my iPad

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jonna Provine
[redacted]

From: "bedberg" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:42 PM
Subject: Outrage over Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. I am using the Humane Society's guideline letter because it is quicker and I am very busy trying to make a living. Please appreciate the fact that I am outraged about this and will take the time to rally my troops.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Beverly Edberg
[redacted]

From: Joann Lucadou[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:42 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Joann Lucadou
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:42 PM
Subject: Unhealthy Conditions for Dogs and Cats

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sherry Jones
[redacted]

From: DENNIS CHAMEKA [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Chameka Dennis
[redacted]

'A woman's heart should be so hidden in Christ that a man
should have to seek Him first to find her.'
-Maya Angelou

From: Katharina Sindlhauser[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katharina Sindlhauser

From: Sam Redford[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sam Redford

From: Katherine Black [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Yours truly,
Katherine Black Fortune

[redacted]

From: Paige Arnold [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Registration

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Paige Arnold
[redacted]

From: Maddie Alberts[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maddie Alberts

From: Darlene Cruz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darlene Cruz

From: Katelyn Koski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katelyn Koski

From: jaqueline wales [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

jaqueline wales

From: Christopher Robertson[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher Robertson

From: Fernando Acevedo [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Concerned Citizen

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Fernando Acevedo
[redacted]

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From: Jeanne Piehl [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Piehl

From: Holly Taylor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Holly Taylor

From: Ashley Riedel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: Attention

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Riedel

From: mark porter [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

mark porter

From: Hsi-Tai Yao [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: Puppy mill regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Te-Fen Chen
[redacted]

From: Hayley Eldridge [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hayley Eldridge

From: s c[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

s c

From: Stephan Richard-Gervais [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephan Richard-Gervais

From: Julie Mortensen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Mortensen

From: Krissie Fahden [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:45 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krissie Fahden

From: Lisa Maxwell-Wright [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:45 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Maxwell-Wright

From: Adriana Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:45 PM
Subject: Strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Adriana Smith
[redacted]

Adriana

From: Elizabeth Smith[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:45 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Smith
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:45 PM
Subject: Strengthen breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Sally Irizarry
[redacted]

From: Jessica Pieczonka[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:46 PM
Subject: Strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jessica Pieczonka

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:47 PM
Subject: Attn Melissa Rinard, proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing you as the "mama" of a four year old cavalier king charles spaniel. I am writing you to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

I consider my dog like my child and it breaks my heart to think that people can treat animals so cruelly and profit from it. Please help these animals who can't help or defend themselves. They deserve the right to have a life outside of a cage and a life not underneath another animal that has no place else to urinate and defecate. They deserve to not live their life as puppy "factories". They deserve at least this.

I go out of my way to give my dog the best life I can give her. And I'm sure that more than a few people might think that I go overboard. But, what we're asking for these dogs to have is fundamental. Clean food and water, a little bit of time outdors, a real floor to stand on, not to have their cage full of urine or feces, and proper medical attention. And for this process not to be perpetuated because the jerks who do this to them can make a profit by some well-meaning family going to a petstore or a store parking lot and purchasing one of these puppies.

I'm sure that there are many other pressing issues on your agenda, but this shouldn't be allowed to continue. Please please take this into consideration.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Desiree Halsor
[redacted]

From: Keely Mendoza [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:47 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Keely Mendoza
[redacted]

From: "Hermann, Mary" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:47 PM
Subject: Animal regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. I used to breed Australian Shepherds myself and I am appalled at the wording of the proposed regulations!
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Mary-Jo Hermann
[redacted]

****
NABORS EMAIL NOTICE - This transmission may be strictly confidential. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you may not disclose, print, copy, or disseminate this information. If you have received this in error, please reply and notify the sender (only) and delete the message. Unauthorized interception of this e-mail is a violation of federal criminal law. This communication does not reflect an intention by the sender or the sender's principal to conduct a transaction or make any agreement by electronic means. Nothing contained in this message or in any attachment shall satisfy the requirements for a writing, and nothing contained herein shall constitute a contract or electronic signature under the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, any version of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, or any other statute governing electronic transactions.

From: June Goolsby [redacted]
To: erule comments <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Please help Ms. Rinard!!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20 th .

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Please help us fight against the abuse of all dogs and cats!

Respectfully,

June Goolsby
[redacted]

From: Jennifer Cheramie [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Cheramie
[redacted]

From: Jennifer Gulch[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Jennifer Gulch
[redacted]

From: "Aiello, Lindsay" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lindsay Aiello | [redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:50 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Christina Del Greco
[redacted]

From: "Deborah L Whitehead" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:50 PM
Subject: Proposed rules regarding the licensing and regulation of dog and cat breeders

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Deborah L Whitehead

[redacted]

From: Loretta Bonds[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:50 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
L. Bonds
[redacted]

From: "marconnie" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:50 PM
Subject: puppy mill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you

Connie Whaley

[redacted]

From: "Debbie Benningfield" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:51 PM
Subject: Proposed Dog and Cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Debbie Benningfield
[redacted]

---

53 Year Old Mom Looks 33
The Stunning Results of Her Wrinkle Trick Has Botox Doctors Worried
http://thirdpartyoffers.juno.com/TGL3141/4f3582d2c5de1110eb3fst05duc

From: "D Nelson" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:51 PM
Subject: animal breeding regulations

Miss Rinard,

Please prohibit the use of wire flooring in cages for breedrs or any pet owners. It causes terrible harm to their feet the build up of urine and feces and the breeders feel they can stack the cages which allows the urine and feces to fall down on the animals beneath them. This is deplorable! Any form of poor kenneling and treatment of innocent animals should be out -lawed. Please consider what it must be like for these poor animals and stand up for them as they can't speak for themselves.

Thank you,

Debra S. Nelson

From: "Lacy Grimes" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:51 PM
Subject: Proposed Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

As Texans, we should be proud to show respect for our animals and should not hesitate when it comes to strengthening regulations on breeding.

Respectfully,

Lacy M. Grimes

[redacted]

From: Alicia Bishop [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:51 PM
Subject: Breeders

This is shameful and disgusting that this is currently allowed.
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Alicia bishop

[redacted]

From: Ivonne Tostado[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:53 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Ivonne B. Tostado
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:53 PM
Subject: strengthening proposed legislation

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
Please prohibit the following:

1. use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane;
2. stacking of cages above one level as this is extremely unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below;
3. non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal as these procedures should only be preformed by a licensed veterinarian;
4. all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control as this phrasing is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
R. E. Chaumier
[redacted]

From: Shreerekha Subramanian[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:54 PM
Subject: Please help stop cruelty against animals.

Dear Ms. Rinard:I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In
addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully,Shreerekha Subramanian[redacted]

From: Ann Nava [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:55 PM
Subject: Bill on Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today urging you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. We must prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. It's cruel and inhumane for animals to spend their entire lives on a wire floor.
2. Stacking cages above one level is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. Eeek, this is horrible! Please vote to stop this.
3. We can't let non-veterinarians perform surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. This is dangerous to the animals. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. And will you please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control? "Best efforts" is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable and it weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened.

In addition, existing breeder mills should not be grandfathered in. Dogs and cats currently living in these deplorable conditions, very common in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals whose only interest in animals is for profit.

Thank you for listening and considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Ann Nava
[redacted]

From: "Kerwin, Nealan" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:56 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Ms. Nealan C. Kerwin
[redacted]

This email message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information of Cameron and its Operating Divisions. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and delete and destroy all copies of the original message inclusive of any attachments.

From: Kimberly Shirley [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:57 PM
Subject: Votes

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Kimberly Shirley
[redacted]

From: "K. Casey" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:57 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for your consideration. I trust that you will not bow to the breeders and look at this situation with a caring, humane heart.
Respectfully,Paul and Kathryn Casey [redacted]

From: Allison Saucier[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:57 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Allison Saucier

[redacted]

This letter was copied from the Houston SPCA.

Houston SPCA | 900 Portway Dr. | Houston, TX 77024-8022 | Unsubscribe

Sent from my iPhone=

From: "Bill @HoustonLeather" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:57 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am sure you are receiving many emails regarding the rules which regulate dog and cat breeding facilities but I beg you to look at this problem through a mother's eye. Would you want your children raised in such a manner as many thousands of hapless animals in our beautiful state? I am sure your answer is no and for that reason we must implement regulations that would severely punish those that who profit from the anguish and pain of those in our lives that are so defenseless. Please speak for the animals who can not speak for themselves and are suffering daily behind a veil of anonymity.

I rarely engage in writing to public officials but I have drawn distinct lines in the sand that protect animals and children. We must stand and protect our children and our companion animals. We draw such joy and promise from them that we have an obligation to protect them in all ways. You would protect your children from predators as would I. I feel responsible for all children and animals as they need a emissary to speak for them and push for them when necessary.

I implore you to do that which is morally and humanely proper in your daily efforts on behalf of our companion animals.

I remain sincerely,

Bill Lawrence
Houston, TX

p.s. In case I missed the official talking points in making my case, I have attached same below. Thank you, BL

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th .

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

From: "Skip Kasdorf" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:58 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

C. A. Kasdorf III
[redacted]

Skip Kasdorf

From: Brenda Tristan [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:58 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to
strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Brenda Tristan
[redacted]

From: Holly Sweet [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:59 PM
Subject: strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Holly Sweet

From: "Bill Kinsey" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:59 PM
Subject: Animal Protection

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

B Kinsey
[redacted]

From: "Lisa Manke" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:59 PM
Subject: Animal Cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lisa Manke

[redacted]

Description: [redacted]

Lisa Manke

[redacted]

From: "Angela Stauder" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:00 PM
Subject: strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Angela Stauder
[redacted]

From: Patricia Lankford [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Patricia A Lankford
[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From: Kornelia Peasley[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 PM
Subject: RE: Dog & Cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kornelia Peasley

[redacted]

From: Robert Moon [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Moon
[redacted]

From: Marni Howard [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:01 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Marni Howard
[redacted]

From: Nancy Weiss [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 1:58 PM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rules for HB 1451
Attachments: Comments on proposed regs- Breeders.docx

Please see the attached document with my comments on the proposed rules and regulations for HB 1451.
Thank you.
Nancy Weiss

February 13, 2012

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and1 believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards do not fully meet the goals of HB 1451. The major problem areas in the proposed regulations are as follows: use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112). Each of these concerns is addressed below.

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): I recommend revising to prohibit all wire flooring and eliminating any grandfathering of wire flooring for existing facilities. A phase in period of a year for full compliance could be added.

Cage Stacking: Stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104 should be eliminated or restricted to no more than one on top of another.

Cage Sizes: There should be no exemptions allowed for current licensed breeders. A phase in period of a year or two for full compliance for current breeders could be added.

Veterinary Procedures: Surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking should only be performed by veterinarians not breeders. Please change §91.112 to reflect this.

Temperature: Please delete the phrases "using best efforts" and "for four consecutive hours" in §91.101 and §91.102 as these make enforcement of this rule difficult if not impossible.

Thank you in advance for consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Nancy S. Weiss, PhD, MPH

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 1:34 PM
Subject: Proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Russell
[redacted]

From: Sharon Greco <[redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/13/2012 11:45 AM
Subject: see attached
Attachments: Pup.jpg

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Greco

[redacted]

From: "Laurel Eskridge" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 12:30 PM
Subject: Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Laurel Eskridge

From: Margaret Rodriquez [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/13/2012 3:18 PM
Subject: proposed licensing of dog and cat breeders in Texas
Attachments: Licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas.PDF

Dear Ms. Rinard,

Attached please find my comments regarding the licensing of dog and cat breeders in the state of Texas. I hope you will consider my thoughts in this matter.

Respectfully,

Margaret Rodriquez
Allen, Texas, USA

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Rodriquez

From: Eugene Turner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 11:51 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Eugene Turner
[redacted]

From: August Reichenbach [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:41 AM
Subject: Proposed Rules
Attachments: Scan001.PDF

Please accept the attached.

Thank you,

August

August Reichenbach

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

August Reichenbach

From: Brenda Summers <[redacted]
To: "'erule.comments@license.state.tx.us'" <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/10/2012 11:43 AM
Subject: Rules for licensed breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Brenda Summers

From: "Starr Lockwood" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:32 AM
Subject: Please Help Dogs & Cats in Texas Breeding Mills

I heartedly agree with all of the foregoing comments. Ideally, puppy mills should be outlawed period. Given the fact that it will still exist even if there are no such laws, then all breeders should be required to strictly adhere to the most humane of accommodations for those entrusted into their care. Please speak for those who cannot speak for themselves and make changes to existing laws and create laws where there are none. Further, please provide laws that will allow animal control officers and concerned citizens to make sure that those facilities do adhere to the laws. Provide provision for punishment for neglecting and/or disregarding the welfare of these living beings. Thank you.

Starr Lockwood

[redacted]

4 priority issues that must be changed.

1. WIRE FLOORING

TDLR's proposed rules dealing with flooring in licensed breeder facilities {Section 91.102 (e)(A)} require that at least 50% of the floor be solid flooring with the remainder being allowed to be wire or wire mesh. However, these proposed rules do not apply to existing breeder facilities. These existing breeder facilities are allowed to have 100% wire or wire mesh flooring. This "grandfathering" of current breeding facilities is terribly flawed and will result in thousands of animals living their entire lives on wire flooring with no relief. We must get this "grandfathering" provision out of the proposed rules and require all breeders, both current and future, to have at least 50% solid flooring where the animal can stand, sit, lie down and turnabout freely on a solid surfce, to seek relief from the wire flooring.
Talking points:

* 100% wire flooring in primary enclosures is inherently cruel confinement. By licensing (grandfathering) this practice, the TDLR is "gutting" the intent and purpose of the statute which is to improve the health and wellbeing of the animals who spend their entire lives in these cages. Also, by licensing (endorsing) the practice the TDLR is making the state animal cruelty statute (cruel confinement) more difficult or impossible to enforce. This is a giant step backward, not forward.

* Dogs forced to live on wire flooring for long periods of time suffer from foot and leg injuries, including chronic, painful sores, infections and cysts between the toes, toenails that curl into the paw pads from lack of pressure on the nail, and toenails being ripped out when they get caught on the wire.

* Wire flooring increases drafts in extremely cold weather, making it difficult for dogs to maintain their body heat.

* Wire flooring in most cases is less sanitary than solid flooring. Feces do not readily fall though wire mesh, so the dog(s) grind it though the wire with their feet which creates terribly unsanitary conditions. Both the dogs and the wire flooring become caked in feces and debris, making cleaning very difficult if not impossible.

* One can provide 50% solid flooring easily and at little expense by providing a resting board, rubber mat, or bedding. This does NOT require restructure of the enclosure for breeders.

2. CAGE SIZES

TDLR's proposed rules dealing with cage sizes {Section 91.104 (3)(A) and (B)} require that primary enclosures be twice the size currently required by the USDA regulations for USDA licensed breeders. Again, however, the TDLR proposed rules exempt current breeder facilities from these requirements and allow them to continue using the smaller cage sizes required by the USDA regulations. The reason given is that it would be cost prohibitive to require current breeder facilities to double their cage sizes. Although this has some merit, there must be a specific timeframe for current breeder facilities to come into compliance with the larger size caging requirements. We recommend that they be given three years to come into compliance - to wit: until September 1, 2015. Also, we recommend that any new cages built at these facilities must come into compliance with the larger cage size requirements at the time they are installed. Talking point:

* The Licensed Breeder bill was passed to protect the well being of animals forced to live their entire lives in small cages. To "grandfather" existing breeders from increased cage sizes equates to 1) ignoring the will of the legislature and 2) allowing licensed breeders to continue the "status quo" of tiny barren wire living quarters.

3. CAGE STACKING
TDLR's proposed rules {Section 91.104(E)} allow the stacking of dog cages up to three tiers. We recommend that there be no stacking or if any stacking is allowed that it must not exceed one cage on top of another. Talking points:

* Stacked cages encourage gross overcrowding of animals and are often so high or low - caretakers or inspectors can't easily see the dogs to check on their wellbeing.

* Stacked cages with wire flooring allow urine, feces and wastewater from higher cages to rain down on dogs below

* Stacking makes it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures - allowing many dogs and cats to live in total darkness and neglect.

4. SURGICAL PROCEDURES
TDLR's proposed rules {Section 91.112(b)} require that only a veterinarian be allowed to euthanize an animal or perform a surgical birth procedure on an animal. This section should cover additional procedures that only a veterinarian shall perform, such as tail docking, ear cropping, debarking, and claw removal. Currently, it is common for these procedures to be performed by breeders (non-veterinarians). Talking points:

* These procedures are veterinary procedures because they are surgical in nature, and should include prescription drugs and/or anesthesia for pain - neither of which can legally be obtained and used by a lay person.

A strong argument can be made for animal cruelty, should a breeder/lay person dock tails, cut ears, remove claws, or cut vocal cords without prescription pain drugs or antibiotics.

From: Cheryl Spencer Scher [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 11:07 PM
Subject: very important issue in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Arnold Scher
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/14/2012 6:46 PM
Subject: Governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas

Ms. Melissa Rinard

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Khan

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 10:49 PM
Subject: Attention: Melissa Rinard
Attachments: Melissa Rinard.docx

Please read the enclosed attachment.
Thank you, Sherry Philips

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Sherry Philips

[redacted]

From: tammy carabajal [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:57 PM
Subject: Please stop Puppy Mills in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Tammy Carabajal
[redacted]

Tammy Carabajal

From: Karen Moeck [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:05 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Karen Moeck
[redacted]

Karen Moeck
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/15/2012 11:18 PM
Subject: Re: The Puppy Mill Bill

My wife and I used to show Yorkshire Terriers and have always been concerned with the welfare of all dogs and cats. It is our understanding that The Puppy Mill Bill, while good, needs strengthening.

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1. Wire flooring. No animal should be caged on a 100% wire floor. Ever. No excuses.

2. Cage Size. Cage should be large enough to exercise.

3. Cage Stacking. Unthinkable that a dog should live under another, being defecated, urinated on from above.

4. Surgical Procedures. A Veterinarian and proper anesthesia should be required for all surgical procedures.

It breaks our heart that they are caged at all. We think you are trying to give a break to Puppy Mills. These people who breed many dogs and sell to retailers, resellers or online have love only for the the money, not the dogs. We have seen enough of them to know, they don't deserve a break.

Thank You for working on this important regulation!

Nina McIntire
[redacted]

From: Virginia Windley [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:03 PM
Subject: Upcoming regulation of Puppy Mills in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Virginia B. Windley

[redacted]

From: Vickie McDonald [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Puppy & Kitten Mills
Attachments: Melissa Rinard.doc

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

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Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Vickie McDonald

[redacted]

From: Vicki Henrichs [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:08 PM
Subject: Concerned citizen on animal cruelty

Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Dear Ms. Rinard:

We as Texas citizens need to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20, 2012.

1. Please work to prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level, an unhealthy and unsanitary practice that allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures that should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

Also, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

Sincerely,

Vicki Henrichs
[redacted]

From: Valerie Shortall [redacted]
To: '"erule.comments@license.state.tx.us"' <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/14/2012 10:25 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills
Attachments: TDLR Letter Individual.docx

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Shortall
[redacted]

From: "Marsha C. Whitty" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 8:08 PM
Subject: Concerns with Large Scale Commercial Breeder Bill
Attachments: Puppy Mills Letter.docx

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

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Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Marsha C. Whitty

From: ulrich diederich <ulrichd@earthlink.net>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:28 AM
Subject: Strengthen puppy mill bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ulrich Diederich
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/17/2012 2:20 AM
Subject: Please improve the TDLR's Proposed Rules and Standards

Dear Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations

I am writing to express my appreciation to the State of Texas for its passage of The Licensed Breeder Bill in 2011.

Now I would like to encourage you to ensure that the best regulations possible get passed. The rules and standards proposed by the TDLR have a few problem areas that would benefit from improvement.

1. All breeder facilities must **improve on wire / wire mesh flooring.** Should animals live their entire lives on wire flooring with no relief? It's not humane. We should do better than this.

2. No breeders should be exempt from the new law requiring an **increase in the size of the cages** in which these poor animals live.

3. **No more cage stacking.** You know what happens with stacking: The dogs on the lower tiers get pelted with excrement. It's a terrible way to live.

4. **Any "surgery" performed on an animal should be performed by a veterinarian**, so that the animal may receive pain medication. It's just basic humanity.

Please let me know that you've received this email and will give it your thoughtful consideration.

Thank you,

Teresa Gubbins

[redacted]

From: Sharon Lawrence [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 5:48 PM
Subject: Implementing HB 1451, the Licensed Breeder Bill

Let me say first that I'm self-employed, so I understand well the interests of people who are trying to make a living, especially in this economy. That said, I have the following comments about the proposed regulations to implement the Licensed Breeder Bill (comment deadline February 17).

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1. ALL breeding facilities should be required to have at least 50 percent of the flooring under the animals to be solid. There should be NO grandfathering for existing facilities. Frankly, I think the percentage should be far higher, if not 100 percent, as I can't imagine any animal or human having to walk on wire/wire mesh flooring for even a second, let alone a good percentage of their lives. With the down economy, this is the perfect time for everyone to upgrade facilities as construction help is readily available and eager for work - so no better time to do it than now. Grandfathering is NOT necessary.

2. Cage sizes should be increased substantially and without delay. If breeders argue that they can't afford to upgrade all of their cages, they simply can leave more of them vacant by breeder fewer animals. That will reduce costs and, given that supply will be restricted, will enable them to raise prices on this available pups.

3. Absolutely no stacking! No human would want to live in a situation where their upstairs neighbor can defecate on them. Why should that be possible for an animal? Again, if that means fewer cages, that means fewer animals on the market (thus a lower total cost of operation) which means a higher selling price. So this is not a net loss for breeders.

4. Veterinarians should be required to perform all procedures typically performed by a veterinarian, not just euthanasia. Again, this is of benefit to the breeders as it ensures a higher quality "product" for the marketplace.

Sharon Lawrence
[redacted]1

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 2:09 PM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Anderson

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 2:17 PM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

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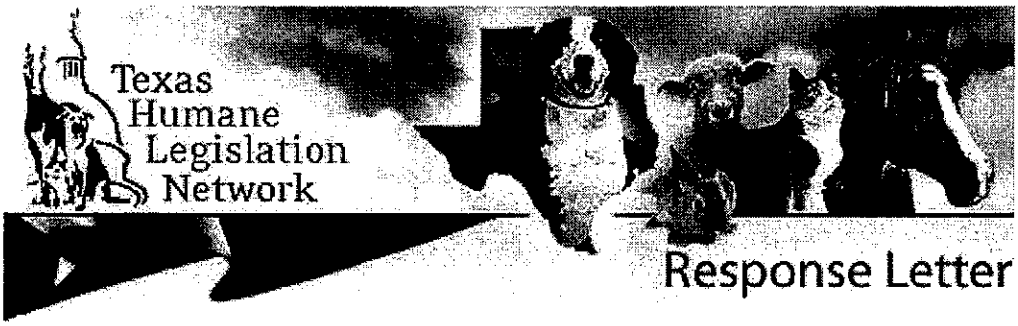
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and

recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Danelle Krupa

SPCA of Texas 2400 Lone Star Dr., Dallas, TX 75212
Phone: 214-742-SPCA (7722) | Email: spca@spca.org
Privac



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

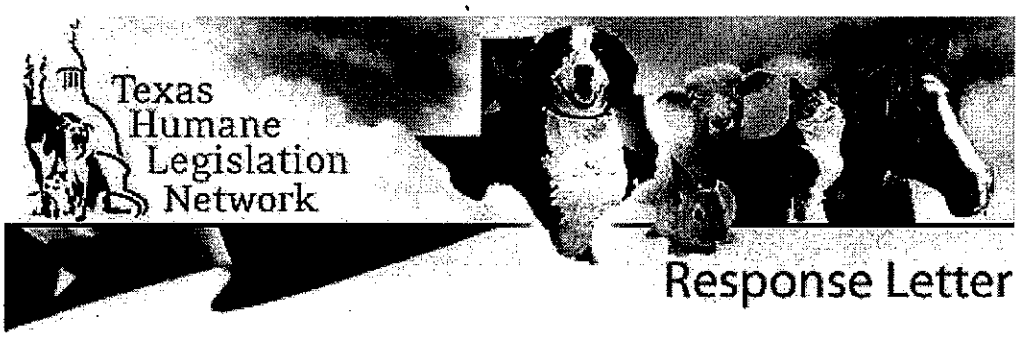
Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Hennessey
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:24:09 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Saucedo
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:47:42 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Monette Merriman
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:54:41 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacquelyn Heffernan

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:16:29 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Merriman
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:58:58 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Franklin

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:29:54 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Trahan

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:20:05 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Hughes

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:18:26 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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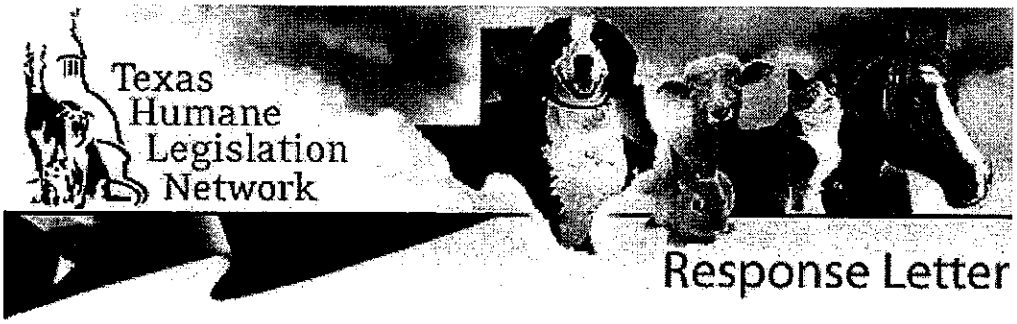

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Please pass stronger rules to ensure the best regulations possible! There are enough animals out there that need to be adopted and we don't need breeders that are cruel to animals for the almighty dollar. I would hope that someday breeding would just be stopped!

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Morris

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:50:22 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Harlan

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:39:59 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

simply put, no animal deserves this.... mills are heinous.... and there are plenty of wonderful pets that need homes without adding to the population.... end this please!

Respectfully submitted,

kandie cook

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:58:29 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of these important humane issues. Please remember that the well-being of dogs and cats living in Texas breeding facilities depends upon you.

Respectfully submitted,

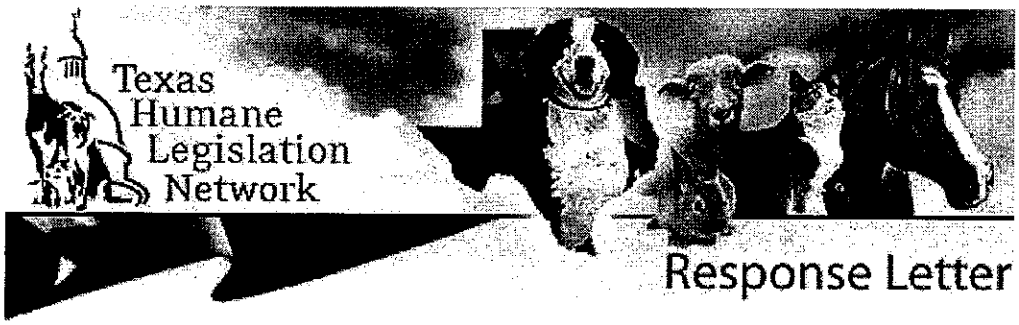
Teresa Prunty Bass

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:07:55 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathie Carroll
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:11:02 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Esther Garza
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:15:59 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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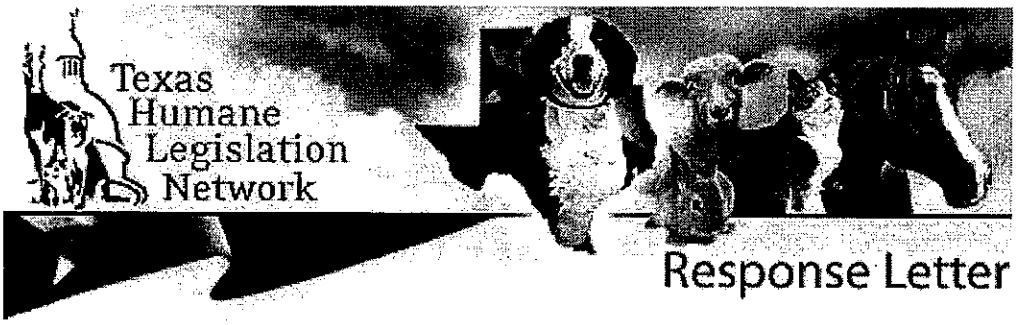

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Reiner
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:09:15 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Anything less puts animals at risk for extreme pain and infection.

I urge you to take the time to review the above and strengthen Texas law. These animals require our voice and laws to fight for their lives. They are not a commodity and should not be treated as such.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Maus
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:58:28 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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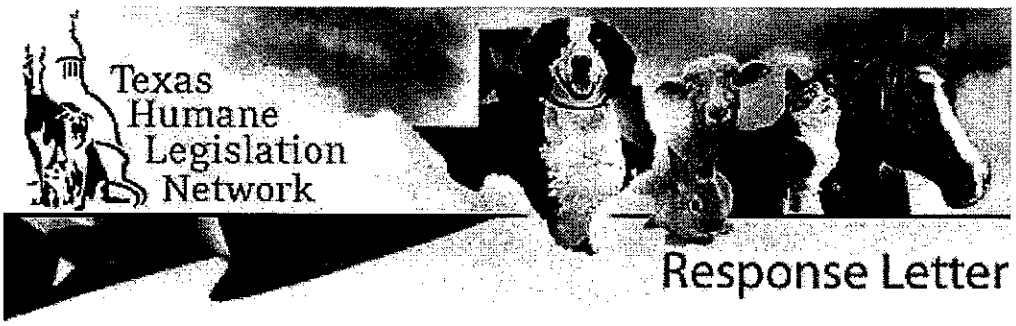

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

NANCY FIKE
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:44:54 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Echart
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:44:14 PM

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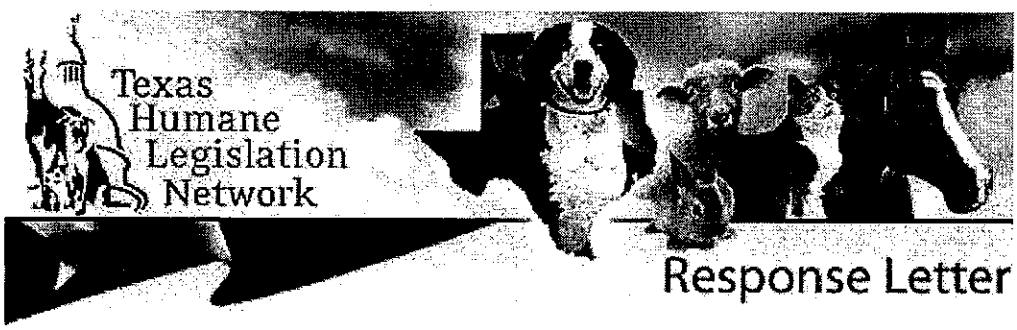
Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

NANCY FIKE
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:40:03 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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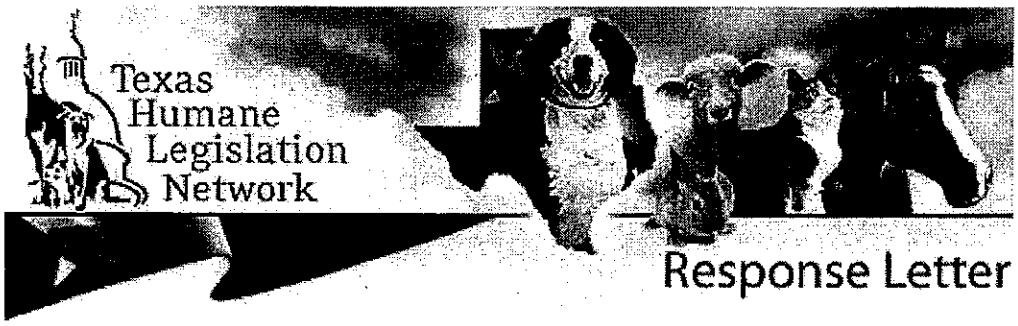
Respectfully submitted,

Michelle White
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:29:47 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

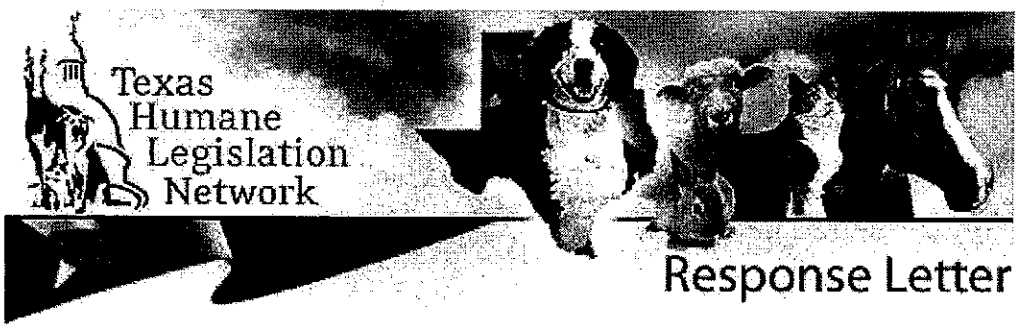
Dewayne and Brenda Brogdon

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:37:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top



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Respectfully submitted,

Michelle White
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:29:37 PM

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Dogs can't speak out for themselves and sadly, greed makes many people turn a blind eye to things we all know are wrong. Imagine your pet being kept like these poor animals are, it's heart breaking the suffering and misery that is every minute of their life. Please support the changes above to help the dogs unfortunate in life to be in a puppy mill (and cats too).

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Rodriguez
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:23:58 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Respectfully submitted,

Traci Dorman
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 11:03:35 PM

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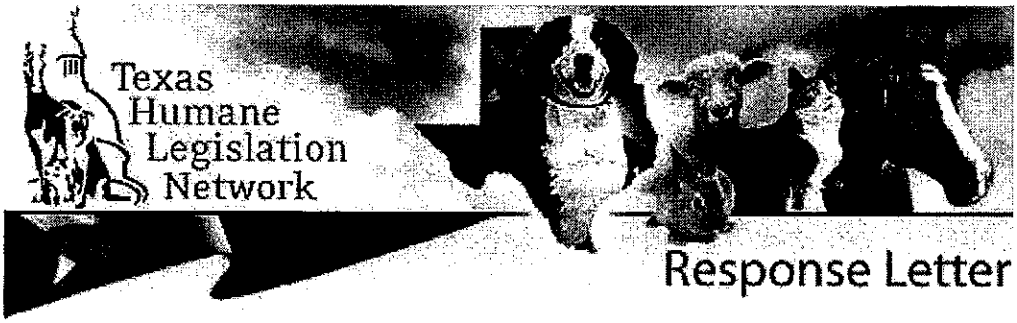

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Respectfully submitted,

Kornelia sedlmaier

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:40:50 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Jocelyn White

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:48:31 PM

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Please represent me and all other people who care about animal abuse by voting to strengthen the proposed licensed breeder regulations.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathryn Mayo
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:03:42 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

G.K. Khalsa

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:13:32 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Scott Walker
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:24:43 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Peter Cass

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:54:41 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Laura Hollifield
[redacted]7

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:57:43 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Magrath
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:42:37 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Respectfully submitted,

Lin Flannery-Gauthier
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:03:09 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

whitney smith

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:46:36 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

From: "Morrison, Carrie" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:13 PM
Subject: Strength the regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

*Please check in at suite 100 to be directed to the correct area for closing. Thank you
Carrie Morrison
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:13 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leslie F. Box

[redacted]

From: Julie Capdevielle[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:13 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Ask yourself...would you want to be treated like this?!

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Julie Capdevielle

From: Monique Aguries[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:13 PM
Subject: Cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
--
Monique E. Aguries-Sargi
[redacted]

From: Martine Cahen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martine Cahen

From: Leslie Crum <[redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:13 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leslie Crum
[redacted]

From: Manuela Kerschbaum[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:13 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Manuela Kerschbaum

From: Holly Kelch [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:14 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Holly Kelch
[redacted]

From: Aleah Strano <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aleah Strano

From: Michael Andrews [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Andrews

From: Keegan Comfort [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Keegan Comfort

From: "Lori A. Bain" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:52 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regs

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lori A. Bain

[redacted]

From: "Sue Schaff" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:52 PM
Subject: Animal Cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for your consideration in this vital matter.

Yours truly,

Susan E. Schaff
[redacted]1
[redacted]

From: AG B [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:53 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

Out of human decency and compassion please strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Stop the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Stop the practice the disgusting practice of stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. And for heavens sake prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian if at all.

4. Please don't allow any loopholes by removing all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, this should apply to ALL and allow no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas,

should not be
sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thanks very much for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Let's make Texas tough. Let's Texas be the humane and compassionate state! Make Texans proud!

Respectfully,
Andrea Boydstun
[redacted]

From: Erika Landers-genzer [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
CC: [redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 1:53 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Erika Landers-Genzer
[redacted]

From: Peggy Tuck[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:53 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Peggy TuckHouston,[redacted]

From: Linda Caldwell [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:53 PM
Subject: Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Linda Caldwell
[redacted]

From: "Hodges, Kimberly C."[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:54 PM

Ms. Rinard:
I am currently a Physician Assistant student at UTMB in Glaveston and although my future profession focuses on treating people, I have a great passion for animals and have been involved in working at the local shelter in Galveston. Though this experience I have seen some of the most horrifying conditions in which people keep their animals or keep animals they are planning on selling. These conditions not only sacrifice the health and overall well being of these animals but also the health of the people around.

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. Below are the points that I think are necessary to protect the animals and people of our great state.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below perpetuation the transmission of disease from animal to animal and from animal to human.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Kimberly Hodges
[redacted]

From: "Delma Talley"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:54 PM
Subject: Please

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Delma Talley

[redacted]

From: Cindy Bueso [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:54 PM
Subject: proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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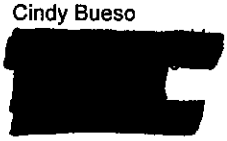
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Cindy Bueso



Sent from my iPhone

From: "Gail Issen" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:54 PM
Subject: Please strengthen the proposed doc and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Gail Issen
Gail W. Issen
[redacted]

From: Sheri Hare [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:55 PM
Subject: In God's name stop this animal cruelty

If you have any compassion,please pass stricter licensing for breeders; these puppy mills are not humane , stacking wire cages and never touching the ground. WHAT kind of people are these? Put then in cages and see how it plays on them emotional. Also; buyers should have to go through a stricter process prior to purchasing an animal; they can't even control there children's behavior let a lone be responsible for a puppy, dog, or any other animal.

Sent from my iPad

From: Roxanne Hicks [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:55 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill Proposed Amendments

Dear Ms. Rinard:I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Roxanne Hicks
[redacted]

From: Denise Matherne [redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:56 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations comments

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Denise Mohr
[redacted]

From: Lancton Marie [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:56 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Marie Lancton
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:56 PM
Subject: Please consider...

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing to you today, hoping to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their ?best efforts? regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no ?grand fathering? of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a ?cash crop.?

In appreciation of your consideration,

Marie Painter
[redacted]

From: LAURA HREHOR [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:57 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Laura Hrehor
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:57 PM
Subject: Please Stop Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Celeste Oehl
[redacted]

From: Angela McDaniel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:57 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Angela McDaniel
[redacted]

From: Lisa McClure [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:57 PM
Subject: The Texas Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards' and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop.

Thank you, and please do your very best to protect these animals who cannot protect themselves!

Respectfully,
Lisa McClure
[redacted]

From: Birgit Fisher [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:57 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their gbest efforts h regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no ggrandfathering h of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a gcash crop. h

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Birgit Fisher
[redacted]

DIFFERENT, NOT LESS

From: Jennifer Can [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:58 PM
Subject: BAN PUPPY MILLS

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Can
[redacted]

That which does not kill us, makes us stronger.
Paz y amor,
jennifercan

From: "Patrick McNerney"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:58 PM
Subject: Animal Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Patrick McNerney

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:58 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeders

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I adopted a little dog who was rescued from the Kaufman puppy mill two years ago and she was in very sad shape when we got her. She has flourished with good and loving care from my family.
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Muriel McMillion
[redacted]

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From: "Bonnie Torres" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:58 PM
Subject: Thank You !!!

Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully Bonnie Torres [redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:58 PM
Subject: Your puppy mill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Deborah Caballero
[redacted]

From: Carrie J Hoover [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: Safe haven for Animals

Please help these poor little creatures from their suffering. These are God's children and should not suffer in the hands of humans uncaring and ruthless possession.

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,Carrie J Hoover

From: Eduardo Rios [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office, TX Dpt. of Lic. and Reg.

Dear Ms. Rinard:I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In
addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully,
Eduardo Rios [redacted]

From: Ros Raia [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: PLEASE STOP THE PUPPY MILLS!!!

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Rosalind Raia
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: please help these animals

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

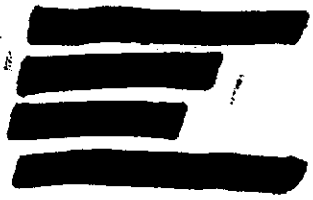
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Margaret Daniel



From: Laura Espinoza [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: Texas Registry Proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

The regulations can be strengthened in the following ways for the safety of affected dogs and cats:
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. The act of having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level as this is unhealthy, unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian for the safety of the animal.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, not weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Ms. Laura Espinoza, P.E.
[redacted]

From: Danielle Grimmer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Danielle Grimmer

[redacted]

From: Stephanie H[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened. Give a specific range at which the temperature must be maintained barring a natural disaster, or electrical outage not caused by the breeder's non payment of a utility bill.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Hungerford

Former Humane Society Volunteer

[redacted]

From: Carolyn Wright [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Wright

[redacted]

Thank You,
Carolyn Wright
Vice President, Operations

[cid:image001.jpg@01CCE7FB.A80E51A0]

[redacted]

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From: "Dan Kinman" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Dan Kinman

[redacted]

From: Anna Killgore [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 PM
Subject: Proposed Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Anna Killgore
[redacted]

From: "jbrevelle@netzero.com"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their “best efforts” regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In addition, there should be no “grandfathering” of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a “cash crop.”Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully, James Brevelle[redacted]

From: Casey Keller [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Casey Keller
[redacted]6

From: Cory Galik [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Cory Cummings

From: Terri Rushing [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:00 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Terri Rushing

[redacted]

From: Allyson Bandy [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Allyson Bandy
[redacted]

This e-mail, including any attached files, may contain confidential and privileged information for the sole use of the intended recipient. Any review, use, distribution, or disclosure by others is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient (or authorized to receive information for the intended recipient), please contact the sender by reply e-mail and delete all copies of this message.

From: Brandi Brown [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Brandi Brown

[redacted]

From: Erin Smith [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 PM
Subject: Licensed Breeder Rules and Regulations

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring(§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking:There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures:Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature:Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Erin Smith

From: Maithili Kulkarni [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 PM
Subject: Regarding Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Warm Regards,
Maithili

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20 th .

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Meredith Cobb
[redacted]

From: Christine C Roberts [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:01 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Laws!! Please read!!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Christine Roberts
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
CC: linda larson <suziequue2@yahoo.com>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:02 PM
Subject: Bill regarding Dog & Cat Breeders

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am contacting you today to urge you to strengthen and make more restrictive, the regulations regarding them recently published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. I ask myself would I want my own pet, child or parent in the circumstances: HMMM!

Living on bare feet on wire floors? No Painfull

Stacking these wire floor cages? Absolutely not, who gets to urinate on who? And who gets urinated upon. Totally unsanitary and cruel. We would not sentence even the worst convicted mass murderers of all time to this.

Non-Veteranarians performing surgical proceedures? I think not, I would not want my Doctor's assistant performing my surgery, would you? They are Not qualified.

The term 'best efforts" is so very vague, if my Mom was in a nursing home and A/C went out in 100 degree weather, I would not accept this explanation to the fact that she suffered and died from heat, "we tried to get a repair-person here, but they were all busy"! That does not sound acceptable to me, and to me that is what "Best Efforts" could be considered to be. No effort.

And finally, 'Grandfathering', to me, in this perspective, means if they have been operating for too many years already, you should allow them to continue? Please don't.

I beg you to make changes to this Bill, to make it acceptable, humane and what Jesus would want if he were standing in a Breeder's facility, or right next to you at the next press conference, because he is.

Thank you for your help in helping these helpless, pet convicts.

Diana Lantis

From: "Dobrowski, Shirley" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:03 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat breeding regulations

Good afternoon,

I was recently informed of how "soft" our laws are on dog and cat breeding facilities. I am writing you today to urge you to help strengthen these regulations. We need to prohibit the use of wire flooring. I can't imagine trying to walk on these wire floors and with animal that have pads it must be impossible. I have seen dogs raised in puppy mills that had to "learn" to walk on solid surfaces or grass because they had never felt it in their lives. We need to prohibit stacking of cages. This one actually brings me to tears as I write this. Can you imagine, having several dogs defecate on you several times a day? Heaven forbid if you're the bottom cage. We need to prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgeries. I feel quite sure that these puppy mills care so little for these animals that these procedures are probably done under terrible conditions. I would not find it hard to believe if they don't even use anesthesia for some of them. And lastly we should prohibit "grandfathering" of these breeder mills. Each new owner should be held to the higher standards that I hope get put in place.

Thank you so much for listening. I pray that something will be done to help these little ones.

4840 Dacoma St.
[redacted]

From: Glenda Hall [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
CC: Tonya Barnett <txtb911@yahoo.com>, Eddie Brooks <gebrooks@hotmail.com>, ...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:03 PM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Glenda Hall
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:03 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard-

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Derek Sheaks
[redacted]

From: "Geni Hefner" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:03 PM
Subject: GOD BLESS OUR ANIMALS!

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Geni Hefner
[redacted]

From: Joanne Rowley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:34 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joanne Rowley

From: Tammy Minetor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:36 AM
Subject: dog cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Tammy Birkholz
[redacted]

From: Jessica Corral [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:04 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Corral

From: Jess Ika[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:35 PM
Subject: Youve done a great thing but please, let's do a bit more!

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I know you probably feel like we're asked a lot from you and I respect you tremendously for making the changes that you have for breeder rules and standards necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. But it would help SO much if you could please, please remove grandfather clauses allowing breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed (thank you again) to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times. I know that reading this over, you know right off the bat that these changes would be HUGE and there isn't enough thank you's to go around in these regards.

The new act helps but not enough. Please reconsider and thank you for reading this.

Sincerely, Jess

Sincerely,

Jess Ika

From: Anthony Reyes [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anthony Reyes

From: Tanya Teneyuque [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tanya Teneyuque

From: mary lopez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

mary lopez

From: Mikayla Whitley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments[redacted]license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:35 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mikayla Whitley

From: Miranda Lewis <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:41 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Miranda Lewis

From: Jerry Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:41 PM
Subject: Please Stop Animal Cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Harriet Smith
[redacted]

From: "ebersocats" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:47 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Deborah Ebersold

[redacted]

From: j_maxwell <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:50 PM
Subject: regulations for HB1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

After going thru and reading HB 1451 and some of the guidelines being reviewed, I would like to note how wonderful Federal USDA guidelines have served Animal Welfare and the Pet Industry for many years. Minimal USDA requirements will constitute the very best in animal welfare making it feasible for many breeders to comply with the licensing procedures. However, expanding on the federal guidelines will not improve animal welfare...all it will do is discourage many breeders from becoming licensed. The cost of the fees and renovations/modifications will be too expensive for those wishing & willing to become licensed as well as forcing them to either quit or relocate.

In order to get most breeders to comply and apply for a license, please use the minimal USDA requirements that have done well in the past.

Sincerely

Joel Maxwell
Prospective Breeding Client

From: Paul Najima [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
CC: Paul Najima [redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 11:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen dog & cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Paul Najima
[redacted]

From: Jason Sifuentes [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:00 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jason Sifuentes
[redacted]

From: Melina Waldman[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melina Waldman

From: Dilara Ayter[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dilara Ayter

From: Matty Chavez[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Matty Chavez

From: Joe Tutt[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joe Tutt

From: Tanja Gra[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tanja Gra

From: Grant Goldberg [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Grant Goldberg

From: Susan Smeltz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Smeltz

From: "Sharon Mills[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:29 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

I am actively involved with the golden retriever rescue organization who has witnessed first hand the atrocities of these puppy mills and the damage it does to the dogs. Sweet people loving Golden Retrievers have been resecued and fear for their lives around humans.. That is WRONG.and people who run these organizations need to be stopped and we need strong legislation to prevent these puppy mills from existing. Ideally I would love to see these puppy mills completely put out of business but if they must exist they need to be seriously regulated to ensure humane treatment not only of the females but the puppies that are generated from the breeding efforts.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sharon Mills

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:30 PM
Subject: Please Help Us!

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am pleading with you today to do the right thing by our animals and the people of this country. We need people like you to stand strong against the animal cruelty that is ever so prevalent in our society.

Allowing animals to suffer in cages with wire flooring and stacked on top of each other is absolutely unacceptable!!! The thought of feces falling from the cages above directly down on other animals is also intolerable! Would you like to live like that? I think not.

Anyone who thinks this is acceptable should try it themselves. Now...how ridiculous is that thought? It's as ridiculous as allowing our animals to suffer that very same fate!

I urge you to PLEASE see to it that we strengthen the proposed dog and cat breed regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

We need to be sure that only licensed veterinarians are allowed to do surgical procedures such as cropping of tails and ears, declawing of cats etc.

PLEASE, PLEASE,PLEASE!!!! Take the reigns and lead the way. Be a true leader. We need a voice who will speak for sound reason and good judgement. Put the brakes on these awful puppy mills that do nothing but promote animal abuse and much suffering!!!!!

Sincerely,

Lisa Gregovich
[redacted]
[redacted]
Chesapeake, VA 23320

P.S....I am NOT one those ridiculous over the top radical individuals. I am simply an animal lover that respects the joy and love that these companion animals give us. They so totally DESERVE a better life than that!!!

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. Although I am not a resident of the state of Texas, the humane treatment of animals, especially companion animals such as cats and dogs, does not and should not cease at a state's border, and thus is of concern for all Americans.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Helene Bank
[redacted]

From: Katie Way <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katie Way

From: Neha Anand[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:34 PM
Subject: Regarding the Puppy Bill Mill

Dear Ms. Rinard,
I am writing to you regarding the Puppy Mill Bill regulations that, as you know, set the standards of care applicable to the breeders under the state of law. These regulations must be strengthened because some breeders of large facilities are continuing the mistreatment of dogs and cats by putting them in kennels with 100% wiring, which ,by the way, does not allow a dog to comfortably stand, sit, nor lie down in a natural position. The wired flooring itself probably does not allow them to stand naturally because of the uncomfortable feeling underneath their paws! Furthermore, these kennels are continually being stacked one upon the other , causing urine, feces, or other excretions on to the animals below . This is completely unsanitary and unhealthy for those animals and could lead to diseases or illnesses. Also, please prevent unlicensed veterinarians from performing surgical procedures or operations on dogs and cats. The regulation that calls for an annual visit by a veterinarian is great but it won't help those animals being treated by unlicensed, and maybe, but hopefully not, untrained people with serious treatments. Those surgical procedures should only be done by licensed veterinarians, especially if the animal is in need of a serious surgery. Because we, humans, would never allow a child to go through surgery or some other sort of operation performed by unlicensed doctors, we should not allow animals, that might become members of our families, from going through such risky operations or surgeries by unlicensed veterinarians who may not even care those animals he or she operates on. I'm not saying that all unlicensed veterinarians are cruel and uncaring and perform risky operations and surgeries, nor am I saying that all licensed veterinarians care deeply for all animals, but I am saying that having unlicensed veterinarians perform those medical procedures that could cause the deaths of those animals may be too dangerous. Even if these animals do not become members of our families or lives, they still have their own lives that are not meant to be abused in such a fashion. It is the responsibility of the breeder to consider the health and well-being of his or her animals regardless of whether the animal is a "cash crop" or not. I strongly urge you to help these animals and prevent such horrible actions from prevailing.
As a dog owner, these issues frighten and horrify me. Please strengthen the regulations of the Puppy Mills Bill. I appreciate and thank you for taking time to read my concerns and wishes.
Respectfully,

Neha Anand[redacted]

From: Benjamin Correa[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Correa

From: Allison Ilcken [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Allison Ilcken

From: Ana Polaczak [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ana Polaczak

From: Melinda Smith[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:48 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melinda Smith

From: Lynne Phillips[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynne Phillips

From: Joyce Goodman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joyce Goodman

From: Ashley Jones [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Jones

From: Gillian Cockburn [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:49 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gillian Cockburn

From: Mike Randall <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike Randall

From: Julie Graves [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 6:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Graves

From: Melody Russell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 7:20 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melody Russell

From: pat ginsbach [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

Do the right thing and don't cave in to the puppy mill owners. How many folks get a chance like this to do the right thing in such an important undertaking??? Go for what's right. Thanks.

Sincerely,

pat ginsbach

From: Diane Lee [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:14 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diane Lee

From: Christine Ragland [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:47 PM
Subject: Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

As my own personal addition to the HSPCA message I would like to add this: Allowing dogs to be breed in these terrible conditions creates pets that families are unable to deal with either due to health or behavioral problems. These pets either wind up on the street or in shelters - which creates expenses and annoyances for Houston citizens. Please help make the lives of these dogs better.

Respectfully,

Christine Ragland
aka Shocker Zulu
Houston Roller Derby
Marketing & PR Events

From: "Melanie Scalley" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:48 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Melanie Scalley

[redacted]
[redacted]
7[redacted]
[redacted]

From: Jessie Acevedo[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:48 PM
Subject: Strengthen the dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jessie Acevedo
[redacted]

From: Shelley Banks [redacted]m>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Shelley D. Banks
[redacted]6
[redacted]

From: Courtney Westhoff [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill

Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. All breeders should not be allowed to keep animals in wire cages over long periods of time. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

Sincerely,

Samuel Lopez
Assistant Vice President
Private Banking
[redacted]

Helping Successful Clients Meet Their Financial Goals - Frost Private Banking Group

From: "Sherry Dunn" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:08 PM
Subject: Proposed Cat and Dog Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian only.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

Additionally, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jerry R. Dunn

[redacted]

From: Nicole Lynch [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:09 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Nicole Lynch
[redacted]

From: Carmen Walker[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:10 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Carmen walker
[redacted]

Carmen Walker

From: Alan Alpert [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 11:34 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I agree with the SPCA of Texas in that I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Alan M. Alpert
[redacted]

From: "Sally Montgomery" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 1:06 AM
Subject: HB 1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

As an owner of hunt trained and beautifully breed retrievers, I have always taken a keen interest in the treatment of dogs. Also, as the Civil Judge with Senior Tenure in Dallas County, I have handled a variety of cases involving the treatment of dogs and am aware that rules and licensing requirements can greatly weaken the impact of the best legislation in this area.

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities as there was not the original financial investment by existing facilities significant enough to protect these facilities from any financial loss. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Judge Sally Montgomery

From: pat schumacher[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 7:19 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 9, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. pat schumacher
[redacted]

From: Ferguson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 7:22 AM
Subject: House Bill 1451

This section is prejudice. This is saying all Breeders are gready and will breed however many females that have as much as they can. This is illegal to be shown in other rights as a U.S. citizen. People can not tell cerain people that they can not be qualified for a Loan or Buy a House because they are African American or Spanish or Indian , etc.

Sec. 802.004. Presumption of Use for Breeding.
For purposes of this chapter, each adult intact female animal possessed by a person engaged in the business of breeding animals for direct or indirect sale or for exchange in return for consideration is presumed to be used for breeding purposes unless the person establishes to the satisfaction of the department, based on the person's breeding records or other evidence reasonably acceptable to the department, that the animal is not used for breeding.

Thank you

From: Denise Rodriguez [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 7:28 AM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Denise Rodriguez

From: Sandie DOrazio[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 7:43 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
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Sincerely,

Sandra L. D'Orazio

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 7:47 AM
Subject: Stop puppy mills

Please stop this cruel and abusive punishment of the dogs in these puppy mills. The female dogs who are being bred are never let out of their cages and they are made to stay in the filth with very little light and no comfort at all. Meaning no heat, sometimes no food, no heat in the cold, and always in wire cages that cut and ruin their feet. They are bread as soon as the present litter is removed so she is never left to get any rest at all, ever.

Another reason to stop these puppy mills is because there are enough animals in shelters that there is no need for these cruel places.

I know deep in my heart that you are reasonable and kind individuals and you know these facilities are wrong, so please put a stop to them. It would make it possible then for all these animals awaiting adoption a chance to find good homes and we could all be happier than we are now. It may even reduce, maybe even eliminate the need for so many shelters in the future. Especially the kill shelters.

Please, please stop these puppy mills.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely,
Barbara S. Simms
Sent from my iPad

From: Audrey Webb [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 7:59 AM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
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Sincerely,

Audrey Webb

From: Liz McHugh [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 8:02 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth McHugh

From: Marianne Roth [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 8:33 AM
Subject: Stop Puppy Mill Abuse in Texas!

Speak out to help animals and e-mail the text below to: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
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Sincerely,

Your Name

From: "Rosales, Melodia J" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 8:34 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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Melody Rosales
[redacted]

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From: June Marie London[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 8:54 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
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Sincerely,

June Marie London
[redacted]

June Marie

From: Susanne Cardona [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 8:54 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Susanne Cardona

Sent from Susanne's Ipad

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 9:02 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Kim Nguyen

From: Sharon Brennan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 9:12 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows:
allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104)
allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104)
grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104)
requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102
and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112)

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
With much respect,

Sharon H Brennan

From: "Lummus, Myra"[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 9:20 AM
Subject: Regarding HB 1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
Please give attention to the following issues/topics! This is an opportunity to provide some really positive aspects to this bill....some that will give these little animals what they cannot ask for on their own. I urge you to make this a worthwhile endeavor; not one that is weak, with considerable 'gray area.' As an active participant in a neighborhood association Petwatch organization, we do what we can to give animals their best shot at life. I am asking you to give special attention to the following issues and provide something that is worthwhile for the animals of Texas.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
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I would appreciate your special attention to these comments and help the precious little animals of Texas.
Thank you,
Myra Lummus
[redacted]

This e-mail is intended solely for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any review, dissemination, copying, printing or other use of this e-mail by persons or entities other than the addressee is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer.
To unsubscribe send an email to:[redacted]
Hitachi Consulting Corporation, [redacted]

From: Shelly Van Aller [redacted]
To: '"erule.comments@license.state.tx.us"' <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/9/2012 9:24 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Shelly Van Aller
Value Added Estimator /Contract Administrator
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 9:33 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Claudia Carrillo

Life is short, break the rules, forgive quickly, kiss passionately, love truly, laugh constantly, and never stop smiling no matter how strange life is. Life is not always the party we expected to be, but as long as we are here we should smile and be grateful.

Claudia

From: Maleeha Akhtar [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 9:44 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us<mailto:erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Maleeha Akhtar

Maleeha Akhtar, MPH
[redacted]
>
[redacted]

UT Southwestern Medical Center

From: Ashley Billingsley[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 9:46 AM
Subject: legislation regarding puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities.
However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Ashley Billingsley

From: Janet Hunter [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 9:48 AM
Subject: Speaking out for animals HB 1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.txus

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance
Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Janet Hunter
[redacted]

From: Erin Staack [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 9:49 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 9, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

I am writing to you today because I love animals and am deeply saddened by what has been allowed to occur in breeding facilities. Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Erin Staack
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Carissa Ashlock
[redacted]

From: Lisa Yelenick [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Lisa Yelenick
[redacted]

From: Ann Harlan [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please strengthen protection for dogs and cats

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. Common sense would make any humane individual make a different choice but many breeders are not humane, they do not care about animals; it's all about making a buck.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.Again, any humane person would think of this on their own but case after case finds animals stacked several cages high, with the animals below literally doused in filth.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian, if done at all.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Personally, I think all breeding for profit should be outlawed as long as there are animals being killed in "shelters" simply because there isn't room for all of them. But as long as it is permitted let's make it as safe and humane for the animals as possible.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Ann Harlan
[redacted]

From: Sophie Achiam [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sophie Achiam

From: Sharon White [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon White

From: Monica Hill [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica Hill

From: Amanda Lollar [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Amanda Lollar
[redacted]

From: Michael & Nicole Harrison [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Michael Harrison
[redacted]

From: Jerilyn Burgess[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and declawing. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jerilyn Burgess
[redacted]

From: Peggy Mozley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
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3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Peggy Mozley
[redacted]

From: susan braden [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I was very upset to learn that the following cruel practices are not prohibited in the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations published in the Texas Registry on January 20, and I am writing to urge you to strengthen these regulations in order to prevent the abuse of these animals.

1.Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2.Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3.Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These surgical procedures should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4.Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standard and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop".

Thank you very much for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Braden
[redacted]

From: Carolyn Schaff [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Schaff
[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From: Elizabeth Nalley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Strengthen the cat and dog breeding regulation

Ms. Melissa Rinard

Legal Assistant
General Counselors Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Ms. Rinard,

I am writing you today to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeding regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Prohibit use of wire flooring for all facilities.

2. Prohibit the use of stacking wire cages above one level.

3. Only licensed veterinarians can perform surgical procedures.

4. Remove all references to a license breeder to use best efforts regarding temperature control.

5. Make spay and neutering mandatory in the State of Texas.

Animal welfare and care is very important to me. You are in a position to make and ensure important changes with regulation. I am counting on you to act.

Thank you

Elizabeth Nalley
[redacted]

From: "Rick Fragnito" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I became aware of some shortcomings in the Puppy Mill Bill and would like to voice my opinion. I am very involved in animal rescue and we see such horrific things due to the overpopulation of unwanted animals. My personal opinion is that any breeder is a puppy mill, and I hold them in the same regard as sex offenders. I would like to see them punished so severely that the industry would dry up. Whatever you can do to put a stop to mistreatment of the animals would be greatly appreciated and putting a stop to breeding of them, not to mention in deplorable conditions, would be a great service to the animals that give us such devotion and deserve treatment worthy of it.

Sincerely,

Rick Fragnito

[redacted]

From: inge minidis [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

inge minidis

From: Melissa Powers [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Mrs. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Melissa Powers
[redacted]

Sent from My iPad

From: KATRINA WINNINGHAM <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations - please improve!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. It has come to my attention that this legislation falls far short of actually accomplishing the improved conditions I believe should be required for anyone wanting to participate in dog or cat breeding. Among the changes I hope the legislation will address are the following:

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be NO "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

We have seen this for too many years to allow any of it to continue. I am a pet owner, and believe that pet ownership is a wonderful privilege, that comes with inherent responsibilities to provide a healthy and safe environment for the animal that I've invited to share my life. There should be no lesser responsibility for those that choose to make a living by breeding these same animals.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Katrina Winningham
[redacted]

From: Sheila Flores [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Animal Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sheila Flores
[redacted]

From: Nick Zicha[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nick Zicha

From: Angela Powell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angela Powell

From: Minerva Barrios [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

MINERVA BARRIOS
[redacted]

From: Bruce McDonald [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bruce McDonald

[redacted]

From: "Joy Badger" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:23 AM
Subject: Please strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations 20th.as published in the Texas Registry on January

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. It breaks my heart to think about the abominable conditions that many animals are living in. If people want to make their living raising and selling animals - compassion and love need to be part of the business plan.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Kindest Regards,

Joy Badger

[redacted]

From: Janet Frederick [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:23 AM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Janet Frederick
[redacted]

From: Shelly Hendry [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:25 AM
Subject: Action needed now

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Michelle Hendry
[redacted]

From: DAnn Jones [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

D'Ann P. Jones
[redacted]

From: Anne Halick [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:33 AM
Subject: Proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Anne Halick
[redacted]

From: "Art and Bev" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:35 AM
Subject: Puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Beverly Redmond

[redacted]5
[redacted]
[redacted]

From: Katie Day <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:37 AM
Subject: Please Stengthen Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Katie Day
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Re: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grand fathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Debra Stephenson
[redacted]

From: "Caroline Fant" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:40 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill - Please Strengthen

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Anne C. Fant
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:43 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Susan
--
Susan K Moran
[redacted]A

From: Mayra Serrato [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:44 AM
Subject: animal cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Mayra Serrato
[redacted]

From: "G.A. Ardon" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>, "'yvonne ardon'" <ynardon17@hotmai...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:45 AM
Subject: DO YOU AGREE WITH ME THAT THIS IS WRONG?!!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Treat them with respect !!

Respectfully,

Y. Ardon

Moordrecht

Holland

[redacted]

From: Amanda Rubisch [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:45 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Rubisch

From: Ericka Hurst [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:45 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ericka Hurst

From: isela lopez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:46 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Isela Lopez

[redacted]

From: "Lee DeGrasse" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:46 AM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lee E. DeGrasse

[redacted]

From: Larry Crittenden [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:47 AM
Subject: Please strengthen breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mr. Larry Crittenden
[redacted]

From: Elaine Piontek [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:47 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elaine Piontek

From: Mallory Campbell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:47 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mallory Campbell

From: Susi Gittelman [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:47 AM
Subject: Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

> Dear Ms. Rinard:
>
> I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
>
> 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
>
> 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
>
> 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
>
> 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
>
> In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
>
> Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> Susi Gittelman
[redacted]

Sent from my iPad

From: Lisa Caldwell[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:47 AM
Subject: Texas Registry - January 20, 2012

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lisa Caldwell
[redacted]

From: Eli Venecia <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:48 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Eli Venecia, III

[redacted]

From: "jim konzem" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:49 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Regulations

Ms. Rinard:

I am writing to you today regarding the vague and inhumane regulations that will be addressed by the Texas Registry on January 20, 2012. Have you ever seen a dog after it has spent time in a wire flooring cage? They can not walk since their toes are so spread out from trying to maintain their balance with this type of cage. Then you allow them to be stacked on one another which is not only unhealthy but despicable! These animals need our protection, not unlicensed veterans performing surgical procedures!

In closing, please address your vague wording by allowing these individuals to use their "best efforts" in controling temperature control. How would you respond when allowed to just use your best efforts in dealing with your children? Individuals who only deal with these poor animals to make money and not take care of them should NEVER be allowed to grandfather in, thus maintaining the horrific circle of tragedy.

Thank you for hearing my comments while acting upon them as well.

Sincerely,

Patricia Doyle
[redacted]

From: kathy neblett [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:51 AM
Subject: HELP

>
> Dear Ms. Rinard:
>
> I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
>
> 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
>
> 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
>
> 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
>
> 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
>
> In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
>
> Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> Kathy Neblett
> [redacted]
>
>

From: Suzy Gillet [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:09 PM
Subject: Pet cruelty

Dear sir:

If you have a pet, would you want it to spend it's life under these cruel conditions? Think about that, please. Think about all the dogs that are currently helping our troops stay safe in the Middle East and how some are sacrificing their lives for our country. Think about what it would feel like to walk around on a wire cage for 24 hours a day and have feces and urine dropped on your head. Unsanitary and horrible. Think about if your loved one was going to be operated on by a non medically trained person. Would you want that for your family? Please consider all I have written and put yourself and your family in that place. I know there "are just" dogs and cats, but they have feelings, too.
Thanks for your consideration,

Suzy Gillet
[redacted]

From: Polly Bobal <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:09 PM
Subject: Ms. Rinard.

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Polly Bobal

Your Name: Polly Bobal
Street Address: [redacted]
City, State Zip: [redacted]
Phone Number: [redacted]
Email Address: [redacted]

From: Don Barlow [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:09 PM
Subject: proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

I didn't want to copy the email of others. I also don't mean to be crass. I just want you to think about your "critter" or yourself.

"After spending a day on the bottom level of your wire floored cage, you (or your pet) are taken to the neighbor's garage where the neighbor does an appendectomy."

I'm a retired health care professional and don't like the prospects for a very good prognosis.

Please give that some consideration.

Very sincerely,

Don Barlow, MBA RRT, CPFT
[redacted]

From: Danza Martin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:11 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their ³best efforts² regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no ³grandfathering² of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a ³cash crop.²

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Danza Martin
[redacted]

From: Darryl Snook <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:18 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darryl Snook

From: Steven Ward [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:18 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven Ward

From: Lisa Engel <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:19 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lisa Landi
[redacted]

From: Megan Blane <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:19 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Megan Blane

From: Steph Urlando [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:19 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steph Urlando

From: Jacintha Webster [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:19 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jacintha Webster

From: "Sheila and Julius" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
CC: '"Houston SPCA"' <info@houstonspca.org>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:22 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. This should be a given - how is it possible this happens in our country???

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." I implore you to do the right and moral thing. It is absolutely shameful to mistreat those who cannot speak for themselves. To sit by idly and do nothing is, in my opinion, saying there is nothing wrong with any of this.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sheila Pavlica
[redacted]

From: Dottie Hyatt [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 12:32 PM
Subject: Proposed Breeder Regulations

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been studying the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations and find I feel compelled to write to you today to address the issues at hand regarding the proposed regulations to improve the health and well-being of domestic breeder animals. Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened if a healthy, humane environment is to prevail.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces

2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.

3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

Thank you for giving this important matter your full attention. I trust that you will make the necessary corrections to the breeder regulations, as outlined above, so as to protect the animals for which you have been empowered to care. I would appreciate a response to let me know your thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,

Dottie Hyatt
Vice President
Bat World Sanctuary
[redacted]

"The lure of bats is that they always promise the discovery of something new". M. Brock Fenton

From: mina mirza [redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 12:34 PM

. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

From: "Michelle Foss" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:40 PM
Subject: breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Dr. Michelle Michot Foss

[redacted]

From: Missy LaBorde [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:40 PM
Subject: proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Melissa LaBorde
[redacted]

From: John Villasenor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 12:46 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

John Villasenor
[redacted]

From: Nithya Srinivasan [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
CC: Ram <dr_ram_99@yahoo.com>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill Request

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Sriram Ramani & Nithya Srinivasan
[redacted].
[redacted]

From: James Schlebus <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." This is extremely disgusting, and as a human being capable of compassion, this should not be allowed to take place. Empathy is a dying emotion. Let's do our part to revive it. Protect those that don't have a voice or a vote.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
James Schlebus
[redacted]

From: Linda Wyatt <[redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Legislation

Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Linda Wyatt
[redacted]r.
[redacted]

From: Jennifer Watts <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. Seeing innocent, healpless animals being treating so inhumane breaks my heart.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Watts

From: Evelyn Davis [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: dog and cat breeders in Texas

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably"cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed toprohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully Submitted,

Evelyn Davis, LMT
Massage Source, LLC
[redacted]

From: Smita Asrani <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Smita Asrani

From: Natasha Kellar [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natasha Kellar

From: "Kari Leafe" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kari Leafe

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Kristyn Thibodeau <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristyn Thibodeau

From: Sophia Lewander [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sophia Lewander

From: Laurie Marshall [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Strengthen Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Laurie Marshall

[redacted]

From: Mary Spencer <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Re: FW: Puppy Mill Letter

> ** **
>
> ** **
>
> *
> **Subject:* Puppy Mill Letter****
>
> ** **
>
> Please take into consideration my thoughts below regarding Puppy Mill
> rules. Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules
> governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as
> follows: ****
>
> ** **
>
> *100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104)*. Having an
> animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel
> confinement". The proposed Rules should be* *changed to prohibit 100%
> wire flooring and there should *not be any grandfathering of existing
> facilities*. ****
>
> ** **
>
> *Cage Stacking (§94.104)*. There should be no stacking of
> primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and
> can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the
> upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary
> enclosure on top of the other. ****
>
> ** **
>
> *Cage Sizes (§91.104)*. I agree with the increased cage
> sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to
> be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent
> of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals
> in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather
> existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come
> into compliance.****
>
> ** **
>
> *Veterinary Procedures (§91.112)*. Only veterinarians
> should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping,
> declawing and debarking. ****
>
> ****
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*
*
* Respectfully submitted,*
--
Mary Spencer
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]*

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: dog & cat breeder regs

Dear Ms. Rinard:

Please use your position to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder using their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
With your help, we CAN make changes!
Thank you,
Karen Harris

[redacted]

From: Angelica Di Masi [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angelica Di Masi

From: Randi McClanahan [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please read

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Randi McClanahan
[redacted]

From: Not Applicable <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Cathy Hammou
[redacted]

From: Colleen Hennigan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 11, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Colleen Hennigan
[redacted]

From: Bonnie Fairbanks [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bonnie Fairbanks
Bonnie Fairbanks
[redacted]

From: JULIE RITSON <[redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
No animals should have to live like this just for the person who is breeding them to make money at the expense of the animals, they have feelings and need the same as we do love and affection, most of these animals that are bred in this kind of conditions have health problems,after all would you like to live where the people above you did the toilet and it landed on you, I certainly wouldn't. Please put a stop to this cruelty. In fact put a stop to Puppy Mills there is so many dogs needing homes so why keep breeding especially in these conditions.
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Julie Ritson
[redacted]

From: susanne lamprecht [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

susanne lamprecht

From: seba pagani [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Ms . Rinard.

Dear Ms. Rinard:
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Maria Elhordoy.
[redacted].
[redacted].
[redacted]

From: Regina Milano [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Regina Milano

From: Aaron Horsewood [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aaron Horsewood

From: Lisa White [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Lisa White
[redacted]

From: "Lynn Jamshedi" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Lynn Jamshedi
[redacted]m

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mill Animal Protection

Ms Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Dept. of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms Rinard,

I stongly support the recent HB supporting more regulation of Puppy Mills. The treatment the animals are receiving is deplorable and inhumane. Many animals are living in conditions too crowded and uncomfortable for normal, healthy living and growth. Can you imagine living in a wire cage and what this is doing to their paws? Not to mention their insufficient diets and health care.

Please know Texans care and push and support legislation so that animals are treated in a humane way.

Thank you for your help and support.

Arlene O'Brien
[redacted]

From: "Kelly Hansen" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill - Cat/ Dog Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kelly Hansen
[redacted]

From: Regina Naranjo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Regina Naranjo

From: Regina Naranjo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Regina Naranjo

From: Robin Merritt [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robin Merritt

From: Mary Kuchenbecker [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Dog/Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Mary Kuchenbecker
[redacted]

From: "Schanzenbach, Rox Ann" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
CC: "Schanzenbach, Rox Ann" <Roxann_Schanzenbach@bmc.com>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am sure that what I am sending you today is similar to what you are hearing from other people. But that does not make it less important. It is so incredibly sad to see and hear about these poor animals. No animal should ever have to live like this for one minute. On top of the inhumanity of puppy mills, the animals cannot be the best pets possible because they have not been at all socialized. Some adopters may be patient enough and love them enough to turn that around. But other adopters will not be and the dog may end up forever unwanted or more likely killed at a 'shelter'. And I am talking about the puppies that survive the mill in the first place. I am sure that many, many die due to the terrible conditions and lack of any love.

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Rox Ann Schanzenbach
[redacted]

From: Elena Weber [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elena Weber

From: Chontel Brumby <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chontel Brumby

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20 th .

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Twyla Bradford
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Animal Cruelty

Ms Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counssel's Office
Texas Dept. of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms Rinard,

I was encouraged at the passage of the recent HB concerning the care of animals in Puppy Mills.

Their living conditions are deplorable; crowded and living in wire cages that cause damage to their bodies, not to mention insufficient diets and health care.

Please know that Texans care and we appreciate any help you can give us in seeing that these animals are treated in a humane way.

Thank you.

Arlene O'Brien
[redacted]

From: "Betsy Burks" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please help the animals!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Betsy Burks

[redacted]

From: Jennifer Bergeron [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Stronger Cat & Dog Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Jennifer A Bergeron
[redacted]

From: Chontel Brumby [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chontel Brumby

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: animal mills

Ms. Rinard,

I am sending this to you today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. How would it feel to you?

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. My own puppy had a tremendous infection from someone docking his tail with a rubber band! It died and feel off but years later the rubber band was still inside his tail and became so infected he had to have surgery to remove the festering thing!

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grand fathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Susan Ahlersmeyer
[redacted]

[redacted]

And God took a handful of southerly wind; blew his breath over it and created the horse!

Bedouin Legend

From: Galilea Escobedo <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Galilea Escobedo

From: Kevin O'Mara [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kevin O'Mara

From: Bev M [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:19 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard: I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened. In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully, Beverley M. Melchisedech [redacted]

From: Mary Ann Wentzel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:20 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Wentzel

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Cook
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:02:35 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

saunja lee
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:03:28 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

marnie holden
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:08:05 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Strong
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:13:02 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Hathaway
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:25:25 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bradshaw
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:11:09 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice White

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:17:08 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

nina johnstone
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:23:08 PM

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Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Gay Hensler
[redacted]t

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:27:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

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Respectfully submitted,

karen finn

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:29:04 PM

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Return To Top ↗

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Please don't let Texas fall behind in becoming a humane state for all animals. We are their voices and their lives are in our hands.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Kilgore
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 6:53:50 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Shari Hightower

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 6:57:39 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Bianca Lapace

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:05:16 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Lapace
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 7:08:04 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Vince Mendieta
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 6:28:46 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Samels
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 6:45:01 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Paul Moment
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:35:15 PM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline West
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:34:14 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

sybil miller

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:36:32 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Rachael Hendon
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:46:47 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

tammy costas
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 6:14:47 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

allan saxe
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:37:25 PM

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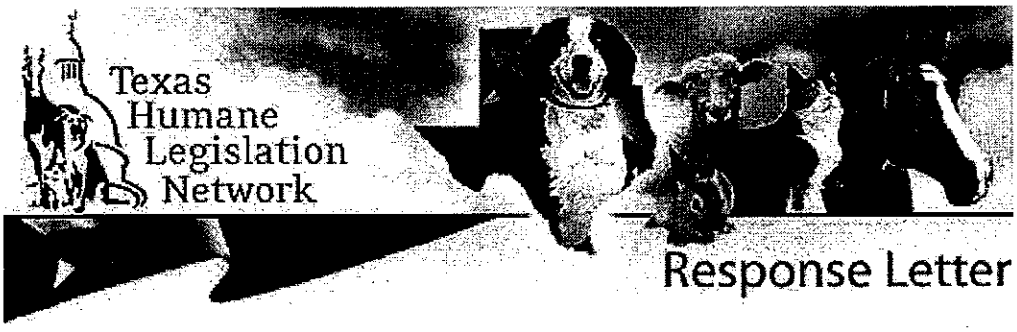
Respectfully submitted,

Megan Jones
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 6:00:04 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Kynama Wald
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 5:24:56 PM

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Respectfully submitted,

Cathie Carroll
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:11:02 AM

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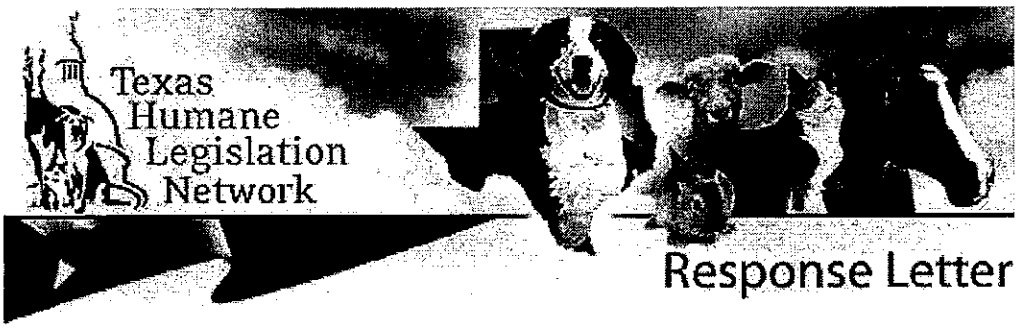
Respectfully submitted,

Linda Shough
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:10:08 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Please pass stronger rules to ensure the best regulations possible! There are enough animals out there that need to be adopted and we don't need breeders that are cruel to animals for the almighty dollar. I would hope that someday breeding would just be stopped!

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Morris
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:50:22 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Esther Garza
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:15:59 AM

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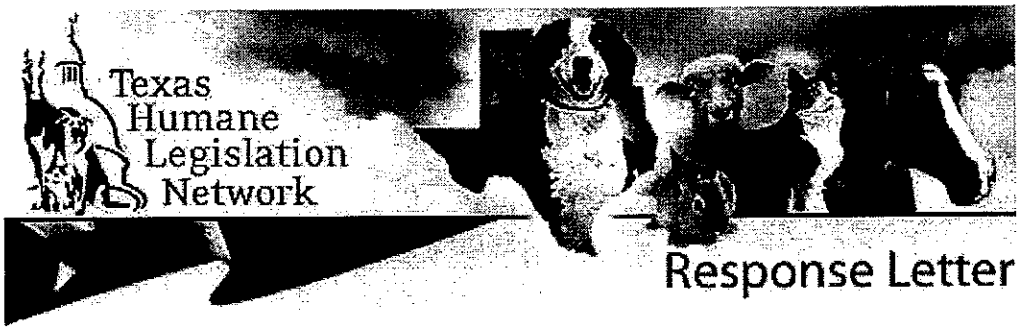
Return To Top ↗



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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Reiner
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:09:15 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya Douglas
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:16:19 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

I strongly believe that the following changes and modifications are necessary to ensure MINIMUM standards for humane treatment -

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

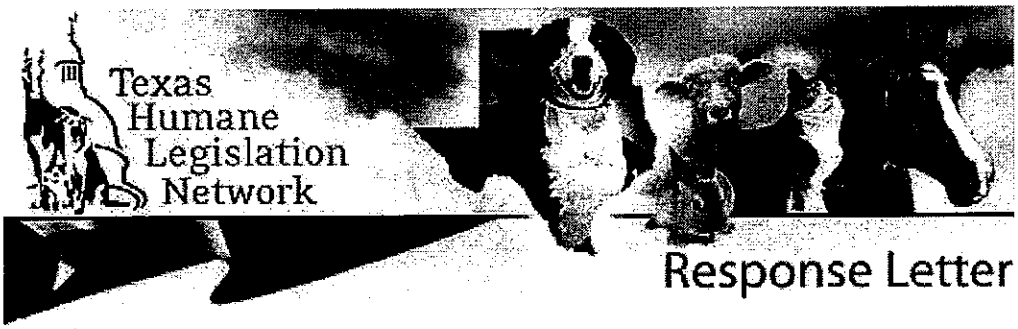
Respectfully submitted,

Krista Keosheyan
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 5:05:22 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Harlan
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:39:59 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Trahan
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:20:05 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

joann mccormick
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 5:09:26 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thin.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Franklin
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:29:54 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

Wire floors. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably cruel confinement. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

No cage stacking. There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage sizes. I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Vet Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Stevens
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 11:41:13 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Melton
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 11:48:01 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, de-clawing and debarking.

In addition to the lack of humane conditions addressed here. It is so important to address the unfair tax burden required for animal control on the public due to overpopulation of pets.

Please help stop these very cruel and shameful practices. Businesses conducted in this manner are bad for animals, bad for the public and bad for the state of Texas.

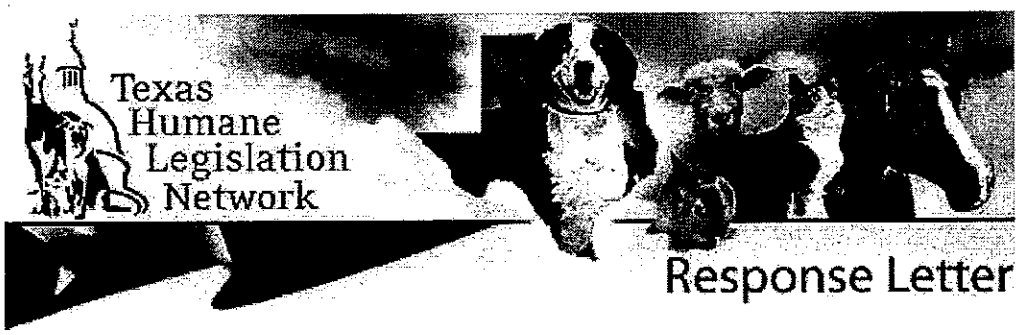
Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Taylor
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 2:11:03 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Hughes
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:18:26 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette flexer

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 11:30:01 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Schuster
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 3:59:51 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Tandra Vidal
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 4:27:12 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

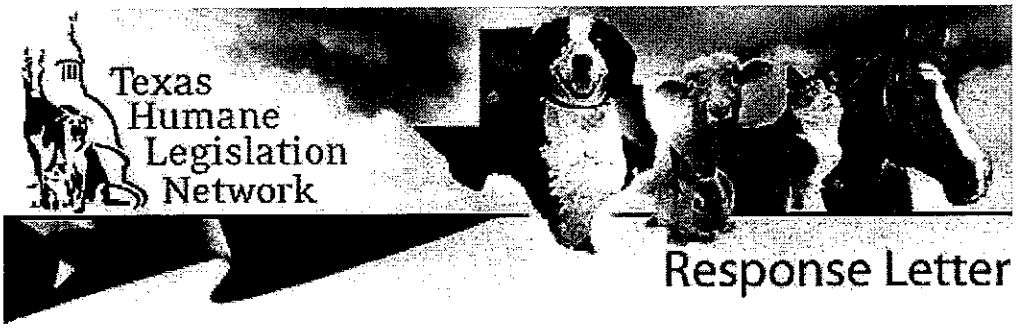
stephanie hendricks

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 12:13:04 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Please represent me and all other people who care about animal abuse by voting to strengthen the proposed licensed breeder regulations.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathryn Mayo
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:03:42 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

G.K. Khalsa
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:13:32 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Hollifield
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:57:43 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

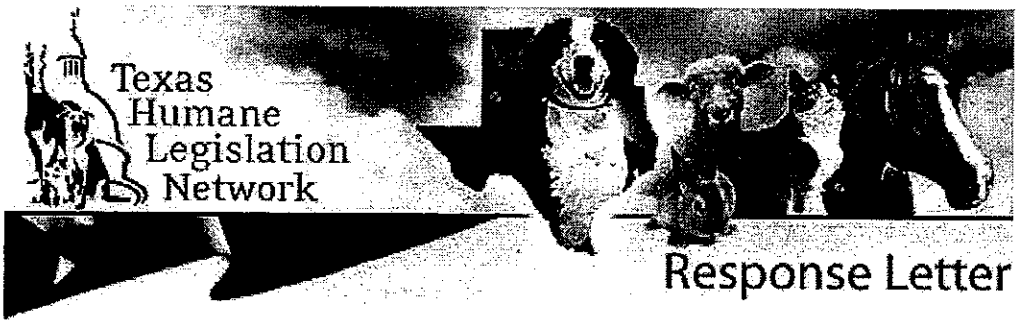
Respectfully submitted,

Scott Walker
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:24:43 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle White
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:29:37 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ?cruel confinement?. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle White
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:29:47 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

Regarding 100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, the limit should be only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I strongly disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Flannery-Gauthier
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:03:09 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jocelyn White
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 10:48:31 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Addison
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 11:04:56 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDenna Dougherty
P[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 11:26:02 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Cass
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 9:54:41 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Dinges
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 8:53:39 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

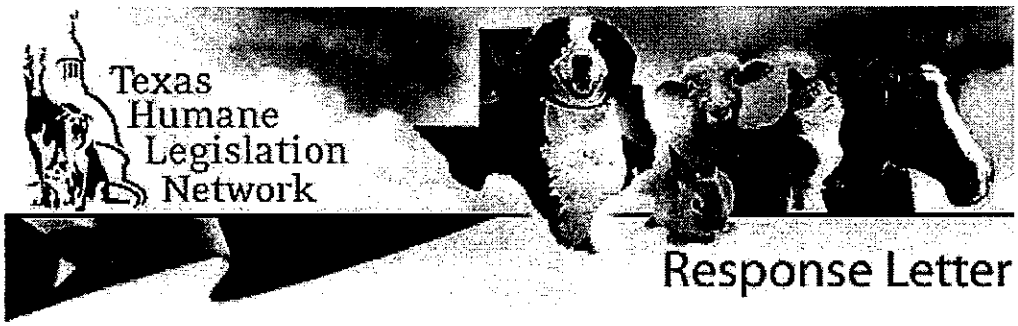
Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Haley
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 2:30:22 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Batchelor
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 11:13:22 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Mildred Sanders
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 11:16:59 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Coleman
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:58:29 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

David Cooper
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:41:14 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Tonjes
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:31:36 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Pastre
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 11:16:37 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Froh
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 11:29:15 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Elrod
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 12:17:28 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

dorothy lauterbach

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 11:59:43 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Higgins
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 12:36:43 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

I'm outraged that this is even happening! It's up to you to do what is right. I hope that you will consider all of these recommendations. These are helpless animals. It's abusive to have them on 100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

LYNDA WILSON
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 12:38:03 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be adjusted to prohibit 100% wire flooring. In addition, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). Stacking of primary enclosures for dogs should not be permitted. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, stacking should be limited to allow only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance, and that date should be sooner rather than later.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Anything less is simply an invitation for unintentional and/or intentional mistreatment of these animals.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrence Powers
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 1:09:30 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Yancey
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:26:20 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Saldivar
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 12:43:44 PM

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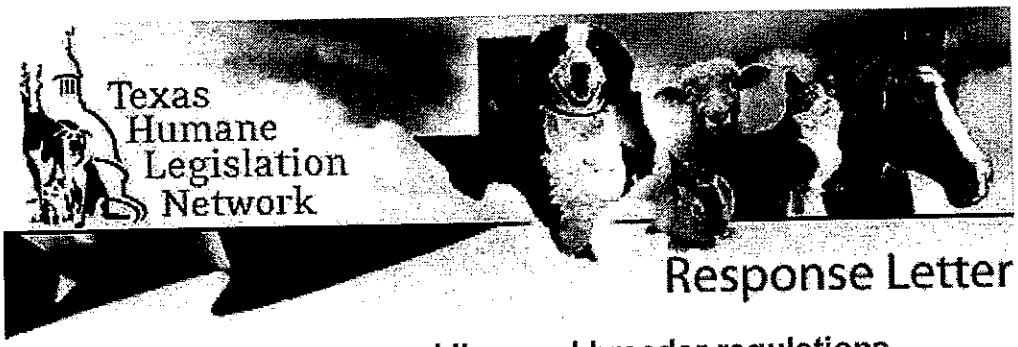
Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Hennessey
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:24:09 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

claudia morales
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 10:21:02 AM

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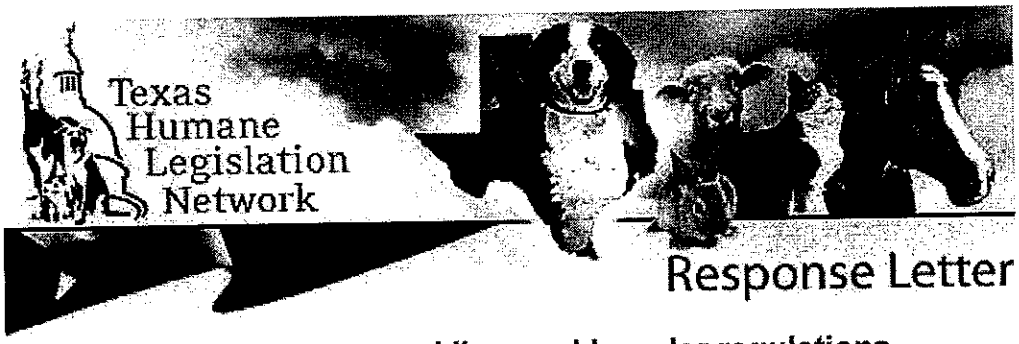
Respectfully submitted,

Hillary Hurst
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 9:32:32 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top



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Respectfully submitted,

Jacquelyn Heffernan
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:16:29 AM

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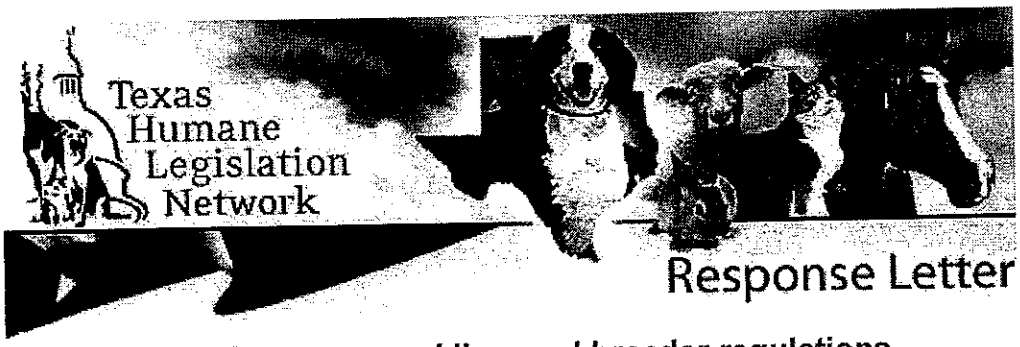
Return To Top ↗



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Respectfully submitted,

Brenna Baker
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 9:10:20 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Resa Prather
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 9:13:50 AM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Moore

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:16:47 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

CURTIS AND JANE HOFFMAN
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 9:12:20 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Maryann Wilkinson
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:19:23 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Tatum

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:27:55 AM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Warner
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:49:44 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Flynn
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:52:28 AM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Young
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 9:22:31 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Kitchen
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 9:04:31 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Mary Saucedo
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:47:42 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Wilcox
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:21:46 AM

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Respectfully submitted,

Dale Merriman
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:58:58 AM

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Becki Shepherd
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:51:02 AM

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo McCollum
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:33:47 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Monette Merriman
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:54:41 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

I can't believe I'm having to write to ask for these common-sense rules to make the life of animals in, let's face it - puppy mills, less horrific.

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. Having the feces & urine drip down onto animals in the lower cages is disgusting, unhealthy, and cruel.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Frankly, I'm completely opposed to tail docking, debarking, etc. But, if those procedures cannot be outlawed, then only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Harsh
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:59:40 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit no other primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased size of cages, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include a very brief outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Douglas
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:05:49 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Washler
[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 8:01:53 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

simply put, no animal deserves this.... mills are heinous.... and there are plenty of wonderful pets that need homes without adding to the population.... end this please!

Respectfully submitted,

kandie cook

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 6:58:29 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

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Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Arriaga

[redacted]

SENT 02.14.12 at 7:12:52 AM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Lee

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:48:37 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Terry

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:50:52 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Hill
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:52:15 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Cassidy
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:55:03 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Lee Balkin

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:54:00 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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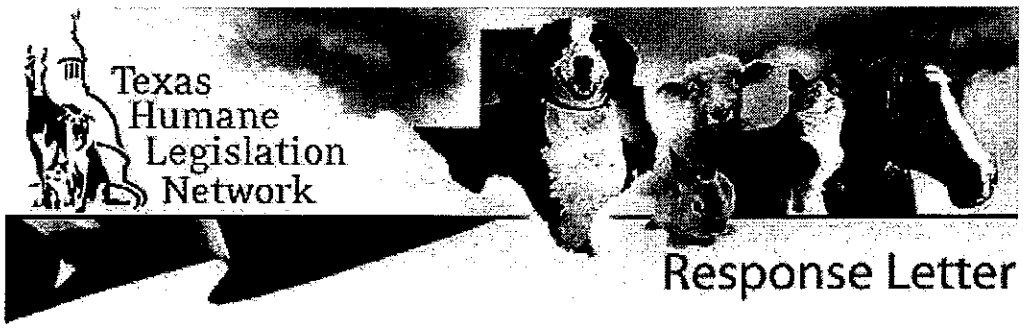

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Laci Dreher

[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 1:00:08 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

I am in rescue and am acutely aware of the cruel conditions that are trying to be corrected:

100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Fambrini
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:52:30 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Papa
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:43:37 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

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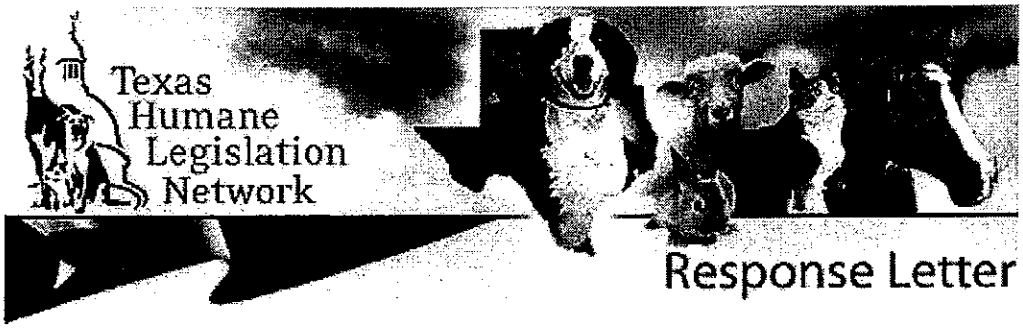

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

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1) 100% wire flooring (◆91.102 and ◆91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably ◆cruel confinement◆. The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

2) Cage Stacking (◆94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

3) Cage Sizes (◆91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

4) Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Thank you for your time. A reply to these comments would be most appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Lark Campbell
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:44:14 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

To the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations,

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

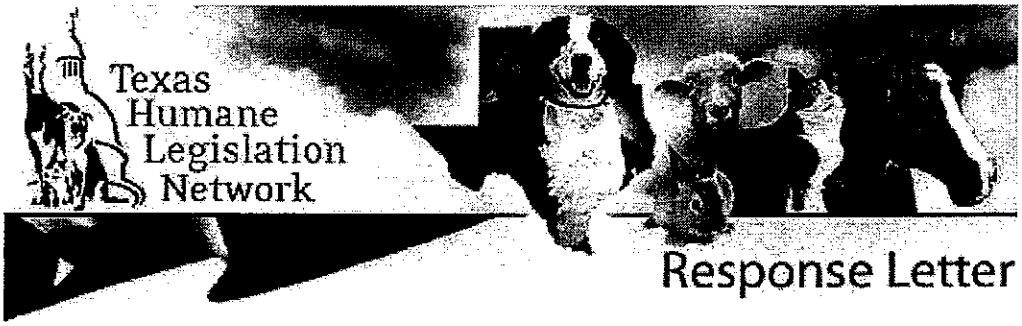
Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Oppenheim
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:44:43 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Ayse Iyriboze
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:37:46 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top

Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

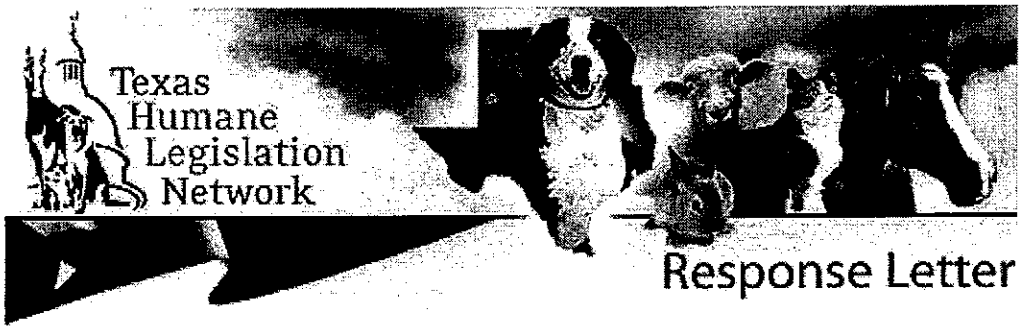
Respectfully submitted,

Claudia Chaffin
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:35:04 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗



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Veterinary Procedures (◆91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Rowe
[redacted]

SENT 02.13.12 at 12:39:08 PM

This response was facilitated by Texas Humane Legislation Network (www.thln.org).

Return To Top ↗

From: Jo Guthrie [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 2:44 PM
Subject: comments on proposed rules for licenesed breeders program

1.William H. Kuntz, Jr., Executive Director, has determined that for each year of the first five-year period the proposed new rules are in effect, there will be costs to the Department to enforce and administer these proposed rules. The expected cost is approximately $565,000 per year. Fees, which are included in the proposed new rules, have been set to generate revenues sufficient to cover these costs. There is no anticipated fiscal implication for units of local government.
>If only a few get licensed, the burden of cost falls on those few who abide by the rules, while the law breakers get away scott free, selling their puppies cheaper.

2. Mr. Kuntz also has determined that for each year of the first five-year period the proposed new rules are in effect, beyond the license fees discussed below, there will be no new economic costs imposed on businesses that comply with the licensing on or before the September 1, 2012
>How can we get licensed, when you don't know what the fees are? If you are having trouble getting kennels to abide by the license rule, do you think making the price higher will encourage them to et licensed?

3. Department believes that grandfathering the size of the enclosures (§91.104(3)) and the required solid flooring
>I think this needs to be spelled out more clearly. What are the requirements regarding solid flooring? Is off the ground coated wire enclosures acceptable?

4. (4) successfully pass a criminal background check for each applicant and controlling person;
>why the criminal background check? Do other licensed operators have to have criminal background check ie. cosmetologist, manicurist? Is this redone every year with license renewal?

5. (1) herding livestock, as defined by §1.003, Agriculture Code, or other agricultural uses;
(2) hunting, including tracking, chasing, pointing, flushing, or retrieving game; or
(3) competing in field trials, hunting tests, or similar organized performance events.
>Why are these exempted? This only opens the door for more people to break or bend the rules, when what is fair for one should be fair for all or unfair for one unfair for all? What are the guidelines, i.e. Yorkshire Terriers were originally breed for catching mice in the Castles of England, Dachshunds hunt badgers, Standard Poodles were lion hunted, then later water fowl, not that any of these breeds still do that, most are house pets, but are they exempted from the license law? Needs more clarification. What will be required to prove they are not personal use?

6. (b) The department may not issue a license to a breeder until the department receives a prelicense inspection report from the inspector in a format approved by the department certifying that the facility meets the requirements for a license.
> will there be printed information outlining the requirements for housing, rules, etc provided to the potential breeders, requesting a licenses, giving them time to make repairs, updates, to get facility within the requirements. Right now the whole process seems to be a little unorganized and not sure what the rules are, so how do the breeders really know what they need to do in order to be in compliance?

7.(a) Out-of-cycle inspections are those required in addition to periodic inspections required under §91.52 for licensed facilities to ensure compliance with this chapter.
Since a breeding kennel is now open for regular business hours, not open to the public and under the constant harrassment of AR, PETA, HSUS, and SPCA, many of us are afraid of who comes on our property uninvited. Wouldn't it make sense to make an appointment? I know several "Good Ole Boys" who would protect their property at gunpoint. What precautions will TDLR take not to spread disease ie. Parvo into my kennel?

8.(c) The owner of the facility shall pay the fee required under §91.80 for each out-of-cycle inspection.
>Will this be a predetermined fee, standard across the board, or will this be make up the rules as we go along? I think all fees,cost, expenses, should be set up and make public, so we know what we are looking at as far as operating cost.

9. Inspections/Complaints: This is a business that is already being targetted by HSUS, PETA, SPCA, AR Groups, and even some angry neighbors, will every complaining call warrant and inspection, which will in the end just be an added cost to the breeder. The inspection fees would force a breeder out of business, this would be just another win for PETA and or and angry neighbor.

10. (b) The department shall make the directory available to the public.
What information will be given and to who?

11. (a) The executive director shall develop procedures for the acceptance, conversion, and deposit of all donations offered by individuals, clubs, organizations, and all other sources.
Will a large donation from an AR group or angry neighbor influence the outcome of an inspection?

12. (b) The online reporting system shall provide an option designed to protect from disclosure the identity of persons electing to provide information anonymously.
This opens every breeder up to unfounded complaints. People should be allowed to face the accuser.

13.(c) A person shall be eligible to receive a reward if information submitted online or in writing to the department leads to the

issuance of a final order by the commission finding unlicensed activity under this chapter.
Why does this only effect dog breeders? In a beauty salon the sign just reads for complaints against this business call the TDLR, no reward. You are placing dog breeders in the same catagory as drug dealers and meth labs or america's most wanted. It is just a way of making bad neighbors and being a nosey neighbor is now profitable.

14.A licensed breeder shall prominently display at the breeder's facility, in an area readily accessible to the public, a copy of the department issued breeders license.
> Most kennels are not open and accessible to the public.

15.A licensed breeder must maintain at each of the breeder's facilities a printed and current copy of Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 802 and rules adopted by the department regulating licensed breeders.
When will this be made available to the breeders?

16. (a) Not later than February 1 of each year, a licensed breeder shall submit to the department, on a form prescribed by the department, an accounting of all animals held at the facility at any time during the preceding calendar year.
Is this an animal count? Will we be subject to tax on all our animals?

17.(a) Application Fees.
(1) Dog or Cat Breeder License (11-25 Intact Female Animals):
(A) Prelicense Inspection Fee--$175 per facility.
(B) Original Application--$475.
(C) Renewal--$475.
(D) Periodic and Out-of-Cycle Inspections--$175.
(E) Duplicate License--$25.
(2) Dog or Cat Breeder License (26-60 Intact Female Animals):
(A) Prelicense Inspection Fee--$350 per facility.
(B) Original Application--$950.
(C) Renewal--$950.
What are the fees of 60+ animals; 100+ animals, etc? So the so called exempted dogs hunting, herding, working dogs aren't counted in the license head count fee? So in example: I have 10 schnauzers, 10 Austalian Cattle dogs (exempted); 10 Austalian Sheperds (exempted); 30 Dachshunds (questionable if they are badger hunters or not); 10 Standard Poodles (questionable hunting dog) so what fee range would I be in. See my point of how gray the exempted dogs cause?

18. If other animals, ie. barn cats, horses, goats, cows are on the same property do they get counted in the head count?

19.85° F (29.5° C) for more than 4 consecutive hours when dogs or cats are present.
Many dogs in homes/yards of private homes stay outside for 8-1-24 hours a day, many Texas days temps reach over 85 degrees. I think 85 degree rule in Texas is unrealistic. Many humans work outside in excess of 85 degrees.

20.(a) Dogs and cats must be fed at least once each day, except as otherwise might be required to provide adequate veterinary care. The food must be uncontaminated, wholesome, palatable, and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain the normal condition and weight of the animal. The diet must be appropriate for the individual animal's age and condition.
I do agree with this statement. I just wonder why in Texas and the USA, we aren't more worried about the children in this great country who are going to be hungry at night. IF and when my dog breeding is stopped or I am forced out of business will this agency be there to feed my child twice a day, so I will have no income?

21.(a) Annual hands on examination. A licensed breeder shall have each animal used for breeding examined by a veterinarian at least once in every twelve month period and provide the animal with any treatment recommended by the veterinarian. The annual examination required by this section must be hands on by the veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical records related to each animal.
This is unrealistic and will impose unneccesary costs. If I have a dog who needs medical attention, I take her to the Vet, many things after 25 years in the dog business I ca do myself. To have a Vet come out an check well dogs is at least a $25-100 per dog additional cost, that will be added to my already large Vet bills. I don't see the doctor once a year myself, I can't afford it.

22. Licensees must not transport or deliver for transport in commerce a dog or cat unless the following requirements are met:
This is all covered with the airlines, once the dog leaves the breeder the breeder has no control over the airlines.

My points, opinions, and thoughts:
1. Surgical proceedures requiring a Vet: only if the animal has to be put to sleep to do it. Tail docking, dewclaw removal, ear cropping (if done under 10 days) does not require a Vet. Requiring a Vet to do minor things is just an added expenses, which many/most breeders have done more than the average Vet.
2. Yearly Vet checks of a healthy animal is not necessary and is just an added expenses. any reputable breeder has to keep all breeding stock in top notch health in order for the dog to be profitable.
3. Will any/all records, number of animals, number of sales, etc. be turned into to IRS or other branches of government?
4. Will names, address, email be made public, where AR groups can target us and harass us further?
5. Criminal Background checks are unfair, we are innocent people trying to make a living- other businesses aren't required to do a criminal background check. Why a dog breeder?
6. Why is the Government trying to force reputable breeders out of business? Many breeders don't have a college education and this is their only form of income, many who go out of business because they can not afford the fees, will be forced into unemployment and possibly end up on government aid. Seems like a loose loose situation.

7. If the committee makes the process of getting a licenses simpler and cheaper, more breeders will be likely to apply for a license instead of trying to hold out without a license as long as possible. Or move to another city or quit.
8. We need to all work together to improve and education, not just breeders, but consumers. The problem with pet overpopulation is not just the burden of breeders, many of these pets come from those who are not required to have a license. The family pet who only has a litter a year or the pit-bull chained in the back yard, who got accidentally breed, all these with little or no knowledge of the genetic or health of the parents.
9. Everyone in the animal industry should ban together to stand up against PETA, HSUS, SPCA, AR Groups, the dog breeders is not the only target, they want ALL animal industry stopped. If we don't fighting with each other, the whole nation will end up vegans.
10. Dogs, Cats, Cows, Horses, all animals are livestock and property and should be treated as such. I don't want to see any animal abused. But, as much as I love my dogs, I don't think dogs (or any animals), deserve better treatment than my children.
WAKE UP TEXAS!!
Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.
Sincerely,
Jo Guthrie
[redacted]

From: Sarah Gilmore [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:45 PM
Subject: Breeding Facility Proposed Rules and Standards

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It

would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. If you consider what conditions would be appropriate for your pet, I believe you will agree that these recommendations are common sense. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gilmore
[redacted]

From: "Stryk, Letitia A." [redacted]
To: "'erule.comments@license.state.tx.us'" <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/10/2012 2:58 PM
Subject: Please support puppy mill bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

>

> I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat

> breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January

> 20th.

>

> 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.

> Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and

> inhumane.

>

> 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is

> unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the

> animals below.

>

> 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical

> procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw

> removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a

> licensed veterinarian.

>

> 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their

> "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague,

> ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations

> which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT

> weakened.

>

> In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder

> mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions,

> rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and

> painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash

> crop."

>

> Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

>

>

> Respectfully,

>

> Letitia Stryk
[redacted]

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From: Joy Bass [redacted]
To: Melissa Rinard <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:20 PM
Subject: Chapter 91 Rules & Regulations for Texas HB1451
Attachments: Chapter 91 .doc

February 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard, Legal
Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of
Licensing and Regulation
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711
erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Following on Pages 1 thru 12 of this
communication are the Chapter 91 Proposed Rules & Regulations for the
implementation of Texas HB1451.

I have hilited the areas which
concern me; and starting on Page 13, I have provided my comments (in Red) for
these areas of concern by section.

Thank you for your time and
consideration in reading my comments.

Unlike all of the legislators who I
have copied with this correspondence via certified mail using the United States
Postal Service, I can be reached simply by e-mailing me. I don't require a form
to be filled out to correspond with me, and I gladly accept attachments.

Joy Bass
Bass
[redacted]m

Robert
Palestine,
[redacted]

CC: Texas Governor – Rick Perry
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711-2428

Texas Agriculture
Commissioner – Todd Staples
Texas Dept of
Agriculture
P.O. Box 12847
Austin, TX
78701

Texas Comptroller of
Public Accounts – Susan Combs
Texas Comptroller of Public
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Texas Farm Bureau – Regan
Beck, Asst. Gen. Counsel for Public Policy
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Texas State
Representative – Byron Cook
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Robert Nichols

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TX 75766

US Senator for State of
Texas - John Cornyn
Senate Office Bldg
517 Hart
Washington, DC 20510

US Senator for State of
Texas - Kay Bailey Hutchison
961 Federal Bldg
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Austin, TX 78701

16 TAC §§91.1, 91.10, 91.20 - Chapter 91. DOG OR CAT BREEDERS PROGRAM
91.25, 91.27 - 91.30, 91.40, 91.41, 91.50 - 91.62, 91.65, 91.66,
91.71 - 91.78, 91.80, 91.90 - 91.92, 91.100 - 91.113, 91.200 - 91.202

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (Department) proposes new 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 91, §§91.1, 91.10, 91.20 - 91.25, 91.27 - 91.30, 91.40, 91.41, 91.50 - 91.62, 91.65, 91.66, 91.71 - 91.78, 91.80, 91.90 - 91.92, 91.100 - 91.113, and 91.200 - 91.202, regarding the licensing and regulation of the dog and cat breeders program.

These proposed new rules are necessary to implement House Bill 1451, 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011 regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders.

Proposed new §91.1 provides the authority under which the rules are authorized.

Proposed new §91.10 defines the following terms in the rules: Adult animal, Animal, Cat, Commission, Controlling person, Department, Dog, Dog or cat breeder, Facility, Federal regulations, Intact female animal, Kitten, Licensed breeder, Possess, Primary enclosure, Puppy, Third-party inspector, Veterinarian, and Wire or Wire Mesh.

Proposed new §91.20 establishes the applicability of the rules.

Proposed new §91.21 creates presumptions about each adult intact female animal.

Proposed new §91.22 requires a license for certain persons and facilities engaged in the breeding of dogs and cats.

Proposed new §91.23 establishes the requirements to obtain a breeding license.

Proposed new §91.24 establishes the requirements to renew a breeding license, the consequences for allowing a license to lapse, and the responsibility for tracking the expiration date.

Proposed new §91.25 explains the permissible and mandatory reason a license could be denied.

Proposed new §91.27 provides due process requirements when a license is denied.

Proposed new §91.28 prescribes the methods for notice of Department action.

Proposed new §91.29 establishes the term of a license at one year.

Proposed new §91.30 sets forth the circumstances under which a license is not required and provides examples of evidence which might satisfy the burden of proving entitlement to the exemption.

Proposed new §91.40 establishes the requirement for registering as a third party inspector.

Proposed new §91.41 establishes the requirement to renew a third party inspector registration.

Proposed new §91.50 describes the requirements to obtain a prelicensing inspection of breeding facilities.

Proposed new §91.51 provides an exemption to the requirement for obtaining a prelicensing inspection of breeding facilities.

Proposed new §91.52 requires that each licensed facility be inspected in defined intervals for those and the procedures for conducting those inspections.

Proposed new §91.53 provides for additional inspections of facilities that fail to comply with the established rules of conduct or standards and prescribes the intervals for those additional inspections.

Proposed new §91.54 describes the procedures following a periodic or out-of-cycle inspection.

Proposed new §91.55 establishes a directory of licensed breeders and of third-party inspectors.

Proposed new §91.56 creates a database of dog or cat breeders who have been subject to disciplinary action or sanctions.

Proposed new §91.57 requires the Department to engage in certain consumer information activities.

Proposed new §91.58 authorizes the Department to accept certain donations and limits the purpose or manner the donations may be expended.

Proposed new §91.59 requires the design andcreation of an online complaint reporting system.

Proposed new §91.60 authorizes the Department to make payment for information leading to final orders finding unlicensed activity.

Proposed new §91.61 mandates that inspectors complete training or continuing education.

Proposed new §91.62 requires third party inspectors be issued photo identification.

Proposed new §91.65 discusses the purpose, composition and powers of the advisory committee.

Proposed new §91.66 establishes the responsibilities of inspectors, the scope of inspections and investigations, and requires the reporting of animal cruelty.

Proposed new §91.71 establishes the advertising standards for licensed breeders.

Proposed new §91.72 requires the open display of licenses issued to breeders.

Proposed new §91.73 requires that licensed breeders have a copy of the law and rules related to dog and cat breeders on site at each facility.

Proposed new §91.74 describes certain provisions which are required in every contract for the sale or transfer of animals.

Proposed new §91.75 requires 10-days notice after changes occur in the address, name, management, or controlling person of the business or operation of a licensee.

Proposed new §91.76 describes the requirements related to the annual inventory of animals that a licensee must keep.

Proposed new §91.77 describes the content of certain records as well as the storage of and retention period for those records.

Proposed new §91.78 requires a licensee to assist and cooperate with inspectors upon request.

Proposed new §91.80 establishes fee schedules for inspections, initial and renewal applications, and other license related fees.

Proposed new §91.90 provides for the imposition of administrative penalties and sanctions.

Proposed new §91.91 states the statutory authority to enforce the chapter.

Proposed new §91.92 provides for license revocation and suspension.

Proposed new §91.100 establishes general requirement for the construction of housing conditions of the site, maintenance and replacement of surfaces, cleaning, shelter utilities, storage, drainage and waste disposal, and washroom and sinks.

Proposed new §91.101 establishes the standards of care for indoor housing facilities related to heating, cooling and temperature control, ventilation, lighting, and interior surfaces.

Proposed new §91.102 establishes the standards of care for sheltered housing facilities related to heating, cooling and temperature control, ventilation, lighting, shelter from the elements, and surfaces.

Proposed new §91.103 establishes standards of care for outdoor housing facilities with certain restrictions, shelter from the elements, and construction requirements.

Proposed new §91.104 establishes general standards of care related to primary enclosures for dogs and cats. There are additional requirements for cats related to space, compatibility, litter, resting surfaces. There are additional requirement for dogs related to space and compatibility.

Proposed new §91.105 establishes standards of care related to animal grouping compatibility.

Proposed new §91.106 establishes exercise requirements of dogs and provides for limited qualified exceptions.

Proposed new §91.107 provides the standards of care regarding animal feeding.

Proposed new §91.108 provides the standard of care regarding the provision of water to animals.

Proposed new §91.109 establishes the standards of care for cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping and pest control in primary enclosures.

Proposed new §91.110 requires a licensee maintain sufficient trained onsite personnel at each licensed facility.

Proposed new §91.111 establishes a requirement for the grooming of animals.

Proposed new §91.112 requires an annual examination and preventative care, provides for rest between breeding cycles and prohibits euthanasia and certain surgical procedures unless performed by a licensed veterinarian.

Proposed new §91.113 establishes requirements related to the sale and transfer of animals.

Proposed new §91.200 establishes food and water requirements for animals in transport.

Proposed new §91.201 establishes transportation requirements related to heating, cooling and temperature, ventilation and lighting.
Proposed new §91.202 establishes standards related to the primary enclosure used to transport live animals with respect to construction of the enclosure, cleaning, ventilation, animal compatibility, space, and placement.
William H. Kuntz, Jr., Executive Director, has determined that for each year of the first five-year period the proposed new rules are in effect, there will be costs to the Department to enforce and administer these proposed rules. The expected cost is approximately $565,000 per year. Fees, which are included in the proposed new rules, have been set to generate revenues sufficient to cover these costs. There is no anticipated fiscal implication for units of local government. Mr. Kuntz has determined that for each year of the first five-year period the proposed new rules are in effect, the public benefit will be the licensing of dog and cat breeders engaged in the breeding and sale of dog and cats ensuring the quality of life of the animals is maintained at a safe and humane level. In addition, the proposed new rules will more clearly level the competitive field between regulated breeders by requiring they maintain records and provide medical care for each animal thus standardizing basic levels of care. Mr. Kuntz also has determined that for each year of the first five-year period the proposed new rules are in effect, beyond the license fees discussed below, there will be no new economic costs imposed on businesses that comply with the licensing on or before the September 1, 2012 effective date for obtaining a breeders' license. Since the number of potential licensees is unknown as well as whether those potential licensees currently operating within the standards established by these rules, the Department is without information to quantify the potential cost increases. In consideration of the potential cost increases and balancing the interests and welfare of the animals, the Department believes that grandfathering the size of the enclosures (§91.104(3)) and the required solid flooring (§91.102(e)(1)) will minimize eliminate those potential cost increase to persons complying with the licensing requirements by September 1, 2012, the date of statutory compliance. For those potential licensees who choose not to obtain a license on or before the licensing effective date, the Department believes those additional costs are voluntarily assumed by the licensee's failure to obtain a license within the statutory timeframe. Persons required to obtain a license under the new employee licensing requirements will be subject to new fees; however, those fees are imposed by statute and not a result of this chapter. Except for the licensing fees, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation request that interested parties provide additional costs estimates for implementation of these proposed rules and suggest alternative less costly methods for compliance. In drafting the proposed rules, and consistent with other regulated programs, the Department minimizes any adverse economic effect by allowing for electronic registrations and filings. There is no anticipated negative impact on local employment.
Comments on the proposal may be submitted by mail to Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, P.O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711; by facsimile to (512) 475-3032; or by email to erule.comments@license.state.tx.us. The deadline for comments is 30 days after publication in the Texas Register.
The new rules are proposed under Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 802 which directs the Department's governing body, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation, to adopt rules to implement the licensed breeders program, and Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 51, which authorizes the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation to adopt rules as necessary to implement this chapter and any other law establishing a program regulated by the Department.
The statutory provisions affected by the proposal are those set forth in Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 51 and Chapter 802. No other statutes, articles, or codes are affected by the proposal.

§91.1.Authority.

This chapter is adopted under the authority of the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 51 and Chapter 802.

§91.10.Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.
(1) Adult animal--An animal six months of age or older.
(2) Animal--A dog or a cat.
(3) Cat--A mammal that is wholly or partly of the species Felis domesticus.
(4) Commission--The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation under Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 51.
(5) Controlling person--An individual who:
(A) is a partner, manager, director, officer, or member of a dog or cat breeder;
(B) possesses the authority to set policy or direct management of a dog or cat breeder; or
(C) possesses a direct or indirect control of 25 percent or more of a dog or cat breeder.
(6) Department--The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation under Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 51.
(7) Dog--A mammal that is wholly or partly of the species Canis familiaris.
(8) Dog or cat breeder--A person who possesses 11 or more adult intact female animals and is engaged in the business of breeding those animals for direct or indirect sale or for exchange in return for consideration and who sells or exchanges, or offers to sell or exchange, not fewer than 20 animals in a calendar year.
(9) Facility--The premises used by a dog or cat breeder for keeping or breeding animals. The term includes all buildings, property, and confinement areas used to conduct the breeding business.
(10) Federal regulations--The specifications for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of dogs and cats set forth in 9 C.F.R. Part 3, Subpart A.
(11) Intact female animal--A female animal that has not been spayed and is capable of reproduction.
(12) Kitten--A cat less than six months old.
(13) Licensed breeder--A dog or cat breeder who holds a license issued under this chapter.
(14) Possess--To have custody of or control over.
(15) Primary enclosure--Any structure used to restrict an animal to a limited amount of space. The term includes a room, pen, run, cage, or compartment.
(16) Puppy--A dog less than six months old.
(17) Third-party inspector--Any of the following entities with which the department contracts under Texas Occupations Code, §802.061, including an employee of the entity:
(A) a state agency; or
(B) a local law enforcement agency or fire department.
(18) Veterinarian--A veterinarian in good standing and licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this state.
(19) Wire or Wire Mesh--Any metal, alloy or other material which allows a free air flow through the material when used as, or constructed to be used, as flooring or walls or ceilings for any structure required by this chapter. The strands of metal, alloy or other material must be completely encased with a plastic or rubberized coating and designed so the animal's paws are unable to extend through, or become caught in, the floor.

§91.20.Applicability.

(a) This chapter does not affect the applicability of any other law, rule, order, ordinance, or other legal requirement of the federal government, this state, or a political subdivision of this state.
(b) This chapter does not prevent a municipality or county from prohibiting or further regulating by order or ordinance the possession, breeding, or selling of dogs or cats.
(c) This chapter does not apply to an animal regulated under the Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).

§91.21.License Required--Presumptions.

For purposes of this chapter, each adult intact female animal possessed by a person engaged in the business of breeding animals for direct or indirect sale or for exchange in return for consideration is presumed to be used for breeding purposes unless the person establishes to the satisfaction of the department, based on the person's breeding records or other evidence reasonably acceptable to the department, that the animal is not used for breeding.

§91.22.License Required--Dog or Cat Breeder.

(a) A person may not act as, offer to act as, or represent that the person is a dog or cat breeder in this state unless the person holds a license under this chapter for each facility that the person owns or operates in this state.

(b) A license for a single facility may cover more than one building on the same premises.
(c) For purposes of this section, each noncontiguous premise or physical location is a separate facility and must obtain a license under this chapter.

§91.23.License Requirements--Dog or Cat Breeder.

To be eligible for a Dog or Cat Breeders license, an applicant must:
(1) submit a completed application on a department approved form;
(2) provide a valid state tax identification number or exemption certificate number;
(3) provide the name, and address of each controlling person;
(4) successfully pass a criminal background check for each applicant and controlling person;
(5) successfully pass a facility prelicense inspection conducted by a department approved inspector or provide a valid Class A animal dealers license number; and
(6) pay the fee required under §91.80.

§91.24.License Requirements--Dog or Cat Breeders License Renewal.

(a) To renew a breeder license, an applicant must:
(1) submit a completed application on a department approved form;
(2) provide a valid state tax identification number or exemption certificate number;
(3) provide the name, and address of each controlling person;
(4) successfully pass a criminal background check for each applicant or controlling person;
(5) be in compliance with all Commission Orders directed to applicant or a controlling person;and
(6) pay the fee required under §91.80.
(b) To renew and maintain continuous licensure, the renewal requirements under this section must be completed prior to the expiration of the license. A late renewal--the licensee will have an unlicensed period from the expiration date of the expired license to the issuance date of the renewed license. During the unlicensed period, a person may not perform any functions of a breeder that requires a license under this chapter.
(c) Non-receipt of a license renewal notice from the department does not exempt a person from any requirements of this chapter.

§91.25.License Approval and Issuance.

(a) The department shall deny issuance of a license to, or refuse to renew the license of, a person if the person or a controlling person of the dog or cat breeder has pled guilty to, been convicted of, or received deferred adjudication for animal cruelty or neglect in this state or any other jurisdiction in the five years preceding the person's initial or renewal application for a license.
(b) The department may deny issuance of a license to, refuse to renew the license held by a person who:
(1) fails to meet the requirements of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter;
(2) has had a similar license issued by a federal, state, or local authority denied, revoked, or suspended;
(3) has falsified any material information requested by the department;
(4) has failed to meet a standard adopted by rule under this chapter; or
(5) has failed to comply with any corrective action required under an inspection report in the time provided by the report.

§91.27.License or Registration--Notice of Proposed Denial, Opportunity to Comply.

(a) If the department recommends denial of an application for a license or registration under this chapter, the department shall send written notice of the decision to the applicant at the address shown on the application by certified mail, return receipt requested.
(b) The notice must state the reason for the department's decision.
(c) The notice may state that the decision is temporary pending compliance by the applicant. If the decision is temporary and the applicant complies with this chapter not later than the 14th day after the date the applicant receives the notice, the department may approve the application.

§91.28.Department Notifications to Licensee or Registrant.

Unless otherwise provided for by statute or this chapter, the department may send notice of department proposed actions and decisions through email sent to the last email address designated by the licensee or registrant.

§91.29.License or Registration--Term.

A license or registration issued by the department is valid only for the person named on the license or registration; applies only to the single facility, agency, department or person named on the license or registration; is nontransferable and is valid for 12 months from the date of issuance.

§91.30.Exemptions.

(a) This section applies only to a dog bred with the intent that it be used primarily for:
(1) herding livestock, as defined by §1.003, Agriculture Code, or other agricultural uses;
(2) hunting, including tracking, chasing, pointing, flushing, or retrieving game; or
(3) competing in field trials, hunting tests, or similar organized performance events.
(b) This chapter does not apply to a person to the extent the person breeds dogs described by subsection (a) for personal use. A person described by this subsection may conduct direct or indirect sales or exchanges in return for consideration of dogs described by subsection (a).
(c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), a person described by subsection (b) may be subject to the requirements of this chapter based on the person's activities with respect to animals other than dogs that are bred and used as described by this section.
(d) Dogs described by subsection (a) may not be counted for purposes of determining the number of adult intact female animals possessed by a person as described by §91.10(8).
(e) For purposes of this section a dog is presumed to count under §91.10 (8) unless a person submits evidence acceptable to the department demonstrating the dog meets an exemption described in subsection (a), including but not limited to:
(1) evidence of agriculture activity or business operations using a dog described by this section;
(2) entry registration forms or receipts issued by an entity sponsoring, conducting or organizing competitive events.
(f) All evidence submitted under this section must uniquely and conclusively identify and relate to the specific dog or dogs for which an exemption is requested.

§91.40.Inspector Registration Requirements.

(a) An applicant seeking an inspector registration must:
(1) be a state agency, local law enforcement agency, fire department; or
(2) be an employee of an agency or department identified in subsection (a)(1);
(3) submit a completed application on a department-approved form; and
(4) pay the fee required under §91.80.
(b) An applicant seeking an inspector registration under subsection (a)(1) must:
(1) submit the names of persons who will perform inspections on behalf of the registrant; and
(2) submit proof that each person named in subsection (b)(1) successfully completed training required by §91.61.
(c) An applicant seeking an inspector registration under subsection (a)(2) must:
(1) submit proof of current employment;
(2) successfully complete training required by §91.61; and
(3) successfully pass a criminal background check.

§91.41.Inspector Registration Renewal Requirements.

(a) To renew an inspector registration, an applicant must:

(1) be a state agency, local law enforcement agency, fire department; or
(2) be an employee of an agency or department identified in subsection (a)(1);
(3) submit a completed application on a department-approved form; and
(4) pay the fee required under §91.80.
(b) An applicant seeking renewal under subsection (a)(2) must:
(1) submit proof of employment; and
(2) successfully pass a criminal background check.
(c) To renew and maintain continuous registration, the renewal requirements under this section must be completed prior to the expiration of the registration. A late renewal means the inspector will have an unregistered period from the expiration date of the expired registration to the issuance date of the renewed registration. During the unregistered period, a person may not perform the functions of an inspector under this chapter.
(d) Non-receipt of a registration renewal notice from the department does not exempt a person from any requirements of this chapter.

§91.50.Inspections--Prelicense.

(a) Except as provided by §91.51, the department shall inspect a facility before a license is issued for the facility.
(b) The department may not issue a license to a breeder until the department receives a prelicense inspection report from the inspector in a format approved by the department certifying that the facility meets the requirements for a license.
(c) Before the prelicense inspection may be conducted, applicant must pay to the department the required inspection fee and the reasonable expenses of the department related to its licensing and inspection duties under this chapter.
(d) An applicant whose facility does not meet the requirements of this chapter as revealed by a prelicense inspection may, after correcting deficiencies noted in the inspection report, request another prelicense inspection by paying the required fee to the department.

§91.51.Inspections--Prelicense Exemption.

The department may not require a prelicense inspection of a facility for an applicant who:
(1) holds a current Class A animal dealers license issued under the Animal Welfare Act; and
(2) submits to the department:
(A) a copy of the license; and
(B) on a form prescribed by the department, provide a statement certifying that the facility meets the requirements of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter.

§91.52.Inspections--Periodic.

(a) Each facility of a licensed breeder shall be inspected at least once in every 18-month period.
(b) The inspection must be conducted during the facility's normal business hours, and the licensed breeder or a representative of the licensed breeder must be given a reasonable opportunity to be present during the inspection.
(c) If necessary to adequately perform the inspection, the department or third-party inspector may determine it is appropriate to not provide advance notice to the licensed breeder or a representative of the licensed breeder before arriving at the facility. The licensed breeder or its representative shall, on request of an inspector, assist the inspector in performing the inspection.
(d) An inspector may not enter or access any portion of a private residence of a licensed breeder except as necessary to access animals or other property relevant to the care of the animals.
(e) The inspector may request that relevant documents or records be provided for inspection.
(f) The inspector shall submit an inspection report to the department not later than the 10th day after the date of the inspection on a form prescribed by the department and provide a copy of the report to the licensed breeder or its representative.
(g) Based on the results of the periodic inspection, a licensed facility may be moved to an out-of cycle inspection provide for in §91.53. The department will notify the owner of the facility, in writing, if the facility becomes subject to out-of-cycle inspection and the scheduled frequency of inspections.
(h) The licensee, manager, or representative must, upon request, make available to the inspector all records and other documents required by this chapter.
(i) On completion of the periodic inspection and on a form approved by the department, while the inspector is at the facility, the inspector shall leave proof of inspection with the licensee or representative of licensee listing the rule sections not meeting the requirements of this chapter. The proof of inspection required by this section is in addition to the completed report required by this chapter and does not affect the validity of the completed detailed report.
(j) The inspection report will identify violations that must be corrected by the licensee. The report will also indicate the corrective actions required to address the violations.
(k) The department may assess administrative penalties and/or administrative sanctions for violations disclosed during inspections under this chapter.
§91.53.Out-of-Cycle Inspections.
(a) Out-of-cycle inspections are those required in addition to periodic inspections required under **§91.52 for licensed facilities to ensure compliance with this chapter.**
(b) To determine which licensee will be subject to out-of-cycle inspections, the department has established criteria and frequencies for inspections.
(c) The owner of the facility shall pay the fee required under §91.80 for each out-of-cycle inspection.
(d) Facilities subject to out-of-cycle inspections may be scheduled for inspection based on the following risk criteria and inspection frequency:

Figure: 16 TAC §91.53(d

Tier	Criteria	Total Inspection Frequency (includes both periodic and out-of-cycle inspections)
Tier 1	Violation of the rules related to records required by this chapter.	Once each year
Tier 2	A serious or repeated violation relating to sanitation violations or failure to timely remedy violations documented during periodic inspections, investigations or commission orders.	Twice each year
Tier 3	Repeated, serious violations related to shelter, food, water, and medical treatment or examinations.	Four times each year

(e) At the time of inspection of a licensee, the owner, manager, or their representative must, upon request, make available to the inspector, records, notices and other documents required by this chapter.
(f) On completion of the out-of-cycle inspection and on a form approved by the department, while the inspector is at the facility, the inspector shall leave proof of inspection with the licensee or representative of licensee listing the rule sections not meeting the requirements of this chapter. The proof of inspection required by this section is in addition to the completed report required by this chapter and does not affect the validity of the completed detailed report.

(g) The inspection report will identify violations that must be corrected by the licensee. The report will also indicate the corrective actions required to address the violations. Additionally, the department may assess administrative penalties and/or administrative sanctions for violations identified during the out-of-cycle inspection.
(h) Facilities on an out-of-cycle inspection schedule that have no significant violations in four consecutive inspections, may be moved to a less frequent out-of-cycle inspection schedule or returned to a periodic schedule of inspections. The department will notify the licensee, in writing, if there is a change in the facility's out-of-cycle schedule or if the facility is returned to a periodic inspection schedule.

§91.54.Corrective Actions Following Periodic or Out-of-Cycle Inspections.

(a) When corrective actions to achieve compliance are required:
(1) the department shall provide the licensee a list of required corrective actions; and
(2) within 15 calendar days after receiving the list of required corrective actions, the license shall complete all corrective actions and provide written verification of the corrective actions to the department.
(b) The department may grant an extension, consistent with established procedures, if satisfactory evidence is presented showing that the time period specified is inadequate to perform the necessary corrections.
(c) The department may assess administrative penalties and/or administrative sanctions for violations or for failure to timely complete corrective actions or timely provide written verification of the completion of corrections to the department.

§91.55.Responsibilities of the Department--Directory.

(a) The department shall maintain a directory of licensed breeders and of third-party inspectors registered under this chapter.
(b) The department shall make the directory available to the public.

§91.56.Responsibilities of the Department--Disciplinary Database.

(a) The department shall maintain a database of dog or cat breeders who have been subject to disciplinary action or sanctions.
(b) The department shall make the information maintained in the database available to the public.

§91.57.Responsibilities of the Department--Consumer Interest Information.

(a) The department shall prepare information of consumer interest describing:
(1) the functions performed by the department under this chapter; and
(2) the rights of a consumer affected by this chapter.
(b) The information must describe the procedure by which a consumer complaint is filed with and resolved by the department.
(c) The department shall make the information available to the public.

§91.58.Responsibilities of the Department--Donations, Disbursementts and Reporting.

(a) The executive director shall develop procedures for the acceptance, conversion, and deposit of all donations offered by individuals, clubs, organizations, and all other sources.
(b) Conversion of donations of real or personal property into United States currency shall be accomplished by the executive director or designee.
(c) Donations received shall be deposited in a dedicated training and enforcement account in the general revenue fund to the credit of general revenue subject to exemption from the application of §403.095, Government Code.
(d) The executive director shall approve in writing all disbursements from the training and information account.
(e) A disbursement under this section may include but is not limited to promotional costs to enhance the fund.
(f) All donations may be used for these purposes unless otherwise specifically prohibited by the donor.
(g) All disbursements from the accounts will be by check signed by the director.
(h) The commission will be furnished a quarterly report detailing all deposits into and expenditures from the fund.

§91.59.Responsibilities of the Department--Reporting Violations; Eligibility of Applicant.

(a) The department shall establish an online complaint reporting system for reporting violations of this chapter, including unlicensed activity by persons required to obtain a license under this chapter.
(b) The online reporting system shall provide an option designed to protect from disclosure the identity of persons electing to provide information anonymously.
(c) A person shall be eligible to receive a reward if information submitted online or in writing to the department leads to the issuance of a final order by the commission finding unlicensed activity under this chapter.
(d) A person providing information under this section may be identified either by name, address and telephone number or may request an anonymous code number which shall be used in lieu of person's name in all subsequent transactions.
(e) Information provided by a person under this section shall be independently verified and substantiated by department inspectors or investigators.

§91.60.Responsibilities of the Department--Payment of Rewaards.

(a) The amount of reward granted to eligible applicants may not exceed $1,000 and shall be determined on a case by case basis by the executive director.
(b) In the event two or more eligible applicants furnish information pertaining to unlicensed activity, the reward may be divided among the eligible applicants in an amount determined by the executive director.
(c) A reward under this section must be authorized by the executive director in writing stating the public purpose served by the payment.
(d) A decision by the executive director to pay or otherwise allocate reward payments is within the sole discretion of the executive director and this chapter in no way provides an independent right to such payments, if any.
(e) If the commission issues a final order finding unlicensed activity by a person named in the complaint submitted under this section, the department shall issue payment to the person or persons providing the information as soon thereafter as is practical.

§91.61.Responsibilities of the Department--Inspector Training.

The department shall prepare and schedule training for applicants for inspector registration and notify registered inspectors of the availability of continuing education to ensure compliance with this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter.

§91.62.Responsibilities of the Department--Inspector Identification.

The department shall issue photo identification to each inspector registered under §91.40.

§91.65.Advisory Committee.

(a) The commission shall establish an advisory committee to advise the commission and make recommendations on matters related to the administration and enforcement of this chapter, including licensing fees and standards.
(b) The advisory committee consists of nine members appointed by the presiding officer of the commission with the approval of the commission as follows:
(1) two members who are licensed breeders;
(2) two members who are veterinarians;
(3) two members who represent animal welfare organizations each of which has an office based in this state;
(4) two members who represent the public; and
(5) one member who is an animal control officer as defined in §829.001, Health and Safety Code.(c) Members of the advisory committee serve staggered four-year terms. The terms of four or five members expire on February 1 of each odd-numbered year. If a vacancy occurs during a member's term, the presiding officer of the commission, with the approval of the commission, shall appoint a replacement member to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.
(d) The presiding officer of the commission shall designate one member of the advisory committee to serve as presiding officer of the advisory committee for a two-year term. A member may serve more than one term as presiding officer.
(e) The advisory committee shall meet annually and at the call of the presiding officer of the advisory committee, the presiding officer of the commission, or the executive director of the department.

(f) Except for the members described by subsection (b)(1), a person may not be a member of the advisory committee if the person or a member of the person's household:
(1) is required to be licensed under this chapter;
(2) is an officer, employee, or paid consultant of an entity required to be licensed under this chapter;
(3) owns or controls, either directly or indirectly, more than a 10 percent interest in an entity required to be licensed under this chapter; or
(4) is required to register as a lobbyist under Chapter 305, Government Code, because of the person's activities for compensation on behalf of an entity required to be licensed under this chapter.
(g) The presiding officer of the commission may remove from the advisory committee a member who is ineligible for membership under subsection (f).
(h) A member may not receive compensation for service on the advisory committee. Subject to the department's budget and any limitation provided by the General Appropriations Act, a committee member may receive reimbursement for the actual and necessary expenses incurred while performing advisory committee duties.
(i) A decision of the advisory committee is effective only on a majority vote of the members present.
(j) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the size, composition, or duration of the advisory committee or to the appointment of the committee's presiding officer.

§91.66.Responsibilities of Inspectors--Inspections, Investigations, and Reports of Animal Cruelty.

(a) An inspector or investigation must conduct inspections during the facility's normal business hours, and the licensed breeder or a representative of the licensed breeder must be given a reasonable opportunity to be present during the inspection.
(b) If an inspector determines it is not appropriate to provide advance notice to the licensed breeder or a representative of the licensed breeder before arriving at the facility, the inspection report must describe the reasons supporting the determination.
(c) In conducting an inspection or investigation under this section, an inspector may not enter or access any portion of a private residence of a licensed breeder except as necessary to access animals or other property relevant to the care of the animals. **This subsection does not apply to the investigation of unlicensed activity.**
(d) An inspector may request that relevant documents or records be provided for inspection.
(e) Inspectors must submit inspection reports to the department not later than the 10th day after the date of the inspection on a form and manners prescribed by the department and provide a copy of the report to the licensed breeder or its representative.
(f) An inspector may not perform an inspection authorized by §91.52 and §91.53 unless assigned or requested by the department.
(g) Inspections must be conducted in accordance with:
(1) the training procedures and protocols approved by the department; or
(2) if good cause exist to deviate from the established procedures and protocols or if no procedure or protocol exist for the issues presented during the inspection or investigation, the inspection report must contain a explanation of the issues presented and procedures followed.

§91.71.Responsibilities of Licensee--Advertising.

(a) A licensed breeder may not engage in false, misleading, or deceptive advertising.
(b) Each advertisement must conspicuously include the facility license number in font clearly distinguishable from the background.
(c) For purposes of this section, a website and any offer to sell is considered advertising.
§91.72.Responsibilities of Licensee--Display of Breeders License.
A licensed breeder shall prominently display at the breeder's facility, in an area readily accessible to the public, a copy of the department issued breeders license.

§91.73.Responsibilities of Licensee--Onsite Availability of Law and Rules.

A licensed breeder must maintain at each of the breeder's facilities a printed and current copy of Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 802 and rules adopted by the department regulating licensed breeders. §91.74.Responsibilities of Licensee--Mandatory Contract Provisions.
A licensed breeder must include in each contract for the sale or transfer of an animal:
(1) the license number; and
(2) the following statement: "Dog and cat breeders are regulated by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, P.O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711, 1-800-803-9202, 512-463-6599, www.license.state.tx.us" or a similar statement adopted by commission rule that includes the department's name, mailing address, telephone numbers, and Internet website address.

§91.75.Responsibilities of Licensee--Change in License Information.

A licensed breeder must notify the department in writing not later than the 10th day after the date
any change occurs in the address, name, management, or controlling person of the business or operation.

§91.76.Responsibilities of Licensee--Annual Inventory.

(a) Not later than February 1 of each year, a licensed breeder shall submit to the department, on a form prescribed by the department, an accounting of all animals held at the facility at any time during the preceding calendar year.
(b) The licensed breeder shall keep copies of the items described by subsection (a) at the licensed breeder's facility and shall make them available on request to the department or a third-party inspector designated by the department.
(c) A licensed breeder that has more than one facility shall:
(1) keep separate records for each facility; and
(2) submit a separate accounting of animals for each facility.

§91.77.Responsibilities of Licensee--Animal Records Content, Availability, and Retention Period.

(a) A licensed breeder shall maintain, at the licensed facility where the animal is kept, a separate
record for each animal in the breeder's facility documenting the animal's care. (1) Records required by this section must be maintained for at least five (5) years and must include:
(A) the date on which the animal enters the facility or operation;
(B) the person from whom the animal was purchased or obtained, including the name, address and phone number of such person, and license or registration number if applicable;
(C) a description of each animal, including the species, color, breed, sex, date of birth (if not known, the approximate age) and weight;
(D) any tattoo, microchip, or other identification number carried by or appearing on the animal;
(E) for breeding females:
(i) breeding dates;
(ii) whelping or queening dates;
(iii) number of puppies or kittens per litter; and(iv) sire or tom for each litter.
(2) Records required by this section are in addition to records related to preventative and therapeutic veterinary care provided each animal.
(3) The disposition of each animal with date of disposition.
(b) The licensed breeder shall make the animal records available on request to the department or a third-party inspector designated by the department.
(c) Records required by this chapter shall be kept at the licensed facility where the animal was last housed for two years from the date the last entry in the records or the date the animal is no longer housed at the facility.
(d) When an animal subject to this chapter is transferred from one licensed facility to another licensed facility, a copy of records related to that animal and required by this chapter must be transferred contemporaneously with the transferred animal.

§91.78.Responsibilities of Licensee--Inspections.

The licensed breeder or its representative shall, on request of an inspector, assist the inspector in performing the inspection.

§91.80.Fees.
(a) Application Fees.
(1) Dog or Cat Breeder License (11-25 Intact Female Animals):
(A) Prelicense Inspection Fee--$175 per facility.
(B) Original Application--$475.
(C) Renewal--$475.
(D) Periodic and Out-of-Cycle Inspections--$175.
(E) Duplicate License--$25.
(2) Dog or Cat Breeder License (26-60 Intact Female Animals):
(A) Prelicense Inspection Fee--$350 per facility.
(B) Original Application--$950.
(C) Renewal--$950.
(D) Periodic and Out-of-Cycle Inspections--$350.
(E) Duplicate License--$25.
(3) Dog or Cat Breeder License (61 or more Intact Female Animals):
(A) Prelicense Inspection Fee--$700 per facility.
(B) Original Application--$1,900.
(C) Renewal--$1,900.
(D) Periodic and Out-of-Cycle Inspections--$700.
(E) Duplicate License $25.
(b) Revised/Duplicate License/Certificate/Permit/Registration--$25.
(c) Late renewal fees for licenses under this chapter are provided under §60.83 of this title (relating to Late Renewal Fees).
(d) All fees are nonrefundable except as provided for by commission rules or statute.
§91.90.Administrative Sanctions and Penalties.
A person that violates Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 802, a rule, or an order of the executive director or commission will be subject to administrative sanctions and/or administrative penalties under Texas Occupations Code, Chapters 51 and 802 and applicable agency rules.
§91.91.Enforcement Authority.
The enforcement authority granted under Texas Occupations Code, Chapters 51 and 802 and any associated rules may be used to enforce Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 802 and this chapter.
§91.92.License Revocation and Suspension.
(a) The department shall revoke a license if, after the license is issued, the person or a controlling person of the dog or cat breeder pleads guilty to, is convicted of, or receives deferred adjudication for animal cruelty or neglect in this state or any other jurisdiction.
(b) The department may revoke or suspend a license held by a person who:
(1) fails to meet the requirements of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter;
(2) has had a similar license issued by a federal, state, or local authority denied, revoked, or suspended;(3) has falsified any material information requested by the department;
(4) has failed to meet a standard adopted by rule under this chapter; or
(5) has failed to comply with any corrective action required under an inspection report in the time provided by the report.
§91.100.Standards of Care--Housing Generally.
(a) Structure; construction. Housing facilities for dogs and cats must be designed and constructed so that they are structurally sound. They must be kept in good repair, and they must protect the animals from injury, contain the animals securely, and restrict other animals from entering.
(b) Condition and site. Housing facilities and areas used for storing animal food or bedding must be free of any accumulation of trash, waste material, junk, weeds, and other discarded materials. Animal areas inside of housing facilities must be kept neat and free of clutter, including equipment, furniture, and stored material, but may contain materials actually used and necessary for cleaning the area, and fixtures or equipment necessary for proper husbandry practices and research needs. Housing facilities must be physically separated from any other business. If a housing facility is located on the same premises as another business, it must be physically separated from the other business so that animals the size of dogs, skunks, and raccoons are prevented from entering it.
(c) Surfaces.(1) General requirements. The surfaces of housing facilities--including houses, dens, and other furniture-type fixtures and objects within the facility--must be constructed in a manner and made of materials that allow them to be readily cleaned and sanitized, or removed or replaced when worn or soiled. Interior surfaces and any surfaces that come in contact with dogs or cats must:
(A) Be free of excessive rust that prevents the required cleaning and sanitization, or that affects the structural strength of the surface; and
(B) Be free of jagged edges or sharp points that might injure the animals.
(2) Maintenance and replacement of surfaces. All surfaces must be maintained on a regular basis.
Surfaces of housing facilities--including houses, dens, and other furniture-type fixtures and objects within the facility--that cannot be readily cleaned and sanitized, must be replaced when worn or soiled.
(3) Cleaning. Hard surfaces with which the dogs or cats come in contact must be spot-cleaned daily and sanitized in accordance with §91.109(b) to prevent accumulation of excreta and reduce disease hazards. Floors made of dirt, absorbent bedding, sand, gravel, grass, or other similar material must be raked or spot-cleaned with sufficient frequency to ensure all animals the freedom to avoid contact with excreta. Contaminated material must be replaced whenever this raking and spot-cleaning is not sufficient to prevent or eliminate odors, insects, pests, or vermin infestation. All other surfaces of housing facilities must be cleaned and sanitized when necessary to satisfy generally accepted husbandry standards and practices. Sanitization may be done using any of the methods provided in §91.109(b)(3) for primary enclosures.
(d) Water and electric power. The housing facility must have reliable electric power adequate for heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting, and for carrying out other husbandry requirements in accordance with the regulations in this chapter. The housing facility must provide adequate running potable water for the dogs' and cats' drinking needs, for cleaning, and for carrying out other husbandry requirements.
(e) Storage. Supplies of food and bedding must be stored in a manner that protects the supplies from spoilage, contamination, and vermin infestation. The supplies must be stored off the floor and away from the walls, to allow cleaning underneath and around the supplies. Foods requiring refrigeration must be stored accordingly, and all food must be stored in a manner that prevents contamination and deterioration of its nutritive value. All open supplies of food and bedding must be kept in leakproof containers with tightly fitting lids to prevent contamination and spoilage. Only food and bedding that is currently being used may be kept in the animal areas. Substances that are toxic to the dogs or cats but are required for normal husbandry practices must not be stored in food storage and preparation areas, but may be stored in cabinets in the animal areas.(f) Drainage and waste disposal. Housing facility operators must provide for regular and frequent collection, removal, and disposal of animal and food wastes, bedding, debris, garbage, water, other fluids and wastes, and dead animals, in a manner that minimizes contamination and disease risks. Housing facilities must be equipped with disposal facilities and drainage systems that are constructed and operated so that animal waste and water are rapidly eliminated and animals stay dry. Disposal and drainage systems must minimize vermin and pest infestation, insects, odors, and disease hazards. All drains must be properly constructed, installed, and maintained. If closed drainage systems are used, they must be equipped with traps and prevent the backflow of gases and the backup of sewage onto the floor. If the facility uses sump or settlement ponds, or other similar systems for drainage and animal waste disposal, the system must be located far enough away from the animal area of the housing facility to prevent odors, diseases, pests, and vermin infestation. Standing puddles of water in animal

enclosures must be drained or mopped up so that the animals stay dry. Trash containers in housing facilities and in food storage and food preparation areas must be leakproof and must have tightly fitted lids on them at all times. Dead animals, animal parts, and animal waste must not be kept in food storage or food preparation areas, food freezers, food refrigerators, or animal areas.
(g) Washrooms and sinks. Washing facilities such as washrooms, basins, sinks, or showers must be provided for animal caretakers and must be readily accessible.

§91.101.Standards of Care--Indoor Housing Facilities.

(a) Heating, cooling, and temperature. Indoor housing facilities for dogs and cats must be sufficiently heated and cooled when necessary to protect the dogs and cats from temperature or humidity extremes and to provide for their health and well-being. When dogs or cats are present, using best efforts, the ambient temperature in the facility must not fall below 50° F (10° C) for dogs and cats not acclimated to lower temperatures, for those breeds that cannot tolerate lower temperatures without stress or discomfort (such as short-haired breeds), and for sick, aged, young, or infirm dogs and cats, except as approved by the attending veterinarian. Dry bedding, solid resting boards, or other methods of conserving body heat must be provided when temperatures are below 50° F (10° C). Using best efforts, the ambient temperature must not fall below 45° F (7.2° C) for more than 4 consecutive hours when dogs or cats are present, and must not rise above 85° F (29.5° C) for more than 4 consecutive hours when dogs or cats are present. The preceding requirements are in addition to, not in place of, all other requirements pertaining to climatic conditions.
(b) Ventilation. Indoor housing facilities for dogs and cats must be sufficiently ventilated at all times when dogs or cats are present to provide for their health and well-being, and to minimize odors, drafts, ammonia levels, and moisture condensation. Ventilation must be provided by windows, vents, fans, or air conditioning. Auxiliary ventilation, such as fans, blowers, or air conditioning must be provided when using best efforts, the ambient temperature is 85° F (29.5°
C) or higher. The relative humidity must be maintained at a level that ensures the health and well-being of the dogs or cats housed therein, in accordance with the directions of the attending veterinarian and generally accepted professional and husbandry practices, as documented in the medical records maintained for each animal.
(c) Lighting. Indoor housing facilities for dogs and cats must be lighted well enough to permit routine inspection and cleaning of the facility, and observation of the dogs and cats. Animal areas must be provided a regular diurnal lighting cycle of either natural or artificial light. Lighting must be uniformly diffused throughout animal facilities and provide sufficient illumination to aid in maintaining good housekeeping practices, adequate cleaning, adequate inspection of animals, and for the well-being of the animals. Primary enclosures must be placed so as to protect the dogs and cats from excessive light.
(d) Interior surfaces. The floors and walls of indoor housing facilities, and any other surfaces in contact with the animals, must be impervious to moisture. The ceilings of indoor housing facilities must be impervious to moisture or be replaceable (e.g., a suspended ceiling with replaceable panels).

§91.102.Standards of Care--Sheltered Housing Facilities.

(a) Heating, cooling, and temperature. The sheltered part of sheltered housing facilities for dogs and cats must be sufficiently heated and cooled when necessary to protect the dogs and cats from temperature or humidity extremes and to provide for their health and well-being. Using best efforts, the ambient temperature in the sheltered part of the facility must not fall below 50° F (10° C) for dogs and cats not acclimated to lower temperatures, for those breeds that cannot tolerate lower temperatures without stress and discomfort (such as short-haired breeds), and for sick, aged, young, or infirm dogs or cats, except as approved by the attending veterinarian. Dry bedding, solid resting boards, or other methods of conserving body heat must be provided when temperatures are below 50° F (10° C). Using best efforts, the ambient temperature must not fall below 45° F (7.2° C) for more than 4 consecutive hours when dogs or cats are present, and mustnot rise above 85° F (29.5° C) for more than 4 consecutive hours when dogs or cats are present. The preceding requirements are in addition to, not in place of, all other requirements pertaining to climatic conditions established by the attending veterinarian and documented in the medical records maintained for each animal based on Tufts Animal Care and Condition Scale or equivalent.
(b) Ventilation. The enclosed or sheltered part of sheltered housing facilities for dogs and cats must be sufficiently ventilated when dogs or cats are present to provide for their health and wellbeing, and to minimize odors, drafts, ammonia levels, and moisture condensation. Ventilation must be provided by windows, doors, vents, fans, or air conditioning. Auxiliary ventilation, such as fans, blowers, or air-conditioning, must be provided when using best efforts, the ambient temperature is 85° F (29.5° C) or higher.
(c) Lighting. Sheltered housing facilities for dogs and cats must be lighted well enough to permit routine inspection and cleaning of the facility, and observation of the dogs and cats. Animal areas must be provided a regular diurnal lighting cycle of either natural or artificial light. Lighting must be uniformly diffused throughout animal facilities and provide sufficient illumination to aid in maintaining good housekeeping practices, adequate cleaning, adequate inspection of animals, and for the well-being of the animals. Primary enclosures must be placed so as to protect the dogs and cats from excessive light.
(d) Shelter from the elements. Dogs and cats must be provided with adequate shelter from the elements at all times to protect their health and well-being. The shelter structures must be large enough to allow each animal to sit, stand, and lie without its body being in contact with at least one side of the shelter walls in a normal manner and to turn about freely.
(e) Surfaces.
(1) The following areas in sheltered housing facilities must be impervious to moisture:
(A) Indoor floor areas in contact with the animals; provided that:
(i) floor surfaces in facilities licensed on or before September 1, 2012, may consist of flooring that is 100 percent wire or wire mesh or slatted material; and
(ii) floor surfaces in facilities licensed after September 1, 2012, must consist of flooring that is 100 percent solid flooring or not less than 50 percent solid flooring, exclusive of receptacles;
(B) Outdoor floor areas in contact with the animals, when the floor areas are not exposed to the direct sun, or are made of a hard material such as wire, wood, metal, or concrete; and
(C) All walls, boxes, houses, dens, and other surfaces in contact with the animals.
(2) Outside floor areas in contact with the animals and exposed to the direct sun may consist of compacted earth, absorbent bedding, sand, gravel, or grass.

§91.103.Standards of Care--Outdoor Housing Facilities.

(a) Restrictions.
(1) The following categories of dogs or cats must not be kept in outdoor facilities, unless that practice is specifically approved by the attending veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical records related to each dog or cat to which the exemption applies:
(A) Dogs or cats that are not acclimated to the temperatures prevalent in the area or region where they are maintained;
(B) Breeds of dogs or cats that cannot tolerate the prevalent temperatures of the area without stress or discomfort (such as short-haired breeds in cold climates); and
(C) Sick, infirm, aged or young dogs or cats.
(2) When their acclimation status is unknown, dogs and cats must not be kept in outdoor facilities when the temperature is less than 50° F (10° C).
(b) Shelter from the elements. Outdoor facilities for dogs or cats must include one or more shelter structures that are accessible to each animal in each outdoor facility, and that are large enough to allow each animal in the shelter structure to sit, stand, and lie without its body being in contact with at least one side of the shelter walls in a normal manner, and to turn about freely. In addition to the shelter structures, one or more separate outside areas of shade must be provided, large enough to contain all the animals at one time and protect them from the direct rays of the sun. Shelters in outdoor facilities for dogs or cats must contain a roof, four sides, and a floor, and
must:
(1) provide the dogs and cats with adequate protection and shelter from the cold and heat;
(2) provide the dogs and cats with protection from the direct rays of the sun and the direct effect of wind, rain, or snow;
(3) be provided with a wind break and rain break at the entrance; and
(4) contain clean, dry, bedding material if the ambient temperature is below 50° F (10° C). Additional clean, dry bedding is required when the temperature is 35° F (1.7° C) or lower.
(c) Construction. Building surfaces in contact with animals in outdoor housing facilities must be impervious to moisture. Metal barrels, cars, refrigerators or freezers,

and the like must not be used as shelter structures. The floors of outdoor housing facilities may be of compacted earth, absorbent bedding, sand, gravel, or grass, and must be replaced if there are any prevalent odors, diseases, insects, pests, or vermin. All surfaces must be maintained on a regular basis. Surfaces of outdoor housing facilities--including houses, dens, etc.--that cannot be readily cleaned and sanitized, must be replaced when worn or soiled. §91.104.Standards of Care--Primary Enclosure. Primary enclosures for dogs and cats must meet the following minimum requirements:
(1) General requirements.
(A) Primary enclosures must be designed and constructed of suitable materials so that they are structurally sound. The primary enclosures must be kept in good repair and shall not be placed on top of another primary enclosure unless an impervious barrier designed to prevent the transfer of fluid or animal waste separates the two primary enclosures.
(B) Primary enclosures must be constructed and maintained so that they:
(i) Have no sharp points or edges that could injure the dogs and cats;
(ii) Protect the dogs and cats from injury;
(iii) Contain the dogs and cats securely;
(iv) Keep other animals from entering the enclosure;
(v) Enable the dogs and cats to remain dry and clean;
(vi) Provide shelter and protection from extreme temperatures and weather conditions that may be uncomfortable or hazardous to all the dogs and cats;
(vii) Provide sufficient shade to shelter all the dogs and cats housed in the primary enclosure at one time;(viii) Provide all the dogs and cats with easy and convenient access to clean food and water;
(ix) Enable all surfaces in contact with the dogs and cats to be readily cleaned and sanitized in accordance with §91.109(b), or be replaceable when worn or soiled;
(x) Have floors that are constructed in a manner that protects the dogs' and cats' feet and legs from injury, and that, if of mesh or slatted construction, do not allow the dogs' and cats' feet to pass through any openings in the floor; and
(xi) Provide sufficient space to allow each dog and cat to turn about freely, to stand, sit, and lie without its body being in contact with at least one side of the shelter walls in a comfortable, normal position, and to walk in a normal manner.
(2) Additional requirements for cats.
(A) Space. Each cat, including weaned kittens, that is housed in any primary enclosure must be provided minimum vertical space and floor space in accordance with this chapter. (B) Each primary enclosure housing cats must be at least 24 in. high (60.96 cm).
(C) Cats up to and including 8.8 lbs (4 kg) must be provided with at least 3.0 ft 2 (0.28 m 2).
(D) Cats over 8.8 lbs (4 kg) must be provided with at least 4.0 ft 2 (0.37 m 2).
(E) Each queen with nursing kittens must be provided with an additional amount of floor space, based on her breed and behavioral characteristics, and in accordance with generally accepted husbandry practices. If the additional amount of floor space for each nursing kitten is equivalent to less than 5 percent of the minimum requirement for the queen, such housing must be approved by the attending veterinarian.
(F) The minimum floor space required by this section is exclusive of any food or water pans. The litter pan may be considered part of the floor space if properly cleaned and sanitized.
(G) Compatibility. All cats housed in the same primary enclosure must be compatible, as determined by observation. Not more than 12 adult nonconditioned cats may be housed in the same primary enclosure. Queens in heat may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with sexually mature males, except for breeding. Except when maintained in breeding colonies, queens with litters may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with other adult cats, and kittens under 6 months of age may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with adult cats, other than the dam or foster dam. Cats with a vicious or aggressive disposition must be housed separately.
(H) Litter. In all primary enclosures, a receptacle containing sufficient clean litter must be provided to contain excreta and body wastes. (I) Resting surfaces. Each primary enclosure housing cats must contain a resting surface or surfaces that, in the aggregate, are large enough to hold all the occupants of the primary enclosure at the same time comfortably. The resting surfaces must be elevated, impervious to moisture, and be able to be easily cleaned and sanitized, or easily replaced when soiled or worn. Low resting surfaces that do not allow the space under them to be comfortably occupied by the animal will be counted as part of the floor space.
(3) Additional requirements for dogs.
(A) Space--Facilities Licensed on or before September 1, 2012.
(i) Each dog housed in a primary enclosure (including weaned puppies) must be provided a minimum amount of floor space, calculated as follows: Find the mathematical square of the sum of the length of the dog in inches (measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail) plus 6 inches; then divide the product by 144. The calculation is: (length of dog in inches + 6) x (length of dog in inches + 6) = required floor space in square inches. Required floor space in inches/144 = required floor space in square feet. (ii) Each bitch with nursing puppies must be provided with an additional amount of floor space, based on her breed and behavioral characteristics, and in accordance with generally accepted husbandry practices as determined by the attending veterinarian. If the additional amount of floor space for each nursing puppy is less than 5 percent of the minimum requirement for the bitch, such housing must be approved by the attending veterinarian and documented in the medical records related to each dog.
(iii) The interior height of a primary enclosure must be at least 6 inches higher than the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure when it is in a normal standing position.
(B) Space--Facilities Licensed after September 1, 2012.
(i) Each dog housed in a primary enclosure (including weaned puppies) must be provided a minimum amount of floor space, calculated as follows: Find the mathematical square of the sum of the length of the dog in inches (measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail) plus 6 inches; then divide the product by 144 then multiply that result by 2. The calculation is: (length of dog in inches + 6) x (length of dog in inches + 6) x 2 = required floor space in square inches. Required floor space in inches/144 = required floor space in square feet.
(ii) Each bitch with nursing puppies must be provided with an additional amount of floor space, based on her breed and behavioral characteristics, and in accordance with generally accepted husbandry practices as determined by the attending veterinarian. If the additional amount of floor space for each nursing puppy is less than 5 percent of the minimum requirement for the bitch, such housing must be approved by the attending veterinarian documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical records related to each dog.(iii) The interior height of a primary enclosure must be at least 12 inches higher than the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure when it is in a normal standing position.
(C) Compatibility. All dogs housed in the same primary enclosure must be compatible, as determined by observation. Not more than 12 adult nonconditioned dogs may be housed in the same primary enclosure. Bitches in heat may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with sexually mature males, except for breeding. Except when maintained in breeding colonies, bitches with litters may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with other adult dogs, and puppies under 6 months of age may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with adult dogs, other than the dam or foster dam. Dogs with a vicious or aggressive disposition must be housed separately.
(D) Prohibited means of primary enclosure. Permanent tethering of dogs is prohibited for use as primary enclosure. Temporary tethering of dogs is prohibited for use as primary enclosure unless prior approval by the attending veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical related to each dog to which the exemption applies.
(E) Prohibited stacking of primary enclosure. Primary enclosures may not be stacked above three vertical levels. §91.105.Standards of Care--Compatible Grouping. Dogs and cats that are housed in the same primary enclosure must be compatible, with the following restrictions:
(1) Females in heat (estrus) may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with males, except for breeding purposes;
(2) Any dog or cat exhibiting a vicious or overly aggressive disposition must be housed separately;
(3) Puppies or kittens 6 months of age or less may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with adult dogs or cats other than their dams or foster dams, except

when permanently maintained in breeding colonies;
(4) Dogs or cats may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with any other species of animals, unless they are compatible; and
(5) Dogs and cats that have or are suspected of having a contagious disease must be isolated from healthy animals in the colony, as directed by the attending veterinarian. When an entire group or room of dogs and cats is known to have or believed to be exposed to an infectious agent, the group may be kept intact during the process of diagnosis, treatment, and control.

§91.106.Standards of Care--Exercise for Dogs.

(a) A licensee must develop, document, and follow an appropriate plan to provide dogs with the opportunity for daily exercise. In addition, the plan must be approved by the attending veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical related to each dog. The plan must include written standard procedures to be followed in providing the opportunity for exercise.
(b) Dogs housed in groups. Dogs over 12 weeks of age housed, held, or maintained in groups do not require additional opportunity for daily exercise if they are maintained in cages, pens, or runs that provide in total at least 300 percent of the required space for each dog if maintained separately. Such animals may be maintained in compatible groups, unless:
(1) In the opinion of the attending veterinarian, such housing would adversely affect the health or well-being of the dog(s); or
(2) Any dog exhibits aggressive or vicious behavior.
(c) Methods and period of providing exercise opportunity.
(1) The frequency, method, and duration of the opportunity for exercise of a dog 12 weeks of age or older shall be the at least one hour each day unless a lesser frequency, method, and duration isdetermined by the attending veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical related to each dog.
(2) A licensed breeder must provide positive physical contact with humans that encourage exercise through play or other similar activities. If a dog is housed, held, or maintained at a facility without sensory contact with another dog, it must be provided with positive physical contact with humans at least daily. The positive physical contact required by this section may be concurrent with the required opportunity for daily exercise required in subsection (a).
(3) The opportunity for exercise required by this chapter may be provided in a number of ways, such as:
(A) Group housing in cages, pens or runs that provide at least 300 percent of the required space for each dog if maintained separately under the minimum floor space requirements of §91.104(3)(A);
(B) Maintaining individually housed dogs in cages, pens, or runs that provide at least three times the minimum floor space required by §91.104(3)(A);
(C) Providing access to a run or open area that provides at least three times the minimum floor space required by §91.104(3)(A); provides adequate protection against harsh weather, including exposure to the sun; and has flooring with adequate drainage which may include natural turf or soil at the frequency and duration prescribed by the attending veterinarian; or
(D) Other similar activities approved by the attending veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical records related to each dog.(4) Forced exercise methods or devices such as swimming, treadmills, or carousel-type devices are unacceptable for meeting the exercise requirements of this section.
(d) Exemptions.
(1) If, in the opinion of the attending veterinarian, it is inappropriate for certain dogs to exercise because of their health, condition, or well-being, the licensed breeder may be exempted from meeting the requirements of this section for those dogs. Such exemption must be documented by the attending veterinarian and, unless the basis for exemption is a permanent condition, must be reviewed at least every 30 days by the attending veterinarian.
(2) Records of any exemptions must be maintained separately for each dog and made available to the department inspector or registered inspector upon request.

§91.107.Standards of Care--Feeding.

(a) Dogs and cats must be fed at least once each day, except as otherwise might be required to provide adequate veterinary care. The food must be uncontaminated, wholesome, palatable, and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain the normal condition and weight of the animal. The diet must be appropriate for the individual animal's age and condition.
(b) Food receptacles must be used for dogs and cats, must be readily accessible to all dogs and cats, and must be located so as to minimize contamination by excreta and pests, and be protected from rain, sleet and snow. Feeding pans must either be made of a durable material that can be easily cleaned and sanitized or be disposable. If the food receptacles are not disposable they must be kept clean and must be sanitized in accordance with §91.109(b). Sanitization is achieved by using one of the methods described in §91.109(b)(3). If the food receptacles are disposable, they must be discarded after one use. Self-feeders may be used for the feeding of dry food. If selffeeders are used they must be kept clean and must be sanitized in accordance with §91.109(b). Measures must be taken to ensure that there is no molding, deterioration, and caking of feed.

§91.108.Standards of Care--Watering.

If potable water is not continually available to the dogs and cats, it must be offered to the dogs and cats as often as necessary to ensure their health and well-being, but not less than twice daily for at least 1 hour each time, unless restricted by the attending veterinarian. Water receptacles must be kept clean and sanitized in accordance with §91.109(b), and before being used to water a different dog or cat or social grouping of dogs or cats.
§91.109.Standards of Care--Cleaning, Sanitization, Housekeeping, and Pest Control. (a) Cleaning of primary enclosures. Excreta and food waste must be removed from primary enclosures daily, and from under primary enclosures as often as necessary to prevent an excessive accumulation of feces and food waste, to prevent soiling of the dogs or cats contained in the primary enclosures, and to reduce disease hazards, insects, pests and odors. When steam or water is used to clean the primary enclosure, whether by hosing, flushing, or other methods, dogs and cats must be removed, unless the enclosure is large enough to ensure the animals would not be harmed, wetted, or distressed in the process. Standing water must be removed from the primary enclosure and animals in other primary enclosures must be protected from being contaminated with water and other wastes during the cleaning. The pans under primary enclosures with wire or mesh type floors and the ground areas under raised runs with wire or mesh or slatted floors must be cleaned as often as necessary to prevent accumulation of feces and food waste and to reduce disease hazards pests, insects and odors.
(b) Sanitization of primary enclosures and food and water receptacles.
(1) Used primary enclosures and food and water receptacles must be cleaned and sanitized in accordance with this section before they can be used to house, feed, or water another dog or cat, or social grouping of dogs or cats.
(2) Used primary enclosures and food and water receptacles for dogs and cats must be sanitized at least once every 2 weeks using one of the methods prescribed in subsection (b)(3), and more often if necessary to prevent an accumulation of dirt, debris, food waste, excreta, and other disease hazards. (3) Hard surfaces of primary enclosures and food and water receptacles must be sanitized using one of the following methods:
(A) Live steam under pressure;
(B) Washing with hot water (at least 180° F (82.2° C)) and soap or detergent, as with a mechanical cage washer; or
(C) Washing all soiled surfaces with appropriate detergent solutions and disinfectants, or by using a combination detergent/disinfectant product that accomplishes the same purpose, with a thorough cleaning of the surfaces to remove organic material, so as to remove all organic material and mineral buildup, and to provide sanitization followed by a clean water rinse.
(4) Pens, runs, and outdoor housing areas using material that cannot be sanitized using the methods provided in subsection (b)(3), such as gravel, sand, grass, earth, or absorbent bedding, must be sanitized by removing the contaminated material as necessary to prevent odors, diseases, pests, insects, and vermin infestation.
(c) Housekeeping for premises. Premises where housing facilities are located, including buildings and surrounding grounds, must be kept clean and in good repair to protect the animals from injury, to facilitate the husbandry practices required in this chapter, and to reduce or eliminate breeding and living areas for rodents and other pests and vermin. Premises must be kept free of accumulations of trash, junk, waste products, and discarded matter. Weeds, grasses, and bushes must be controlled so as to facilitate cleaning of the premises and pest control, and to protect the health and well-being of the animals.
(d) Pest control. An effective program for the control of insects, external parasites affecting dogs and cats, and birds and mammals that are pests, must be established and maintained so as to promote the health and well-being of the animals and reduce contamination by pests in animal areas.§91.110.Standards of Care--Onsite

Personnel.
(a) Each licensed facility must have enough employees onsite to carry out the level of husbandry practices and care required in this chapter. The employees who provide for husbandry and care, or handle animals, must be supervised by an individual who has the knowledge, background, and experience in proper husbandry and care of dogs and cats to supervise others. The employer must be certain that the supervisor and other employees can perform to these standards.
(b) Each employee of a licensed facility whose duties or responsibilities include the handling of or caring for a dog or cat shall have the appropriate training documented by the licensee; to include at the minimum subject matter covering basic animal care and handling, prevention of infectious disease, and kennel sanitization.

§91.111.Standards of Care--Grooming.

A licensed breeder shall provide basic grooming to each animal as needed to prevent soiling and matting of the fur, curled or splayed toenails, and other conditions that can hamper an animal's ability to maintain health and cleanliness.

§91.112.Standards of Care--Veterinary Care.

(a) Annual hands on examination. A licensed breeder shall have each animal used for breeding examined by a veterinarian at least once in every twelve month period and provide the animal with any treatment recommended by the veterinarian. The annual examination required by this section must be hands on by the veterinarian and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical records related to each animal.
(b) Euthanasia and surgical procedures. Only a veterinarian shall be allowed to euthanize an animal or perform a surgical procedure such as caesarian birth.
(c) Routine and preventative care. A licensed breeder shall develop and maintain at each of the breeder's facilities a written health care management protocol approved by a veterinarian that addresses routine and preventative healthcare for each animal in the facility.
(1) The breeder shall ensure that the protocol is followed and that routine and preventive healthcare is provided to each animal in the facility and that each animal received appropriate care and treatment for any injury, disease, or illness that may affect the animal's health or wellbeing.
(2) The written health care management protocol required by this section must contain all health care records required by this chapter including all exemptions authorized by this chapter and approved by the attending veterinarian.(3) On transfer or sale of the animal, a copy of the written health care management protocol required by this section must be transferred with the animal and the original records retained by the licensee.
(d) Breeding cycles. A licensed breeder shall provide breeding females adequate rest between breeding cycles as recommended by the attending veterinarian based on the breed, age, and health of the individual breeding female and documented by the attending veterinarian in the medical records related to each animal.
§91.113.Standards of Care--Sales and Transfers.
A licensed breeder shall not sell, trade, or give away an animal before the animal is at least eight weeks of age and two pounds or twelve weeks of age and has been weaned.

§91.200.Transportation Standards--Food and Water Requirements.

(a) Each dog and cat that is 16 weeks of age or more must be offered food at least once every 24 hours. Puppies and kittens less than 16 weeks of age must be offered food at least once every 12 hours. Each dog and cat must be offered potable water at least once every 12 hours. Each dog and cat must be offered food and potable water within 4 hours before being transported in commerce.
(b) A licensed breeder offering any dog or cat to a carrier or intermediate handler for transportation in commerce must securely attach to the outside of the primary enclosure used for transporting the dog or cat, written instructions for the in-transit food and water requirements for a 24-hour period for the dogs and cats contained in the enclosure. The instructions must be attached in a manner that makes them easily noticed and read.
(c) Food and water receptacles must be securely attached inside the primary enclosure and placed so that the receptacles can be filled from outside the enclosure without opening the door. Food and water containers must be designed, constructed, and installed so that a dog or cat cannot leave the primary enclosure through the food or water opening.

§91.201.Transportation Standards--Mobile or Traveling Facilities.

(a) Heating, cooling, and temperature. Mobile or traveling housing facilities for dogs and cats
must be sufficiently heated and cooled when necessary to protect the dogs and cats from temperature or humidity extremes and to provide for their health and well-being. Using best efforts, the ambient temperature in the mobile or traveling housing facility must not fall below
50° F (10° C) for dogs and cats not acclimated to lower temperatures, for those breeds that cannot tolerate lower temperatures without stress or discomfort (such as short-haired breeds), and for sick, aged, young, or infirm dogs and cats. Dry bedding, solid resting boards, or other methods of conserving body heat must be provided when temperatures are below 50° F (10° C). Using best efforts, the ambient temperature must not fall below 45° F (7.2° C) for more than 4 consecutive hours when dogs or cats are present, and must not exceed 85° F (29.5° C) for more than 4 consecutive hours when dogs or cats are present. The preceding requirements are in addition to, not in place of, all other requirements pertaining to climatic conditions.
(b) Ventilation. Mobile or traveling housing facilities for dogs and cats must be sufficiently ventilated at all times when dogs or cats are present to provide for the health and well-being of the animals, and to minimize odors, drafts, ammonia levels, moisture condensation, and exhaust fumes. Ventilation must be provided by means of windows, doors, vents, fans, or air conditioning. Auxiliary ventilation, such as fans, blowers, or air conditioning, must be provided when using best efforts, the ambient temperature within the animal housing area is 85° F (29.5°
C) or higher.
(c) Lighting. Mobile or traveling housing facilities for dogs and cats must be lighted well enough to permit proper cleaning and inspection of the facility, and observation of the dogs and cats. Animal areas must be provided a regular diurnal lighting cycle of either natural or artificial light. Lighting must be uniformly diffused throughout animal facilities and provide sufficient illumination to aid in maintaining good housekeeping practices, adequate cleaning, adequate inspection of animals, and for the well-being of the animals. §91.202.Transportation Standards--Primary Enclosure Used to Transport Live Dogs and Cats. Licensees must not transport or deliver for transport in commerce a dog or cat unless the following requirements are met:
(1) Construction of primary enclosures. The dog or cat must be contained in a primary enclosure such as a compartment, transport cage, carton, or crate. Primary enclosures used to transport dogs and cats must be constructed so that:
(A) The primary enclosure is strong enough to contain the dogs and cats securely and comfortably and to withstand the normal rigors of transportation;
(B) The interior of the primary enclosure has no sharp points or edges and no protrusions that could injure the animal contained in it;
(C) The dog or cat is at all times securely contained within the enclosure and cannot put any part of its body outside the enclosure in a way that could result in injury to itself, to handlers, or to persons or animals nearby;
(D) The dog or cat can be easily and quickly removed from the enclosure in an emergency;
(E) Unless the enclosure is permanently affixed to the conveyance, adequate devices such as handles or handholds are provided on its exterior, and enable the enclosure to be lifted without tilting it, and ensure that anyone handling the enclosure will not come into physical contact with the animal contained inside;
(F) Unless the enclosure is permanently affixed to the conveyance, it is clearly marked on top and on one or more sides with the words "Live Animals," in letters at least 1 in. (2.5 cm) high, and with arrows or other markings to indicate the correct upright position of the primary enclosure;
(G) Any material, treatment, paint, preservative, or other chemical used in or on the enclosure is nontoxic to the animal and not harmful to the health or well-being of the animal;
(H) Proper ventilation is provided to the animal in accordance with paragraph (3); and
(I) The primary enclosure has a solid, leak-proof bottom or a removable, leak-proof collection tray under a slatted or mesh floor that prevents seepage of waste products, such as excreta and body fluids, outside of the enclosure. If a slatted or mesh floor is used in the enclosure, it must be designed and constructed so that the animal cannot put any part of its body between the slats or through the holes in the mesh. Unless the dogs and cats are on raised slatted floors or raised floors made of mesh, the primary enclosure must contain enough previously unused litter to absorb and cover excreta. The litter must be of a suitably absorbent material that is safe and nontoxic to the dogs and cats.

(2) Cleaning of primary enclosures. A primary enclosure used to hold or transport dogs or cats in commerce must be cleaned and sanitized before each use in accordance with the methods provided in §91.109(b)(3). If the dogs or cats are in transit for more than 24 hours, the enclosures must be cleaned and any litter replaced, or other methods, such as moving the animals to another enclosure, must be utilized to prevent the soiling of the dogs or cats by body wastes. If it becomes necessary to remove the dog or cat from the enclosure in order to clean, or to move the dog or cat to another enclosure, this procedure must be completed in a way that safeguards the dog or cat from injury and prevents escape.
(3) Ventilation.
(A) Unless the primary enclosure is permanently affixed to the conveyance, there must be: (i) Ventilation openings located on two opposing walls of the primary enclosure and the openings must be at least 16 percent of the surface area of each such wall, and the total combined surface area of the ventilation openings must be at least 14 percent of the total combined surface area of all the walls of the primary enclosure; or
(ii) Ventilation openings on three walls of the primary enclosure, and the openings on each of the two opposing walls must be at least 8 percent of the total surface area of the two walls, and the ventilation openings on the third wall of the primary enclosure must be at least 50 percent of the total surface area of that wall, and the total combined surface area of the ventilation openings must be at least 14 percent of the total combined surface area of all the walls of the primary enclosure; or
(iii) Ventilation openings located on all four walls of the primary enclosure and the ventilation openings on each of the four walls must be at least 8 percent of the total surface area of each such wall, and the total combined surface area of the openings must be at least 14 percent of total combined surface area of all the walls of the primary enclosure; and
(iv) At least one-third of the ventilation area must be located on the upper half of the primary enclosure.
(B) Unless the primary enclosure is permanently affixed to the conveyance, projecting rims or similar devices must be located on the exterior of each enclosure wall having a ventilation opening, in order to prevent obstruction of the openings. The projecting rims or similar devices must be large enough to provide a minimum air circulation space of 0.75 in. (1.9 cm) between the primary enclosure and anything the enclosure is placed against.
(C) If a primary enclosure is permanently affixed to the primary conveyance so that there is only a front ventilation opening for the enclosure, the primary enclosure must be affixed to the primary conveyance in such a way that the front ventilation opening cannot be blocked, and the front ventilation opening must open directly to an unobstructed aisle or passageway inside the conveyance. The ventilation opening must be at least 90 percent of the total area of the front wall of the enclosure, and must be covered with bars, wire mesh, or smooth expanded metal havingair spaces.
(4) Compatibility.
(A) Live dogs or cats transported in the same primary enclosure must be of the same species and be maintained in compatible groups, except that dogs and cats that are private pets, are of comparable size, and are compatible, may be transported in the same primary enclosure.
(B) Puppies or kittens 6 months of age or less may not be transported in the same primary enclosure with adult dogs or cats other than their dams.
(C) Dogs or cats that are overly aggressive or exhibit a vicious disposition must be transported individually in a primary enclosure.
(D) Any female dog or cat in heat (estrus) may not be transported in the same primary enclosure with any male dog or cat.
(5) Space and placement.
(A) Primary enclosures used to transport live dogs and cats must be large enough to ensure that each animal contained in the primary enclosure has enough space to turn about normally while standing, to stand and sit erect, and to lie in a natural position.
(B) Primary enclosures used to transport dogs and cats must be positioned in the primary conveyance so as to provide protection from the elements.
(6) Transportation by air.(A) No more than one live dog or cat, 6 months of age or older, may be transported in the same primary enclosure when shipped via air carrier.
(B) No more than one live puppy, 8 weeks to 6 months of age, and weighing over 20 lbs (9 kg), may be transported in a primary enclosure when shipped via air carrier.
(C) No more than two live puppies or kittens, 8 weeks to 6 months of age, that are of comparable size, and weighing 20 lbs (9 kg) or less each, may be transported in the same primary enclosure when shipped via air carrier.
(D) Weaned live puppies or kittens less than 8 weeks of age and of comparable size, or puppies or kittens that are less than 8 weeks of age that are littermates and are accompanied by their dam, may be transported in the same primary enclosure when shipped to research facilities, including Federal research facilities.
(7) Transportation by surface vehicle or privately owned aircraft.
(A) No more than four live dogs or cats, 8 weeks of age or older, that are of comparable size, may be transported in the same primary enclosure when shipped by surface vehicle (including ground and water transportation) or privately owned aircraft, and only if all other requirements of this section are met. (B) Weaned live puppies or kittens less than 8 weeks of age and of comparable size, or puppies or kittens that are less than 8 weeks of age that are littermates and are accompanied by their dam, may be transported in the same primary enclosure when shipped to research facilities, including Federal research facilities, and only if all other requirements in this section are met.
(8) Accompanying documents and records. Shipping documents that must accompany shipments of dogs and cats may be held by the operator of the primary conveyance, for surface transportation only, or must be securely attached in a readily accessible manner to the outside of any primary enclosure that is part of the shipment, in a manner that allows them to be detached for examination and securely reattached, such as in a pocket or sleeve. Instructions for administration of drugs, medication, and other special care must be attached to each primary enclosure in a manner that makes them easy to notice, to detach for examination, and to reattach securely. Food and water instructions must be attached must be securely attached to the outside of the primary enclosure in a manner that makes it easily noticed and legible. This agency hereby certifies that the proposal has been reviewed by legal counsel and found to be within the agency's legal authority to adopt.
(9) A licensed breeder transporting animals regulated under this chapter using commercial transportation a shipper holding a licensed issued by the federal regulatory agency.

Filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on January 9, 2012.
TRD-201200087
William H. Kuntz, Jr.
Executive Director
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Earliest possible date of adoption: February 19, 2012

COMMENTS

§91.10.Definitions.
The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.
(1) Adult animal--An animal six months of age or older.
(16) Puppy--A dog less than six months old.

A dog is not capable of breeding at 6 months of age, and for as long as I can remember (and that's a pretty long time) a dog is considered to be a puppy until 12 months of age.

§91.10.Definitions
(8) Dog or cat breeder--A person who possesses 11 or more adult intact female animals and is engaged in the business of breeding those animals for direct or indirect sale or for exchange in return for consideration and who sells or exchanges, or offers to sell or exchange, not fewer than 20 animals in a calendar year.

§91.22.License Required--Dog or Cat Breeder.
(a) A person may not act as, offer to act as, or represent that the person is a dog or cat breeder in this state unless the person holds a license under this chapter for each facility that the person owns or operates in this state.

These 2 sections have problems when considered together. 91.10 provides no definition for an individual with less than 11 adult intact female animals and who is engaged in the business of breeding those animals for direct or indirect sale or for exchange, etc. 91.22 does not address what would happen to an individual who is not licensed but who represents themselves as a dog or cat breeder in the state with less than 11 adult intact female animals and who is engaged in the business of breeding those animals for direct or indirect sale, etc.

The arbitrary number of 11 intact female animals has been set within the regulations as the definition for a breeder and for requiring a license and complying with the overwhelming details set forth in these proposed regulations. The regulations taken as a whole imply that 11 is a critical number for ensuring the proper care, treatment & well-being of dogs & cats. If the intent of the regulations is to ensure the proper care, treatment and well-being of dogs and cats, then this number of 11 should be equally applied to rescue operations and shelters, since it is not the breedability of the intact female, rather the number/density of intact female animals to which these regulations are speaking. There is an implied assumption that all rescue organizations and shelters are automatically in compliance with these regulations or have fewer than 11 intact female animals, since no provisions have been made in these regulations for their exemption. This is an erroneous assumption. Rescue organizations and shelters are hard-pressed enough to find funding for their current operations, let alone comply with ALL of the proposed regulations. They may find that they fall under the regulations of HB1451, and even worse, find that they are not in compliance.

§91.21.License Required--Presumptions.
For purposes of this chapter, each adult intact female animal possessed by a person engaged in the business of breeding animals for direct or indirect sale or for exchange in return for consideration is presumed to be used for breeding purposes unless the person establishes to the satisfaction of the department, based on the person's breeding records or other evidence reasonably acceptable to the department, that the animal is not used for breeding.

The presumption that an intact female animal is to be used for breeding purposes is completely erroneous. There is documented research which states that spaying/neutering of animals before 1 year of age, and in the case of some larger breeds before 2 years of age, can result in calamitous health issues occurring later in life. Furthermore, many dog owners prefer not to spay or neuter for financial reasons. Finally, this section is nebulous as to 'other evidence that would be reasonably acceptable to the department, that the animal is not used for breeding'. Looks like there will be plenty of court cases challenging this section.

Proposed new §91.100 establishes general requirement for the construction of housing conditions of the site, maintenance and replacement of surfaces, cleaning, shelter utilities, storage, drainage and waste disposal, and washroom and sinks.
Proposed new §91.101 establishes the standards of care for indoor housing facilities related to heating, cooling and temperature control, ventilation, lighting, and interior surfaces.
Proposed new §91.102 establishes the standards of care for sheltered housing facilities related to heating, cooling and temperature control, ventilation, lighting, shelter from the elements, and surfaces.
Proposed new §91.103 establishes standards of care for outdoor housing facilities with certain restrictions, shelter from the elements, and construction requirements.
Proposed new §91.104 establishes general standards of care related to primary enclosures for dogs and cats. There are additional requirements for cats related to space, compatibility, litter, resting surfaces. There are additional requirement for dogs related to space and compatibility.
Proposed new §91.105 establishes standards of care related to animal grouping compatibility. Proposed new §91.106 establishes exercise requirements of dogs and provides for limited qualified exceptions.
Proposed new §91.107 provides the standards of care regarding animal feeding.
Proposed new §91.108 provides the standard of care regarding the provision of water to animals.
Proposed new §91.109 establishes the standards of care for cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping and pest control in primary enclosures.
Proposed new §91.111 establishes a requirement for the grooming of animals.
Proposed new §91.112 requires an annual examination and preventative care, provides for rest between breeding cycles and prohibits euthanasia and certain surgical procedures unless performed by a licensed veterinarian.
Proposed new §91.200 establishes food and water requirements for animals in transport.
Proposed new §91.201 establishes transportation requirements related to heating, cooling and temperature, ventilation and lighting.
Proposed new §91.202 establishes standards related to the primary enclosure used to transport live animals with respect to construction of the enclosure, cleaning, ventilation, animal compatibility, space, and placement

The intent of the legislature in passing HB 1451 was to regulate breeders, not control how they perform animal husbandry practices. I believe these regulations go far beyond defining how breeders will be regulated, and quite frankly, overstep the boundaries of what the legislature intended. My concern is whether these regulations go above and beyond Federal regulations and would be subject to being challenged in court as has recently occurred in the State of California. Some of the descriptions of construction and plumbing are too vague and nebulous, and some of the descriptions of space requirements are too confusing. These will of course contribute to court cases challenging the regulations.

§91.23.License Requirements--Dog or Cat Breeder.
To be eligible for a Dog or Cat Breeders license, an applicant must:
(4) successfully pass a criminal background check for each applicant and controlling person;

I fail to understand why a licensee must pass a criminal background check. It makes me wonder how all of the publicly lauded programs that are being implemented in the prisons these days, where prisoners are responsible for the care and training of rescued dogs, can continue to operate and be sanctioned. If a dog is spayed/neutered, then it doesn't matter who has its care; but if a dog is intact, then the breeder/caretaker must pass a criminal background check. What is the intent here? Is it the well-being of the animal, or is it just another cost for a breeder to bear in addition to the ridiculously high licensing & inspection fees that are being proposed?

Proposed new §91.30 sets forth the circumstances under which a license is not required and provides examples of evidence which might satisfy the burden of proving entitlement to the exemption.

This section is not clear on who bears the cost of an investigation in the described circumstances where there is a burden of proving entitlement to the exemption. This will result in court cases challenging investigation fees whenever they are imposed on folks who are not required to hold a license.

§91.54.Corrective Actions Following Periodic or Out-of-Cycle Inspections.
(c) The department may assess administrative penalties and/or administrative sanctions for violations or for failure to timely complete corrective actions or timely provide written verification of the completion of corrections to the department.

§91.90.Administrative Sanctions and Penalties.
A person that violates Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 802, a rule, or an order of the executive director or commission will be subject to administrative sanctions and/or administrative penalties under Texas Occupations Code, Chapters 51 and 802 and applicable agency rules.

Monetary values of assessments for penalties and sanctions have not been defined in these two sections. This will result in court cases challenging the assessments.

§91.56.Responsibilities of the Department--Disciplinary Database.
(a) The department shall maintain a database of dog or cat breeders who have been subject to disciplinary action or sanctions.
(b) The department shall make the information maintained in the database available to the public.

There is no provision in these regulations for removal of names from the database, nor is there any discussion of procedures for rectifying errors in the database. This will result in court cases challenging the validity of the database.

§91.59.Responsibilities of the Department--Reporting Violations; Eligibility of Applicant.
(a) The department shall establish an online complaint reporting system for reporting violations of this chapter, including unlicensed activity by persons required to obtain a license under this chapter.
(b) The online reporting system shall provide an option designed to protect from disclosure the identity of persons electing to provide information anonymously.
(c) A person shall be eligible to receive a reward if information submitted online or in writing to the department leads to the issuance of a final order by the commission finding unlicensed activity under this chapter.
(d) A person providing information under this section may be identified either by name, address and telephone number or may request an anonymous code number which shall be used in lieu of person's name in all subsequent transactions.
(e) Information provided by a person under this section shall be independently verified and substantiated by department inspectors or investigators.

§91.60.Responsibilities of the Department--Payment of Rewaards.
(a) The amount of reward granted to eligible applicants may not exceed $1,000 and shall be determined on a case by case basis by the executive director.
(b) In the event two or more eligible applicants furnish information pertaining to unlicensed activity, the reward may be divided among the eligible applicants in an amount determined by the executive director.
(c) A reward under this section must be authorized by the executive director in writing stating the public purpose served by the payment.
(d) A decision by the executive director to pay or otherwise allocate reward payments is within the sole discretion of the executive director and this chapter in no way provides an independent right to such payments, if any.
(e) If the commission issues a final order finding unlicensed activity by a person named in the complaint submitted under this section, the department shall issue payment to the person or persons providing the information as soon thereafter as is practical.

These two sections invite abuse, specifically the mechanisms for reporting violations, the shielding of informants, and the awarding of a 'bounty' to informants reporting violations. This will result in 'witch hunts' and court cases.

§91.65.Advisory Committee.
(a) The commission shall establish an advisory committee to advise the commission and make recommendations on matters related to the administration and enforcement of this chapter, including licensing fees and standards.
(b) The advisory committee consists of nine members appointed by the presiding officer of the commission with the approval of the commission as follows:
(1) two members who are licensed breeders;

(2) two members who are veterinarians;
(3) two members who represent animal welfare organizations each of which has an office based in this state;
(4) two members who represent the public; and
(5) one member who is an animal control officer as defined in §829.001, Health and Safety Code.(c)
(f) Except for the members described by subsection (b)(1), a person may not be a member of the advisory committee if the person or a member of the person's household:
(1) is required to be licensed under this chapter;
(i) A decision of the advisory committee is effective only on a majority vote of the members present.

This section does not provide for a balanced Advisory Committee. Items (2) and (3) are not similarly restricted as is Item (1) to prevent overrepresentation. This could result in an Advisory Committee that is skewed in the interest of animal welfare organizations and/or veterinarians by allowing the Advisory Committee members described in Item (4) to be comprised of members who represent the public AND animal welfare organizations and/or veterinarians.

William H. Kuntz, Jr., Executive Director, has determined that for each year of the first five-year period the proposed new rules are in effect, there will be costs to the Department to enforce and administer these proposed rules. The expected cost is approximately $565,000 per year. Fees, which are included in the proposed new rules, have been set to generate revenues sufficient to cover these costs. There is no anticipated fiscal implication for units of local government. Mr. Kuntz has determined that for each year of the first five-year period the proposed new rules are in effect, the public benefit will be the licensing of dog and cat breeders engaged in the breeding and sale of dog and cats ensuring the quality of life of the animals is maintained at a safe and humane level

The comment about the department only needing approximately $565K of public funding to operate annually is completely unrealistic. I predict that the department will prove to become a huge financial burden on the State treasury. As a taxpayer, I can think of much more worthwhile uses of my tax dollars.

§91.58.Responsibilities of the Department--Donations, Disbursementts and Reporting.
(a) The executive director shall develop procedures for the acceptance, conversion, and deposit of all donations offered by individuals, clubs, organizations, and all other sources.
(b) Conversion of donations of real or personal property into United States currency shall be accomplished by the executive director or designee.
(c) Donations received shall be deposited in a dedicated training and enforcement account in the general revenue fund to the credit of general revenue subject to exemption from the application of §403.095, Government Code.
(d) The executive director shall approve in writing all disbursements from the training and information account.
(e) A disbursement under this section may include but is not limited to promotional costs to enhance the fund.
(g) All disbursements from the accounts will be by check signed by the director.
(h) The commission will be furnished a quarterly report detailing all deposits into and expenditures from the fund.

The funding structure described in this section is confusing and invites abuse by the director and staff. This section should be completely rewritten to adhere to the fiscal and financial requirements of the State Comptroller's office. I suspect that the receipt and disbursement of funds will require much more fiscal responsibility and reporting than has been set forth in this section.

The allowance for promotional costs to enhance the fund is nothing more than a politically-correct label for public advertising, and in my opinion places the department on the same playing field as a lobby. I like to call a skunk a skunk, and this section really stinks like a skunk. Does the commission/director plan on advertising that they will be offering 'bounties' to informants?

§91.80.Fees.

The proposed fee structures are ridiculously high and will result in widespread non-compliance. This will of course contribute to court cases challenging the regulations.

§91.113.Standards of Care--Sales and Transfers.
A licensed breeder shall not sell, trade, or give away an animal before the animal is at least eight weeks of age and two pounds or twelve weeks of age and has been weaned.

This section is contradictory and presents another opportunity for court cases challenging the regulations.

§91.66.Responsibilities of Inspectors--Inspections, Investigations, and Reports of Animal Cruelty.
(a) An inspector or investigation must conduct inspections during the facility's normal business hours, and the licensed breeder or a representative of the licensed breeder must be given a reasonable opportunity to be present during the inspection.
(b) If an inspector determines it is not appropriate to provide advance notice to the licensed breeder or a representative of the licensed breeder before arriving at the facility, the inspection report must describe the reasons supporting the determination.
(c) In conducting an inspection or investigation under this section, an inspector may not enter or access any portion of a private residence of a licensed breeder except as necessary to access animals or other property relevant to the care of the animals. **This subsection does not apply to the investigation of unlicensed activity.**

Item (c) implies that there are no restrictions on investigations performed to investigate unlicensed activity. This section introduces the opportunity for 'witch hunts' and for search and seizure without a warrant. I predict that this will result in numerous law suits being filed.

§91.91.Enforcement Authority.
The enforcement authority granted under Texas Occupations Code, Chapters 51 and 802 and any associated rules may be used to enforce Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 802 and this chapter.

Since this section does not specify in detail what is contained under the Code, I suspect and fear that there are items in the Code which would further the opportunity for 'witch hunts' and for search and seizure without a warrant.

In summary, I realize that the lawyers are smacking their lips in anticipation of all of the law suits that will be filed and all of the huge fees that they will enjoy when all of the settlements are finalized; but I can't reconcile this with the fact that our justice system is seriously overburdened; and we just don't need more law suits in our court system dealing with poorly defined regulations.

As a taxpayer and voter, I am appalled that the Texas State Legislature and the Texas Governor has allowed Texas HB1451 to become the law of the land in the State of Texas. I am very angry that this legislation has been passed to serve the whims of animal rights activists at the expense of taxpayers. It is very transparent that the passage of this bill and the implementation of these rules and regulations are an attempt to eliminate the breeding of cats and dogs altogether by:

(1) imposing ridiculously high fees for licensing
(2) imposing ridiculously detailed requirements for the housing of cats & dogs which in some cases are vague or confusing
(3) providing for informant procedures, bounties, databases & advertising to encourage the public to intimidate and persecute breeders
(4) providing for search and seizure procedures without warrants

I am very concerned that this is just the beginning of more and more regulation, and that all agricultural endeavors involving animal husbandry will eventually become regulated by similar rules and regulations. If this is allowed to happen, this will deal a major blow to the economy of Texas, since a large part of its commerce depends on agriculture.

From: Kelli Jackson [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:28 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills
Attachments: Dear Ms.docx

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Kelli Jackson
[redacted]

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kelli Jackson
[redacted]

From: "Robert M. Spiegel" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:34 PM
Subject: Proposed Breeder Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Robert Spiegel

Robert M. Spiegel

[redacted]

I received the highest customer satisfaction rating company wide in 2010.
I'm more than just promises!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Houston-TX/Robert-Spiegel-Certified-Mortgage-Planning-Specialist/101174303079> Find me on Facebook
<http://www.linkedin.com/profile/view?id=4008912&trk=tab_pro> Find Me On LinkedIn

Do you know someone that would benefit from my services? My business is nearly 100% referral from past clients, their friends and loved ones, so please do not keep me a secret!

Hancock Mortgage Partners

Branch NMLS #718753

[redacted]00

[redacted]

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From: Nancy Weiss <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 1:58 PM
Subject: Comments on Proposed Rules for HB 1451
Attachments: Comments on proposed regs- Breeders.docx

Please see the attached document with my comments on the proposed rules and regulations for HB 1451.
Thank you.
Nancy Weiss

February 13, 2012

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and1 believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards do not fully meet the goals of HB 1451. The major problem areas in the proposed regulations are as follows: use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112). Each of these concerns is addressed below.

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): I recommend revising to prohibit all wire flooring and eliminating any grandfathering of wire flooring for existing facilities. A phase in period of a year for full compliance could be added.

Cage Stacking: Stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104 should be eliminated or restricted to no more than one on top of another.

Cage Sizes: There should be no exemptions allowed for current licensed breeders. A phase in period of a year or two for full compliance for current breeders could be added.

Veterinary Procedures: Surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking should only be performed by veterinarians not breeders. Please change §91.112 to reflect this.

Temperature: Please delete the phrases "using best efforts" and "for four consecutive hours" in §91.101 and §91.102 as these make enforcement of this rule difficult if not impossible.

Thank you in advance for consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Nancy S. Weiss, PhD, MPH

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 1:34 PM
Subject: Proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Russell
[redacted]

From: Sharon Greco <[redacted]>
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/13/2012 11:45 AM
Subject: see attached
Attachments: Pup.jpg

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

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Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Green

[redacted]

From: "Laurel Eskridge" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 12:30 PM
Subject: Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Laurel Eskridge

From: Margaret Rodriquez [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/13/2012 3:18 PM
Subject: proposed licensing of dog and cat breeders in Texas
Attachments: Licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas.PDF

Dear Ms. Rinard,

Attached please find my comments regarding the licensing of dog and cat breeders in the state of Texas. I hope you will consider my thoughts in this matter.

Respectfully,

Margaret Rodriquez
Allen, Texas, USA

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Rodriquez

From: Eugene Turner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 11:51 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Eugene Turner
[redacted]

From: August Reichenbach [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:41 AM
Subject: Proposed Rules
Attachments: Scan001.PDF

Please accept the attached.

Thank you,

August

August Reichenbach

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

August Reichenbach

From: Brenda Summers [redacted]
To: '"erule.comments@license.state.tx.us"' <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/10/2012 11:43 AM
Subject: Rules for licensed breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

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Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Brenda Summers

From: "Starr Lockwood" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 11:32 AM
Subject: Please Help Dogs & Cats in Texas Breeding Mills

I heartedly agree with all of the foregoing comments. Ideally, puppy mills should be outlawed period. Given the fact that it will still exist even if there are no such laws, then all breeders should be required to strictly adhere to the most humane of accommodations for those entrusted into their care. Please speak for those who cannot speak for themselves and make changes to existing laws and create laws where there are none. Further, please provide laws that will allow animal control officers and concerned citizens to make sure that those facilities do adhere to the laws. Provide provision for punishment for neglecting and/or disregarding the welfare of these living beings. Thank you.

Starr Lockwood

[redacted]

4 priority issues that must be changed.

1. WIRE FLOORING

TDLR's proposed rules dealing with flooring in licensed breeder facilities {Section 91.102 (e)(A)} require that at least 50% of the floor be solid flooring with the remainder being allowed to be wire or wire mesh. However, these proposed rules do not apply to existing breeder facilities. These existing breeder facilities are allowed to have 100% wire or wire mesh flooring. This "grandfathering" of current breeding facilities is terribly flawed and will result in thousands of animals living their entire lives on wire flooring with no relief. We must get this "grandfathering" provision out of the proposed rules and require all breeders, both current and future, to have at least 50% solid flooring where the animal can stand, sit, lie down and turnabout freely on a solid surfce, to seek relief from the wire flooring.
Talking points:

* 100% wire flooring in primary enclosures is inherently cruel confinement. By licensing (grandfathering) this practice, the TDLR is "gutting" the intent and purpose of the statute which is to improve the health and wellbeing of the animals who spend their entire lives in these cages. Also, by licensing (endorsing) the practice the TDLR is making the state animal cruelty statute (cruel confinement) more difficult or impossible to enforce. This is a giant step backward, not forward.

* Dogs forced to live on wire flooring for long periods of time suffer from foot and leg injuries, including chronic, painful sores, infections and cysts between the toes, toenails that curl into the paw pads from lack of pressure on the nail, and toenails being ripped out when they get caught on the wire.

* Wire flooring increases drafts in extremely cold weather, making it difficult for dogs to maintain their body heat.

* Wire flooring in most cases is less sanitary than solid flooring. Feces do not readily fall though wire mesh, so the dog(s) grind it though the wire with their feet which creates terribly unsanitary conditions. Both the dogs and the wire flooring become caked in feces and debris, making cleaning very difficult if not impossible.

* One can provide 50% solid flooring easily and at little expense by providing a resting board, rubber mat, or bedding. This does NOT require restructure of the enclosure for breeders.

2. CAGE SIZES

TDLR's proposed rules dealing with cage sizes {Section 91.104 (3)(A) and (B)} require that primary enclosures be twice the size currently required by the USDA regulations for USDA licensed breeders. Again, however, the TDLR proposed rules exempt current breeder facilities from these requirements and allow them to continue using the smaller cage sizes required by the USDA regulations. The reason given is that it would be cost prohibitive to require current breeder facilities to double their cage sizes. Although this has some merit, there must be a specific timeframe for current breeder facilities to come into compliance with the larger size caging requirements. We recommend that they be given three years to come into compliance - to wit: until September 1, 2015. Also, we recommend that any new cages built at these facilities must come into compliance with the larger cage size requirements at the time they are installed. Talking point:

* The Licensed Breeder bill was passed to protect the well being of animals forced to live their entire lives in small cages. To "grandfather" existing breeders from increased cage sizes equates to 1) ignoring the will of the legislature and 2) allowing licensed breeders to continue the "status quo" of tiny barren wire living quarters.

3. CAGE STACKING
TDLR's proposed rules {Section 91.104(E)} allow the stacking of dog cages up to three tiers. We recommend that there be no stacking or if any stacking is allowed that it must not exceed one cage on top of another. Talking points:

* Stacked cages encourage gross overcrowding of animals and are often so high or low - caretakers or inspectors can't easily see the dogs to check on their wellbeing.

* Stacked cages with wire flooring allow urine, feces and wastewater from higher cages to rain down on dogs below

* Stacking makes it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures - allowing many dogs and cats to live in total darkness and neglect.

4. SURGICAL PROCEDURES
TDLR's proposed rules {Section 91.112(b)} require that only a veterinarian be allowed to euthanize an animal or perform a surgical birth procedure on an animal. This section should cover additional procedures that only a veterinarian shall perform, such as tail docking, ear cropping, debarking, and claw removal. Currently, it is common for these procedures to be performed by breeders (non-veterinarians). Talking points:

* These procedures are veterinary procedures because they are surgical in nature, and should include prescription drugs and/or anesthesia for pain - neither of which can legally be obtained and used by a lay person.

A strong argument can be made for animal cruelty, should a breeder/lay person dock tails, cut ears, remove claws, or cut vocal cords without prescription pain drugs or antibiotics.

From: Cheryl Spencer Scher [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 11:07 PM
Subject: very important issue in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Arnold Scher
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/14/2012 6:46 PM
Subject: Governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas

Ms. Melissa Rinard

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Khan

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 10:49 PM
Subject: Attention: Melissa Rinard
Attachments: Melissa Rinard.docx

Please read the enclosed attachment.
Thank you, Sherry Philips

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory

Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Sherry Philips

[redacted]

From: tammy carabajal [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 1:57 PM
Subject: Please stop Puppy Mills in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Tammy Carabajal
[redacted]

Tammy Carabajal

From: Karen Moeck [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:05 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Karen Moeck
[redacted]

Karen Moeck
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/15/2012 11:18 PM
Subject: Re: The Puppy Mill Bill

My wife and I used to show Yorkshire Terriers and have always been concerned with the welfare of all dogs and cats. It is our understanding that The Puppy Mill Bill, while good, needs strengthening.

1. Wire flooring. No animal should be caged on a 100% wire floor. Ever. No excuses.

2. Cage Size. Cage should be large enough to exercise.

3. Cage Stacking. Unthinkable that a dog should live under another, being defecated, urinated on from above.

4. Surgical Procedures. A Veterinarian and proper anesthesia should be required for all surgical procedures.

It breaks our heart that they are caged at all. We think you are trying to give a break to Puppy Mills. These people who breed many dogs and sell to retailers, resellers or online have love only for the the money, not the dogs. We have seen enough of them to know, they don't deserve a break.

Thank You for working on this important regulation!

Nina McIntire
[redacted]

From: Virginia Windley [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:03 PM
Subject: Upcoming regulation of Puppy Mills in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Virginia B. Windley

[redacted]

From: Vickie McDonald [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: Puppy & Kitten Mills
Attachments: Melissa Rinard.doc

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Vickie McDonald

[redacted]

From: Vicki Henrichs [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 2:08 PM
Subject: Concerned citizen on animal cruelty

Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Dear Ms. Rinard:

We as Texas citizens need to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20, 2012.

1. Please work to prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level, an unhealthy and unsanitary practice that allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures that should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

Also, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

Sincerely,

Vicki Henrichs
[redacted]

From: Valerie Shortall [redacted]
To: "'erule.comments@license.state.tx.us'" <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/14/2012 10:25 AM
Subject: Puppy Mills
Attachments: TDLR Letter Individual.docx

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Shortall
[redacted]

From: "Marsha C. Whitty" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 8:08 PM
Subject: Concerns with Large Scale Commercial Breeder Bill
Attachments: Puppy Mills Letter.docx

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Temperature: Lastly, I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Marsha C. Whitty

From: ulrich diederich <ulrichd@earthlink.net>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 11:28 AM
Subject: Strengthen puppy mill bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ulrich Diederich
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/17/2012 2:20 AM
Subject: Please improve the TDLR's Proposed Rules and Standards

Dear Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations

I am writing to express my appreciation to the State of Texas for its passage of The Licensed Breeder Bill in 2011.

Now I would like to encourage you to ensure that the best regulations possible get passed. The rules and standards proposed by the TDLR have a few problem areas that would benefit from improvement.

1. All breeder facilities must **improve on wire / wire mesh flooring**. Should animals live their entire lives on wire flooring with no relief? It's not humane. We should do better than this.

2. No breeders should be exempt from the new law requiring an **increase in the size of the cages** in which these poor animals live.

3. **No more cage stacking**. You know what happens with stacking: The dogs on the lower tiers get pelted with excrement. It's a terrible way to live.

4. **Any "surgery" performed on an animal should be performed by a veterinarian**, so that the animal may receive pain medication. It's just basic humanity.

Please let me know that you've received this email and will give it your thoughtful consideration.

Thank you,

Teresa Gubbins
[redacted]

From: Sharon Lawrence [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 5:48 PM
Subject: Implementing HB 1451, the Licensed Breeder Bill

Let me say first that I'm self-employed, so I understand well the interests of people who are trying to make a living, especially in this economy. That said, I have the following comments about the proposed regulations to implement the Licensed Breeder Bill (comment deadline February 17).

1. ALL breeding facilities should be required to have at least 50 percent of the flooring under the animals to be solid. There should be NO grandfathering for existing facilities. Frankly, I think the percentage should be far higher, if not 100 percent, as I can't imagine any animal or human having to walk on wire/wire mesh flooring for even a second, let alone a good percentage of their lives. With the down economy, this is the perfect time for everyone to upgrade facilities as construction help is readily available and eager for work - so no better time to do it than now. Grandfathering is NOT necessary.

2. Cage sizes should be increased substantially and without delay. If breeders argue that they can't afford to upgrade all of their cages, they simply can leave more of them vacant by breeder fewer animals. That will reduce costs and, given that supply will be restricted, will enable them to raise prices on this available pups.

3. Absolutely no stacking! No human would want to live in a situation where their upstairs neighbor can defecate on them. Why should that be possible for an animal? Again, if that means fewer cages, that means fewer animals on the market (thus a lower total cost of operation) which means a higher selling price. So this is not a net loss for breeders.

4. Veterinarians should be required to perform all procedures typically performed by a veterinarian, not just euthanasia. Again, this is of benefit to the breeders as it ensures a higher quality "product" for the marketplace.

Sharon Lawrence
[redacted]1

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 2:09 PM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Anderson

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 2:17 PM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and

recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Danelle Krupa

SPCA of Texas 2400 Lone Star Dr., Dallas, TX 75212
Phone: 214-742-SPCA (7722) | Email: spca@spca.org
Privac

From: Tanya Golitschenko[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tanya Golitschenko

From: Kayleigh Roman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kayleigh Roman

From: Svenja Palmowski[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Svenja Palmowski

From: Mary Kendrick [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:48 PM
Subject: Why are you letting animal breeders DO THIS!!
Attachments: AP2 (437x521).jpg

Dear Ms Rinard
I am writing to you to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeders regulations as in the Texas Registry on January 20th breeding laws coming into force.
Why do you allow Puppy Farms or Mills as they are called in your Country to exist at all?
They are truly disgusting and BARBARIC !!

ANIMALS SUFFER WITH/AT THESE CONSEQUENCES .
It truly makes my heart bleed as a CIVILISED SOCIETY IN THE GREAT USA allowing these things to happen at all ?
Animals deserve the right to a comfortable existence don't they? Not being housed and abused like these breeders seem to want and have want.....It is truly shameful.
I have now copied these other words re a site wanting desperately to stop this..I personally cannot believe you people would allow this to go on!
I am just trying to do my bit as an animal loving person in the UK
TOTALLY HORRIFIED THAT THIS IS GOING ON!

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

tHIS A PHOTOGRAPH OF MY BELOVED BREED AND IT ISTRULY SHOCKING TO SEE THESE BELOVED DOGS LIKE THIS.tHEY ARE NOT KENNELLED DOGS BUT DEAR FAMILY PETS ...WHY IS THIS BEING ALLOWED TO HAPPEN.I COULD WEEP I LOVE MY DOG SO MUCH I WOULD DIE FOR HIM.

I HAVE INCLUDED APHOTO OF MYSELF AND MY DOG ..dOGS SHOULD BE TREATED WITH KINDNESS AND LOVE.

THANK YOU AND I HOPE YOU WILL SPEAK OUT FOR THE RIGHTS OF OUR BELOVED DOGS.AND STOP THESE ANIMAL FARMS OR MALLS STRIGHT AWAY .

From: Charlie Craig [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:49 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Charles Craig
[redacted]

From: Severine Chance [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:48 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Miss Severine Chance
[redacted]

From: Joy Gorzalski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:47 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Joy Gorzalski
[redacted]

From: "Clements, Lisa (ITC)" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:47 PM
Subject: RE: proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lisa Clements

[redacted]

From: Susan M [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:47 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Susan Mactye
[redacted]

From: Sam & Kelly [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:47 PM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sam Yoon

Sam & Kelly
[redacted]

Sent from our iPad

From: sara spidell[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:47 PM
Subject: Doing something about animal suffering

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Sincerely

Matthew and Sara Chase

[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From: "Merriman,Kelly W[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:47 PM
Subject: Strengthening the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations.

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Kelly Willis Merriman, MPH, PhD
[redacted]

From: Kristen Seiser [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristen Seiser

From: Lindsay Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Smith

From: LuLu Cey [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

LuLu Cey

From: Robert Ray [redacted]
To: [redacted]
CC: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:44 PM
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Alert From the Houston SPCA

Caroline,
Thanks for talking with me today. If true, the e-mail below from Houston SPCA regarding puppy mills is disturbing.
Please tell Representative Davis that we can comfortably state that as ten-year plus residents of Houston's Magnolia Grove subdivision (West End near St. Thomas High School), we and our neighbors expect the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to fully enforce both the letter and spirit of the law, and if this Legislation is somehow misguided or needs revamping or tweaking to effectively protect the best interests of animals and their welfare, we fully support Representative Davis's efforts in that regard.
Here is our contact information:

Robert and Martha Ray
[redacted]

Thank you,
Robert Ray
****

Robert E. Ray
Attorney at Law
[redacted]

.....CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE.....

The information in this email may be confidential and/or privileged. This email is intended to be reviewed by only the individual or organization named above. If you are not the intended recipient or an authorized representative of the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination or copying of this email and its attachments, if any, or the information contained herein is prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please immediately notify the sender by return email and delete this email from your system.

Help stop the Puppy Mill Bill. Cut and past the letter to email, and pass on to your friends and family. Thanks!

-----Original Message-----
[redacted]
Subject: Urgent Alert From the Houston SPCA

Can't see the images? Click here to view this message in your browser.

DO YOU AGREE WITH US THAT
THIS IS WRONG?

WE NEED YOUR ACTION TODAY!!
The Puppy Mill Bill, passed in the last legislative session, was SUPPOSED to prevent these types of horrific conditions. Sadly, the

proposed rules regarding the licensing and regulation of dog and cat breeders actually ALLOW the keeping of animals on 100% wire flooring, ALLOW the stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (letting urine and feces fall directly on the dog below), ALLOW breeders/non-veterinarians to perform surgical procedures on animals. ANGRY? There is something you can do right now to prevent innocent animals from living in mills like this.

Please send a polite email to Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation at erule.comments@license.state.tx.us by February 17th. Don't know what to say? Here is a sample letter:

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Your Name
Street Address
City, State Zip
Phone Number
Email Address

[redacted]

From: Kari Heath[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kari Heath

From: Jessica Riseborough [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:44 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Riseborough

From: Annette Winbery [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
CC: Annette Winbery [redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 3:44 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there

for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Also, for once, let's have Texas be in the lead in regards to licensing Breeders, therefore a move to eliminate puppy mills.

Sincerely,

Annette Winbery

From: Courtney Glondeniz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Courtney Glondeniz

From: Dawn Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Smith

From: Christine Wordlaw [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine Wordlaw

From: Chenoa Casburn [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chenoa Casburn

From: Greta Langenberg [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Greta Langenberg

From: Sarah Major [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Major

From: Dorothy Fabriguze [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us> [redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 4:11 PM
Subject: Fwd: Fw: Urgent Alert From the Houston SPCA

From: Dorothy Fabriguze = ssassymom1939@gmail.com

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Fran Hirsch [redacted]
Date: Fri, Feb 10, 2012 at 2:22 PM
Subject: Fw: Urgent Alert From the Houston SPCA
To: Dorothy Fabriguze [redacted]

Here's a way we can help without having to spend money in case you're interesting in participating by writing the same letter to the email address that is shown below.

Read your Bible today. Get to KNOW God!

Fran
---- Forwarded Message ----
From: Houston SPCA [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 1:20 PM
Subject: Urgent Alert From the Houston SPCA
**
Can't see the images? Click here to view this message in your browser.<http://hspca.convio.net/site/R?i=f-DpObjMQwuY3lURW4-CMQ>
DO YOU AGREE WITH US THAT
THIS IS WRONG?
[image: Puppy Mill Photo 2]
WE NEED YOUR ACTION TODAY!!
The Puppy Mill Bill, passed in the last legislative session, was SUPPOSED to prevent these types of horrific conditions. Sadly, the proposed rules regarding the licensing and regulation of dog and cat breeders actually ALLOW the keeping of animals on 100% wire flooring, ALLOW the stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (letting urine and feces fall directly on the dog below), ALLOW breeders/non-veterinarians to perform surgical procedures on animals. ANGRY? There is something you can do right now to prevent innocent animals from living in mills like this.
[image: Puppy Mill Photo 1]
Please send a polite email to Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation at erule.comments@license.state.tx.us by February 17th. Don't know what to say? Here is a sample letter:
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Your Name

Street Address
City, State Zip
Phone Number
Email Address
[redacted]

[redacted]

****

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:19 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20 th .

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Joe Labadie
[redacted]

From: Amanda Wedelich [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:19 PM
Subject: Amanda Wedelich, San Antonio Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Amanda Wedelich
[redacted]

From: Bridget Labadie <[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:16 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bridget Labadie
[redacted]

From: <LENAVERY[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:14 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Leonard Avery
[redacted]

From: Elaine Gartrell [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:13 PM
Subject: We Need Your Help!!!!

>
>
> Dear Ms. Rinard:
>
> I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
>
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> In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
>
> Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> Elaine Gartrell
>
> [redacted]
>
[redacted]

From: Ola Humphries [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:13 PM
Subject: Jan 20 puppy mill regulations

Ms. Melissa RinardLegal Assistant, General Counsel's OfficeTexas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Dear Ms. Rinard:
The proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th need to be strengthened. Please make some changes as noted below.
1. Prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals live on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, do NOT "grandfather" existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully,Ola Humphries
[redacted]

From: Karen Fernbach [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:13 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Karen A Fernbach
[redacted]

From: LeAnn Garza[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:12 PM
Subject: please strengthen dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

*LeAnn Garza
[redacted]

There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats.
—Albert Schweitzer*

From: Chenoa Casburn [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chenoa Casburn

From: frances davis [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 5:48 PM

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Frances Davis
[redacted]

From: Kennedy S[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:46 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Kennedy

From: Sandra Lynch [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:33 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 9, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sandra Lynch
[redacted]

From: mike mckay [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

mike mckay

From: Mario Krömer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mario Krömer

From: Sierra Marston[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sierra Marston

From: Sharon Schwans[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Schwans

From: Kathy Rote [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As a citizen of rural Texas, I'm well aware of how much people can get away with when it comes to "interpreting" the law to suit their budget, market or just personal gratification. In my little town, people breeding pit bulls, pomeranians (whatever the breed d'jeux) crank them out by the hundreds and set up road side stands to sell dogs. I volunteer in animal rescue and know how many of those animals are diseased, get used for fighting and by back yard breeders looking to make a few extra dollars breeding more dogs and selling at competitive prices. Our rate of strays, neglect/abuse from chaining, and dogs that don't find homes just seems to grow, despite the hard work of non profits providing spay and neuter to anyone who can't afford it. Then the tax payers pay to euthanize the unwanted dogs. People think that mostly mutts and strays get euthanized at animal control. I do know that - for every mixed breed homeless dog that comes to our no kill shelter, there is a full bloodied pit bull, Australian shepard or full blooded hound or Chi and so on. It's all well and good to be a state full of people who pride themselves on their independent cussedness - but law enforcement officials badly need the support of our legislators. Please don't leave loopholes and beef up the required standards and make it possible for them to do their job.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Rote

From: Cathryn Rodriguez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cathryn Rodriguez

From: Lindsay Finnegan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Finnegan

From: Larry Regan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Larry Regan

From: Sophie McGuinness[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sophie McGuinness

From: Carol Thompson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:31 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

As a Texan, I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times. I implore you to not allow standards of treatment that you, as a lawmaker and a human being, would not want for your own companion animal.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act. And, animals that we as a society have decided are worthy of protection will be harmed and live terrible lives in cages. Please work to make Texas a humane place for companion animals.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carol Thompson

From: Marie Bernache [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marie Bernache

From: Carrina Rowe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carrina Rowe

From: Catherine Jobe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act. Rules that "grandfather-in" unhealthy and cruel conditions and practices eviscerate the law by allowing most breeders to continue these practices and not comply with the law. This was not the intent of the Texas legislature or the people who worked to obtain passage of the act. Failing to include these provisions subjects animals to painful foot and body conditions from living on wire rather than flooring, botched surgeries by unlicensed amaterus, filth and disease from living in cages under other animals' droppings, dangerous heat and cold, and cruel and inhumane cages half the size the law requires. Please act decisively to protect animals from abuse. Animal breeders complain that they cannot continue their businesses if required to provide these bare minimum protections to the animals they use for breeding and their kittens and puppies. They miss the point. The law and the people of Texas say that they should not be allowed to conduct such a cruel and negligent business. Please fulfill your responsibility to help the helpless--the cats and dogs and kittens and puppies who cannot speak for themselves, and have only you and me to protect them from people who are asking you to allow them to abuse animals for profit. Say no.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Jobe

From: Elizabeth Ponte [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: ******Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ponte

From: "J. Irene Clemmons [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

J. Irene Clemmons

From: Rachel Lozano [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Lozano

From: Riley Anderson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Riley Anderson

From: Catherine Carroll [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Carroll

From: Charlene Taylor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlene Taylor

From: Laura Mabry[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Mabry

From: Denise Uchoa [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Denise Uchoa

From: Djamila Broekhuijsen[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Djamila Broekhuijsen

From: Ang Panezott [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ang Panezott

From: Mark Rea [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Rea

From: April Allison <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.[redacted]
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

April Allison

From: Heini Talip [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heini Talip

From: Heather Romero [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: I beg you, Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make the humane changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary and to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. Please, it is very important to remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Romero

From: Holly Wilkinson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Holly Wilkinson

From: "Steven G. Kellman" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven G. Kellman

From: Carmelo Valone[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carmelo Valone

From: Kimberle Watson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Got Muscle? Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Kimberle Watson

From: Leilani Swafford [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leilani Swafford

From: Anita Faulkner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anita Faulkner

From: Eric Chavez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

PLEASE!!! I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric Chavez

From: Jerry Cook [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jerry Cook

From: Lisa Flanagan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Flanagan

From: Mary Price [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Price

From: arthur payne [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

arthur payne

From: Catherine Pepper [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Pepper

From: Kayla Knight [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kayla Knight

From: Paige Shannon [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paige Shannon

From: Romario Vargas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Romario Vargas

From: Nadine Vergilia [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nadine Vergilia

From: Cynthia Thomason [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Thomason

From: Melinda Evans [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melinda Evans

From: Barbara Frisbie [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Frisbie

From: Lucilla Vacondio [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lucilla Vacondio

From: Melinda Smiljanic <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melinda Smiljanic

From: Barbara Myers [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Myers

From: Joshua Granson[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joshua Granson

From: Sharon S Bailey [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon S Bailey

From: Gregor Banic [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gregor Banic

From: Paulline Roedel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paulline Roedel

From: Ashley Smith [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Smith

From: Gregory Wyatt [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gregory Wyatt

From: Lesli Santoyo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lesli Santoyo

From: Catherine Cabeza [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Cabeza

From: Kristen Ringdahl [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristen Ringdahl

From: Dena Oliphint [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dena Oliphint

From: Deana Kilgore [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deana Kilgore

From: Peggye Johnson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peggye Johnson

From: Renee Hardy[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Renee Hardy

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

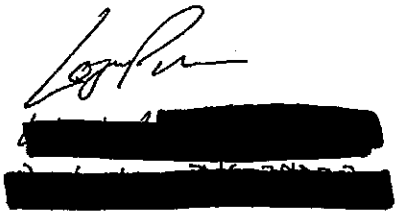
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,



From: Tanya Golitschenko[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 23, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tanya Golitschenko

From: Davi Lamas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Davi Lamas

From: amy lagrone [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

amy lagrone

From: Karen Collins [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen Collins

From: Kristen Deimler [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristen Deimler

From: CHANTAL LEON [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

CHANTAL LEON

From: Lynne Butterworth [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynne Butterworth

From: Davi Lamas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Davi Lamas

From: Claudia Salinas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claudia Salinas

From: Allison Wilkins <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Allison Wilkins

From: León Felipe Arellano Luna [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

León Felipe Arellano Luna

From: alicia barry [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

alicia barry

From: Shelva Wood [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shelva Wood

From: Brittany Atkinson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brittany Atkinson

From: Patrick Fisher <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Fisher

From: diane whitney [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

diane whitney

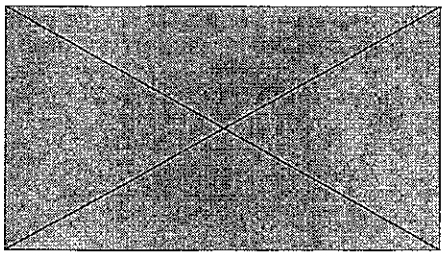
From: Missy McCullough [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 5:53 PM
Subject: HB 1451
Attachments: letter RE puppy mills.docx

Please read attached letter...

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Missy McCullough

[redacted]r
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]



Serving the animals and the people of our community through compassionate, affordable treatment and respect for all.

February 8, 2012

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Ms. Rinard:

I'm writing this letter on behalf of the Animal Trustees of Austin of which I serve as the Executive Director. Animal Trustees of Austin is a 19 yr. old, well respected animal welfare organization providing affordable veterinary care to the animals of Central Texas. We have experienced the cruelty of "puppy mills "many times over the years and have treated many animals suffering from the affects of this cruel practice. We have treated animals for serious eye infections, deformed limbs, infected wounds, life threatening uterine infections from over breeding and many more. We understand that you are accepting comments to the proposed Rules issued regarding HB1451, commonly known as the Puppy Mill Bill. We appreciate the opportunity to comment and would offer the following comments and suggested changes to those Rules.

First and foremost, **we urge you to not allow 100% wire flooring**. At a minimum, a solid flooring or resting board should be provided in each primary enclosure to allow each animal in that enclosure to stand, sit or lay in a comfortable position and turn around freely on a solid surface. Living on wire constantly is extremely cruel and inhumane. These dogs and cats will experience long term suffering from foot and leg injuries including chronic sores, infections and cysts between their toes and often having their foot or legs caught in the wire openings. Also, wire flooring creates drafts in extremely cold weather, making it difficult for an animal to maintain its body heat.

There was some mention that allowing 100% wire flooring was based on the cost to convert wire flooring to solid flooring. **50% solid floor can easily be attained at little expense by providing a resting board or rubber mat.** In any event, the pain and suffering these animals experience their entire lives outweighs any cost that might be incurred by a breeder to come in compliance with humane standards.

The Rules also allow stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This is not a good idea for several reasons. First, it encourages gross overcrowding and makes it difficult for caretakers or inspectors to see the dogs in the upper tier enclosures and check on their wellbeing. It also makes it difficult to remove dogs for the required one hour of daily exercise. **There should be no stacking of cages in a reputable breeder's facility.** If stacking is allowed, it should be limited to only one cage on top of another. Any stacking higher than that would affect lighting and air flow to reach these enclosures.

Also, for some reason, there are two standards for cage sizes. One for current breeding facilities

and another for future. It seems that whatever is best for the animals, which are the standards for future breeders, should apply to all. **We should not discriminate against animals living in current breeding facilities to those who will live in future breeding facilities.** The animals have no idea when the facility was built or when the breeder registered. All they know is that they don't have enough room to have a decent existence. Apparently, this differential in cage sizes came about as a concession to existing breeders because of cost. If you persist in that approach, at least there should be a ***fixed future date for existing breeders to come into compliance***. Surely, they can modify their cages over a two or three year period and come into compliance. **Otherwise, they will operate forever under substandard conditions and that should be unacceptable.**

In the portion of the Rules dealing with veterinary care, **you must consider prohibiting a breeder from performing de-barking, de-clawing, ear cropping and tail docking procedures. These procedures should be done only by a skilled veterinarian that has access to prescription drug, anesthesia, and antibiotics needed for these procedures.**

Lastly, many of the terms that are used in the Rules are not defined. We understand that you took these Rules from the Federal Regulations enacted by the USDA. If so, you should use the definitions they use in their Regulations to provide further clarity.

Please give our comments and suggestions your full attention. Thank you and I would appreciate your reply.

Sincerely,

Missy McCullough
Executive Director
Animal Trustees of Austin
[redacted]

From: Stacy Ramsdell[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 5:50 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring(§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking:There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures:Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature:Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Stacy
Stacy Ramsdell, Owner
Professional In-home Dog Trainer
Pawsitive Focus
[redacted]

From: Deborah Currier [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Animals are God's creatures too. Think about it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah Currier

From: Marie Bernache [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marie Bernache

From: Carrina Rowe <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carrina Rowe

From: Djamila Broekhuijsen <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Djamila Broekhuijsen

From: Ang Panezott [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ang Panezott

From: Mark Rea [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Rea

From: April Allison [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

April Allison

From: Heini Talip [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heini Talip

From: Heather Romero [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: I beg you, Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make the humane changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary and to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. Please, it is very important to remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Romero

From: Holly Wilkinson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Holly Wilkinson

From: "Steven G. Kellman" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven G. Kellman

From: Carmelo Valone [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carmelo Valone

From: Kimberle Watson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Got Muscle? Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Kimberle Watson

From: Deborah Currier [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Animals are God's creatures too. Think about it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah Currier

From: Noela Dahl[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Noela Dahl

From: Rachel Lonchar [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Lonchar

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>, <"<erule.comments"@license.state.t...
Date: 2/9/2012 6:27 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Joy Thomas

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:17 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

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The major problem areas are as follows:
allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Kathleen C Manning
[redacted]

From: Patricia Mendez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Mendez

From: Stefanie F <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stefanie F

From: Sara Caitlin Potter [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Caitlin Potter

From: Liliana Tatengo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Liliana Tatengo

From: Marilyn Hammett [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Hammett

From: Jamie Webster <[redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jamie Webster

From: Rebecca Fly [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Fly

From: Michal Kolman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Request About the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michal Kolman

From: Andrea Pointer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Andrea Pointer

From: "Erin C." [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erin C.

From: Sam Dunkovich [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sam Dunkovich

From: Prachi Deore [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 5:23 PM
Subject: my comments regarding the rules

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Prachi Deore

From: Jill Strong [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill Strong

From: Molly Frantz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Molly Frantz

From: Robyn zymowski <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robyn zymowski

From: Kristina Roberts [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Melissa Rinard,
Today, I received an informative email from the Houston SPCA with an urgent message regarding the new Puppy Mill Bill. I was delighted to hear that something was going to be put in place to prevent the horrific conditions that breeders put their poor animals in until I read that the bill could be written to allow these conditions to persist. I would like to please urge you and your team to strengthen the proposed regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Wire flooring being allowed as a primary flooring for animals is cruel. The wire floors can hurt their paws and not allow them to lay comfortably. Wire flooring should be completely prohibited.2. Stacking cages on top of one another is inhumane. The urine and feces of the animals on top are free to fall down on the animals below. This is completely unsanitary and unhealthy, creating a breeding ground for infection and disease.3. I was appalled to read that breeders and non-veterinarians are allowed to perform surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These procedures should ONLY be performed by a trained and licensed veterinarian.4. Vague language has no home in a law or bill. A person's "best efforts" can mean many things to different people. This type of language makes the law hard to enforce. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder using their "best efforts" regarding temperature control.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
We need to think of these animals as children who are helpless. They desperately need our help and protection because they cannot do it for themselves. Ask yourself if you would want your children to live in these horrific conditions. Ask yourself if YOU would want to live in these conditions. Please put yourself in the animals' shoes and realize that the life they live in these mills is a miserable life. They need our help.
Thank you for consideration of my comments.
Respectfully,Kristina Roberts [redacted]

From: Nancy Freyer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Freyer

From: Jessica Martinez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments[redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Martinez

From: Emily Costa <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily Costa

From: Michele Almeida [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michele Almeida

From: Mandi Winter [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:22 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mandi Winter
[redacted]

From: Bella Sartori [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:21 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bella Sartori

From: Evelyn Parker [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:21 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Parker

From: Moran Blueshtein [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:21 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Moran Blueshtein

From: carolina chapa [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:20 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

carolina chapa

From: Rossana Daumas [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:20 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rossana Daumas

From: Emma Givens [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:20 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emma Givens

From: "Andrews, Brannon" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:20 PM
Subject: Don't gut the puppy mill bill!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

The Texas legislature passed the Puppy Mill Bill for a reason. I am extremely upset to hear that the will of the people of Texas is being subverted in the process of making regulations implementing the Puppy Mill Bill. The companion animals of our great state will suffer unless you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Please give the dogs and cats of Texas the treatment they deserve. Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Brannon Andrews

[redacted]

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From: SHIRLEY GANS [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:19 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Shirley Gans [redacted]

From: Maria Elisse Yepez Jensen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:19 PM
Subject: Please stop animal cruelty!

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully,
Elisse Bigelow [redacted]

From: Bea Flores [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:16 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bea Flores
[redacted]

From: "Debbie McCrea" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:16 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill/ Breeder Law Strengthing Concerns

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Debbie McCrea, RN, MSN, CNS, CEN, CFRN, EMT-P
(Mother of 3 "stray kitties that were saved not "breeding in a breeding facilities)

[redacted]

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away!

From: Jim Turner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:14 PM
Subject: Breeder Animal Cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jim Turner
[redacted]

From: "Millie Paxton [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:12 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Richard and Mildred Paxton

[redacted]

From: Sharon Buchanan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:12 PM
Subject: Help the animals

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous
and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in
Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

In general, please stop the inhumane treatment of these precious animals.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Sharon Buchanan
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:09 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Ramona Traber
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:05 PM
Subject: please help
Attachments: PixelServer?j=g3ldF211iFt5-BtC7G-ZIQ

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Norene Shelton

[redacted]

To whom it my concern, please do not let puppy mills do whatever they please. Stop the maddnes people we vote for that do not change this are sick. Wire cageages ,stacked,none vets doing procedures. This is nuts. Help the puppies. Katherine Gill [redacted]

T··Mobile·

stick together

This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

From: "Hellriegel, Heidemarie" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 5:02 PM
Subject: Proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Heidemarie Hellriegel
[redacted]

From: shelly sanquist [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Shelly Barker
[redacted]

From: Jason Browning [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Your Name
Street Address
City, State Zip
Phone Number
Email AddressDear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jason Browning

[redacted]

From: "Angela Mc Ghee" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:55 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Please do not gut this bill for the sake of the voiceless animals that this will affect. I have bred horses in the past and worked as a volunteer and adoption manager for a large shelter. After experiencing the problems these dogs have on a first hand basis, I can attest to the problem of being tough on "Breeders". I have had to rehabilitate dogs with skin disease, bad feet, conformation issues from inbreeding that did not allow them to eat, etc. You will not have any compliance issues with breeders who are reputable, but you cannot give quarter to the "only for profit" breeders. They simply do not care about the lives of the animals, as they are only a product. Please consider the following:

Cages should not be stacked. Period. It is unsanitary and promotes disease.

All cages should have a solid flooring where the animal will be off the wire. Some of these animals cannot walk as their feet are so damaged from wire cages.

No veterinary procedures should be performed by unlicensed people. The cost of docking and cropping can be passed on to the customer in the price.

In Texas where summers can be deadly to animals, breeders should be required to provide proper temperature control for their animals. Do not allow them to "do their best". Use the best practices standards that veterinary associations recommend.

Also do not allow breeders to be grandfathered in or to be exempt for a period of time. They should not breed any more animals until they can bring their operations up to state requirements. If they cannot get up to these minimum requirements, they will be unable to adequately care for the animals in their operation. This is not enough, but at least it is a start toward ending the abuse and neglect of these "breeder" animals.

Angela Mc Ghee
[redacted]

From: "Lisa Blanchard" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments[redacted]>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:55 PM
Subject: puppy mill law

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lisa Blanchard

[redacted]

From: Reesie [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:54 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sherice Perkins
[redacted]

From: "Clements, Brenda L." [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:54 PM
Subject: Proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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In addition, there should be no grandfathering of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a cash crop.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Brenda Clements [redacted]

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From: Michal D[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:54 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills Law

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20 th .

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Michal Douglas
[redacted]

From: Laura Finn [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:53 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Finn

From: "Rachel S. Bretz"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:53 PM
Subject: Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I agree and support all of the below statements:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Rachel S. Bretz

[redacted]

From: "Samie A.M." [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samie A.M.

From: Kara Brown [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kara Brown

From: "Samie A.M. [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samie A.M.

From: meredith macnaughton [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@licens[redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM

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Respectfully,
Meredith MacNaughton [redacted]

From: Anon Ymous [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anon Ymous

From: Bailey Geoghagan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bailey Geoghagan

From: Shana Robinson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shana Robinson

From: Erika Schiegg [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erika Schiegg

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

:

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Your Name Sara Silverstein
[redacted]

From: Faith Purdy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Faith Purdy

From: Jamie Catanese [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jamie Catanese

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:51 PM
Subject: Regulations regarding animals in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to PLEASE strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. I can't help but think, would individuals who pass these laws and regulations actually keep their own pets in such painful conditions?

Can you imagine what it must be like to spend your entire life living on a wire floor? Can you imagine living in a wire cage where urine and feces would rain down on you? Can you imagine allowing anyone other than a vet to perform surgery on your pet? And honestly, the words "best efforts" leaves the door wide open and protects nothing.

Why should the current puppy and kitten mills be allowed to be grand fathered? Cruelty is cruelty! Why would you not act on this immediately?

Please, please, please reconsider strengthening these regulations. Don't these poor souls suffer enough? Is there not a single person willing to fight for them? Show your compassion and reasonableness by making these regulations humane. These poor creatures have such painful lives, why not try to at least give them a touch of humanity.

Let's show the rest of the country we really are civilized and act accordingly!

Sincerely,

Marilyn Shannon
[redacted]

From: Kool Kats & Kanines [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:51 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring(§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking:There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures:Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature:Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Debra Powell

From: "Margo H. Bliss" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:51 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Legislation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel, painful and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. Can you imagine living your life in the waste of the being living above you?

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed only by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable thus providing breeders with the ability to "legally" house animals in facilities with little or no temperature control. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and should only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of inhumane treatment, filthy living conditions, suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals nothing more than a "cash crop."

Thank you for your time and consideration with this critical issue. Please help save innocent and helpless animals from being forced to live their lives in such cruel and deplorable conditions.

Respectfully,
Margo Bliss
[redacted]

From: Chris Nagy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:51 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Nagy

From: Robin Slate [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:51 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robin Slate

From: Anna Carlsson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:51 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anna Carlsson

From: Roy Krymis [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:51 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roy Krymis

From: "Anne L. Schrader, CTC, ACC" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:51 PM
Subject: Strengthen Proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Martha Anne Schrader

M. Anne Schrader

[redacted]

From: Dorothy Duggan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 4:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Duggan

From: Carolin Herter [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carolin Herter

From: "Mary Ann Wymore" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:50 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mary Ann Wymore
[redacted]

From: Christina Livingston[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christina Livingston

From: Lachelle Lousch[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Any living soul who would not see these standards as minimally essential for the wellbeing of these poor animals is uncivilized and a disgrace to the human race. In a world where millions of animals are put down daily, it is irresponsible to allow the breeding industry to flourish and use sentient loving creatures as mere commodoties and cash cows. If no laws will be passed prohibiting this disgusting industry, then at LEAST set some standards!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lachelle Lousch

From: Cheryl Gardner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Gardner

From: Alyssa Gilmore[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Gilmore

From: NHEL OTKIN [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

NHEL OTKIN

From: Karen Ross [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen Ross

From: Sonnta Simon[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sonnta Simon

From: Eliette Bozzola [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eliette Bozzola

From: James Hunter [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Hunter

From: Karen Matthews [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen Matthews

From: NHEL OTKIN [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

NHEL OTKIN

From: Nathalie Khodr [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nathalie Khodr

From: Shawna Arriola [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shawna Arriola

From: Nico Cipriano [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nico Cipriano

From: Morris Sandel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Morris Sandel

From: J T [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

J T

From: Pattie Leach [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pattie Leach

From: Ana Martinez[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ana Martinez

From: Chris Leman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Leman

From: Amanda` Stewart [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda` Stewart

From: Lisa MacDonald [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa MacDonald

From: Rebecca Flint [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Flint

From: Natasha Kamerlin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natasha Kamerlin

From: Hannah Garcia [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hannah Garcia

From: Kellie Dodson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kellie Dodson

From: Laurry Michlin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laurry Michlin

From: Kimberly Hammond [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

As a veterinary technician, I have personally attended to the injuries and illnesses of dogs and cats kept for breeding purposes. I will spare you the nauseating details, suffice it to say I have seen animals in hideous condition; respitory illnesses, infections requiring eyes to be surgically removed, maggots in wounds and worse.

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Hammond

From: jennifer spence[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

jennifer spence

From: Faith Vega [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Faith Vega

From: Megan Martinez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Megan Martinez

From: Ana Sanches [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ana Sanches

From: Janette Weaver [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janette Weaver

From: Cindy de la Garza [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cindy de la Garza,
Marliz de la Garza,
Joseph de la Garza,
Augustine Herrera,
Maria Herrera,
and
John Phillips

Sincerely,

Cindy de la Garza

From: Sharon Gjertsen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

As a texan, I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Gjertsen

From: Roland Thornton[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roland Thornton

From: Brogan Jones [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brogan Jones

From: Nancy Berlin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Berlin

From: Katie Brinkworth [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katie Brinkworth

From: Amy Elepano [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amy Elepano

From: Donna Day[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Day

From: Lily Raines [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lily Raines

From: Lora Alston [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lora Alston

From: Lauren Papan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lauren Papan

From: Cindy Keller [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cindy Keller

From: Chelsea Kitchens[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Kitchens

From: Ceyda Kienle [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ceyda Kienle

From: Jerri-Ann Phillips [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jerri-Ann Phillips

From: jim west [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

jim west

From: Gayle Patterson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

This is a quality of life issue for animals and for people too. There are many of us who cannot be happy if there are animals suffering. Texas is a very backward state compared to other states when it comes to animal welfare. It causes others to think less of us. All the "bubba's" cause trouble for the rest of us. All my life I have been aware of being less in the eyes of others, being from Texas. If you spend any time outside the state you come in contact with this a lot.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gayle Patterson

From: Clint Lenard [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Clint Lenard

From: Kristen Wilcox <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristen Wilcox

From: Jonathan Fishlock [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Fishlock

From: Tamara Kreimerman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tamara Kreimerman

From: Deena Ponce [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deena Ponce

From: Leilani Swafford [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leilani Swafford

From: kim plummer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

kim plummer

From: Stephanie Holloway [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:59 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Holloway

From: Taryn Anderso[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Taryn Anderson

From: Laura Ashmore [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Ashmore

From: Barbara Redden [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:10 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Barbara Redden

From: "Janice Scanlan" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:10 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

This goes beyond animal care because we are learning that unsanitary conditions quickly allow "super bacteria" and viral diseases to develop that are can be resistant to many antibiotics and that more non-human and human beings can be effected by new and the same infectious diseases bred out of unsanitary conditions created by fecal and urine waste. This rapidity this can occur is also disturbing and the "pandemic" possibilities are indeed sobering.

So it is important to do several interrelated things:

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Janice Scanlan
[redacted]

From: "Sedgwick, Lisa" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@[redacted]s@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:10 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Lisa A. Sedgwick
[redacted]

This email may contain confidential or privileged material. Use or disclosure of it by anyone other than the recipient is unauthorized. If you are not an intended recipient, please delete this email.

From: Anita Snyder[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:10 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Law

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

This is unacceptable for humans and it should be unacceptable for cats, dogs, hamsters, ferrets, etc.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Anita Snyder
[redacted]

From: irene hernandez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>, <irene.hernandez@tinker.af.mil>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:10 PM
Subject: Strengthen Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas,
should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Sad that mill breeders consider animals "cash crop".

Thank you

Respectfully,

Irene Hernandez

[redacted]

From: Alyssa Armstrong [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:09 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Alyssa Armstrong
[redacted]

From: Stephanie Barczyk[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 4:05 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

As a volunteer at the Houston SPCA, I see the direct results of "bad breeders" and it is utterly heartbreaking. Please help put a stop to it! I

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Stephanie M. Barczyk, J.D., MSPH
[redacted]

From: "Marilyn Jones" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:08 PM
Subject: Please pass this bill!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Marilyn Jones

[redacted]

From: Jennifer Charles[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:07 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." My family and I have gone through great lengths to help many animals over the years for this exact reason, cruel individuals who do not properly care for animals. We continue to find strays and provide them with the proper assistance and care and hopefully a new home on a monthly basis. They do not have a voice and it is our duty, animal lovers, to help protect them in any way possible. The most difficult part to caring for animals are the rules and regulations that are not enforced to help back our fight for a better life for them. I ask again that you PLEASE strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to help create a better life for cats and dogs. Without people like us fighting for their rights they are truly helpless.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Jennifer Charles
[redacted]

From: "Gonzalez, Viola" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
CC: [redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 4:07 PM
Subject: Regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Respectfully,

Viola M. Gonzalez
[redacted]

"One's philosophy is not best expressed in words; it is expressed in the choices one makes." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

From: Robin Dupre [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Robin Dupre
[redacted]

From: leslie phelps[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,Leslie Phelps
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:05 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

As the happy, long-time owner of two rescue dogs, I truly wish that all puppy mill facilities could be eradicated from the earth and all pet owners mandated to spay or neuter their pets. However,as my desires are unlikely to be fulfilled in the near future, the next best thing is to request that our state legislators strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations, which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions that are rampant in Texas should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and a painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Kathy Higginbotham
[redacted]

713-529-8040

leichenlaub@att.net

****

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****

From: "Eichenlaub, Linda" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:02 PM
Subject: Please Help Prevent

February 10, 2012

General Counsel's Office

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Linda Eichenlaub

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:03 PM
Subject: Breeding Practices

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Lorene P. Heuring
[redacted]

From: Marilyn Meeks[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:04 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Marilyn Meeks
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>, <"<erule.comments"@license.state.t...
Date: 2/10/2012 4:04 PM
Subject: re: Strengthening the Proposed Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

2/10/12

Attn: Ms. Melissa Rinard,
Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office, Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition...& this is very important... there should be NO "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Sincerely,
AnnTravnor-Plowman
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:00 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. I am horrified at both the treatment of our animals and that we continue allow this to happen.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their ?best efforts? regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no ?grandfathering? of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a ?cash crop.?
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Karen Turilli

Karen M Putnam [redacted]

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From: Diane or David Citek[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 4:00 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Diane Friedrich Citek, D.D.S.
[redacted]

From: Pauline Raymond [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:59 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Pauline Raymond
[redacted]

From: Franki Fowler[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:56 PM
Subject: WIRE FLOORING...REALLY??????????????

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Frankie Fowler

[redacted]

From: "Roland Thornton"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:56 PM
Subject: Breeding Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Roland Thornton

[redacted]

From: Debbie Ellis [redacted]
To: "'erule.comments@license.state.tx.us'" <erule.comments@license.state.tx....
Date: 2/10/2012 3:56 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Debbie Ellis

[redacted]

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From: Sandra Lillich [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:55 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sandra Lillich
[redacted]

From: Tabata Romero [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:55 PM
Subject: to Ms. Melissa Rinard

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Tabata Romero. [redacted]

From: Joal Stone [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:54 PM
Subject: Dogs & Cats

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Joal Stone
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:54 PM
Subject: (no subject)

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grand fathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sue Bell
[redacted]

Puppy Mills are pathetic and these breeders should be jailed!
Can you imagine having this for your home?

[redacted]

From: Janka Dudasova [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:53 PM

Dear Ms. Melissa Rinard, I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully,Janka Dudasova [redacted]

From: Ameena Borge [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 3:52 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Amy Peppo
[redacted]

From: Joanne Clift Bobal [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 3:52 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages as this is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. My dog (adopted from the SPCA-Houston was spayed at a mill and had been shot with a pellet gun. She has urinary problems and for the rest of her life requires medication and special diet.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." I have seen puppies sweltering in 105 degree heat while being sold at out door markets. It is a appalling.

The shelters are overloaded with unwanted animals. Only responsible breeders should be permitted to add to the animal population.
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Thank in advance for you help for the most helpless.

Respectfully,

Joanne Bobal
[redacted]

From: "Sherri Berenji" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:52 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sherri Berenji
[redacted]

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From: Emily Foshee [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us> [redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Emily Foshee
[redacted]

Emily Foshee
[redacted]

From: Scott Bonilla [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Scott Bonilla

From: Ferguson[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: House Bill 1451

To whom it may concern

I am writing to express concern about House Bill 1451. This Bill was Brought Forward as a Puppy Mill Bill But is not concentrating on this.

This is targeting the Small/Hobby Breeder which is NOT a COMMERICAL BREEDER. With the Low Thresh hold of females/puppies. Many Small breeders have this many females in their home. They are NOT COMMERCIAL BREEDERS AND NOT PUPPY MILLS.

First. It is unclear if you actually have to breed all 11 females every year. As some breeders have a couple more than 11 and only use 8-10 females as year but may have 20-24 puppies. They are responsible breeders and switch their females out and use them one year but not the next. Our Vet knows this is acceptable. We are a Small In Home Breeder and do not feel we should be called a Commercial Breeder with this Law. That is for breeders who own/breed 25 or more females and have 50 or more puppies a year.

Second. It is unacceptable for a Puppy to fed only once a year. Puppies especially Small breed puppies need to be fed at least 2 times a day if not 3 or 4.

This is not up to standard.

Third. The Cost just makes the breeder be even more in the Hole as far as expenses. Breeders do not make a obsene amount of money as the Rescue would like the Gov. to think. We have many many costs and loose money on every Puppy Sold. This is Hobby and we only sell our Puppies to pay for the expenses and we love to see the joy of people picking up their new addition and love getting pictures and stories many many years later. As well as throughout their puppy's life.

Forth. The Standards of the Wire Cages need to be addressed. It is not good for a dog/puppy to be on wire. There must be something someone can come up with other than this. Commerical Breeders and Puppy Mills use these which is again the Difference. In who needs to be Licensed and who does not need to be.

Thank you -- A Small In Home Breeder

From: Sheila Chaffins [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sheila Chaffins

From: Chelsea Koenig [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Koenig

From: Keri Chorba <[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
CC: "Jonnie England (jonnieengland@att.net)" <jonnieengland@att.net>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:58 PM
Subject: Proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders Letter
Attachments: img-2091630-0001.pdf

Attached

-----Original Message-----
From: x[redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 4:30 PM
To: Keri Chorba
Subject: Scan Data from XC-385BF8

Number of Images: 1
Attachment File Type: PDF

Device Name: WorkCentre 7132
Device Location:

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From: "Krinna Curry-Alexander" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:43 PM
Subject: animal cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Krinna Alexander

<font face="monospace"size="-3">
The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and
may contain confidential and/or privileged material. If the reader of this message is not the intended
recipient, you are hereby notified that your access is unauthorized, and any review, dissemination,
distribution or copying of this message including any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not
the intended recipient, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

From: Susan Giller [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:42 PM

>
> General Counsel's Office
> Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
> Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
>
> RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing
> Licensed Breeders in Texas
>
> Dear Ms. Rinard:
>
> I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its
> passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding
> facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and
> Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very
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> weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed
> Rules are strengthened.
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> The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100%
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> enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage
> sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard
> for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing
> lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear
> cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
> 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and
> injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding
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> flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire
> floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules
> absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also,
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> or is not in compliance with the rules.
> Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations.
> I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with
> respect thereto.
> Sincerely,
> Susan Giller
> Your Name
>
>

From: Jim Ewing <[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 4:30 PM
Subject: our campaign to stop puppy mills

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Jim Ewing

From: Meriska Klien [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Meriska Klien

From: Karen A [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:29 PM
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen A

From: Lena P <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lena P

From: Rosemary Gorora[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Gorora

From: Jaimie Herman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jaimie Herman

From: Ryan Edison [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ryan Edison

From: Kirsty Taylor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kirsty Taylor

From: Robb Schlage[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:29 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robb Schlage

From: Kimberly Secor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:22 PM
Subject: Please support stronger licensing

Ms. Melissa Rinard

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Scarlett

From: Heather [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 4:18 PM
Subject: Propose rules governing breeders

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

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Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Heather Hewett

Sent from my iPhone

From: Felicia Silvas [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 4:16 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Changes need to be made, too many have abused the systems too long and the animals are the only ones paying for it, not the idiots who think "anybody can be a good breeder". Strict, constantly enforced rules need to be in place to make sure people are doing what they should not what they think is a minimum requirement.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,
Felicia Silvas

From: Sherri Fugett [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 4:04 PM
Subject: Texas Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Sherri Fugett

Sherri Fugett
[redacted]

[redacted]

The information contained in this message is intended solely for the individual to whom it is specifically and originally addressed. This message and its contents may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure or distribution, or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information, is strictly prohibited.

From: "Jenene Justice" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]
Date: 2/9/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders

Ms. Melissa Rinard

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenene M. Justice
[redacted]

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Van Buren

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Date: 2/9/2012 3:48 PM
Subject: Fw: Scanned image from MX-M550N
Attachments: [redacted]

Audrey Van Buren
[redacted]

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email and the transmitted documents contain private, privileged and confidential information belonging to the sender. The information therein is solely for the use of the addressee. If your receipt of this transmission has occurred as the result of an error, please immediately notify us so we can arrange for the return of the documents. In such circumstances, you are advised that you may not disclose, copy, distribute or take any other action in reliance on the information transmitted.
----- Forwarded by Audrey Vanburen/CFBI on 02/09/2012 03:47 PM -----

To [redacted]
[redacted] 02/09/2012 04:00 PM
cc

Subject

Scanned image from MX-M550N

Please respond to
[redacted]

DEVICE NAME: Not Set
DEVICE MODEL: MX-M550N
LOCATION: Not Set

FILE FORMAT: PDF MMR(G4)
RESOLUTION: 300dpi x 300dpi

Attached file is scanned image in PDF format.
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Acrobat(R)Reader4.0 or later version, or Adobe(R)Reader(TM) can be downloaded from the following URL:
Adobe, the Adobe logo, Acrobat, the Adobe PDF logo, and Reader are registered trademarks or trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States and other countries.

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: david bowman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:34 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas,
should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully,
David and Kelly Bowman
[redacted]

From: Stephen and Wendy Lawlis [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us> [redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 5:33 PM
Subject: dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard,
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinanians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grand fathering" of existing breeder mills. Dog and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop".
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Wendy Lawlis [redacted]

From: "Mendoza, Lorena - HAS" [redacted]
To: "'erule.comments@license.state.tx.us'" <[redacted]nse.state.tx....
Date: 2/10/2012 5:33 PM
Subject: Please stop animal cruelty

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lorena Mendoza
[redacted]

From: Chrissy Esposito [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 5:32 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Chrissy Esposito
[redacted]

From: Bryan Owens [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 5:32 PM
Subject: SPCA

> Dear Ms. Rinard:
>
> I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
>
> 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
>
> 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
>
> 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
>
> 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
>
> In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
>
> Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
>
> Respectfully,
>

Bryan Owens
[redacted]

Carefully typed, revised, and edited on my iPhone.

From: Joal Stone [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Dogs & Cats

>
>
> Dear Ms. Rinard:
> I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
> 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
> 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
> 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
> 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
> In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
> Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
> Respectfully,
> Thomas Stone
> [redacted]
>

From: "Gail Laurilyn McCall" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:29 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Gail Laurilyn McCall
[redacted]

From: "Erin (Brown) Kondelis" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:29 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Erin Kondelis
[redacted]

From: "Kevan Ulsh" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:28 PM
Subject: inhumane conditions

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kevan Ulsh
[redacted]

From: "Bill Calligan" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:24 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill
Attachments: [redacted]

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

William & Kathryn Calligan

[redacted]

From: David Hardy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:24 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

David Hardy
[redacted]

From: "Jennifer "[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:24 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term

"using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rials

From: Shawn Munro [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shawn Munro

From: Susie Thomas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susie Thomas

From: Linda Aitken [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Aitken

From: Jen Egan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 5:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jen Egan

From: Natascha Tavalone [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natascha Tavalone

From: ANNE MARIE SURNSON[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

ANNE MARIE SURNSON

From: Donna Engelbrech[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Engelbrecht

From: Ryan Carter [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ryan Carter

From: Sheila Morris [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sheila Morris

From: Gladis Lemus-Sierra [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gladis Lemus-Sierra

From: Ruth Jones[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ruth Jones

From: Lori Painter [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lori Painter

From: Pierpaolo De Gobbi [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pierpaolo De Gobbi

From: Christian Gamboa[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christian Gamboa

From: Roseli Rinaldo[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roseli Rinaldo

From: Jeremy Hunt [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Hunt

From: Dana McGill [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Dana McGill

From: Sissi Seguret[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sissi Seguret

From: Blau Lowe [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Blau Lowe

From: Madaline Ordonez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Sincerely,

Madaline Ordonez

From: Dan Danziger [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dan Danziger

From: Jay Hunte[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jay Hunter

From: Nora Kramer[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nora Kramer

From: Linda Harmon [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Harmon

From: Alexandra Burt[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Burt

From: Angelia Joine[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: The proposals for puppy mill regulations MUST be better!

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angelia Joiner

From: Lynn Matarelli[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Changes need to be made!!

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynn Matarelli

From: Heidi Stewart[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heidi Stewart

From: Bonnie Morgan[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Morgan

From: Jenny McKeown [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenny McKeown

From: Brian Cook [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian Cook

From: Joan Lorenz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joan Lorenz

From: Jenna Hunt[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenna Hunt

From: Manuela Curti [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Manuela Curti

From: Marie-josee Belanger[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marie-josee Belanger

From: Melissa Russo[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:30 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa Russo

From: "Melody Shivers" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:29 PM
Subject: RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in exas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to

determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Melody Shivers

From: S Carpenter [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 5:03 PM
Subject: With all due Respect

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should bechanged to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,

John Scott Carpenter
[redacted]

From: Jennifer Rivera[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:03 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rivera

From: Krista Tankersley[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/9/2012 5:17 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Krista Tankersley

From: RAY BAUGHMAN[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:18 PM
Subject: Comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas.
Attachments: TDLR Letter Individual.docx

Dear Ms. Rinard,
I am submitting the attached set of comments for your consideration. Please consider this my electronic signature.
Thank you,
Karen Baughman[redacted]

From: Estelle silverstein [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 5:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times. Many of us know the horror stories that have happened involving breeders. Please help, we have vets that have studied for years and know how to do proceedures. Unfortunately most dog and cat breeders are not in the business for the love of animals but for the money. Thank you

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Estelle silverstein

From: Kristin Kabay [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act. Please help to strengthen these rules and standards so that all animals get the humane treatment they deserve. This issue is a major concern for many of your constituents and we greatly appreciate your help.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristin Kabay

From: lisa delcid [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

lisa delcid

From: Jen Atkins [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jen Atkins

From: Carolina Sorto [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I honestly think that breeding should be outlawed dude to the high number of unwanted animals who are killed in shelters every year but if it will continue to be allowed, I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carolina Sorto

From: Ian G [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ian G

From: Noëlle McCarthy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Noëlle McCarthy

From: Jan Dixon [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jan Dixon

From: Martha Chambers [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martha Chambers

From: Abbie Wagoner[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Abbie Wagoner

From: Melissa Earls [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa Earls

From: B Gaszak [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

B Gaszak

From: Raylon Yow [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Raylon Yow

From: CHRISTIAN & VIVIANE ESCUDIE [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

STOP BEING LEARNING IMPAIRED! DO WHAT IS RIGHT AND HUMANE FOR THESE UNFORTUNATE PUPPIES & KITTENS WHO ARE TREATED LIKE THINGS FOR PROFIT!

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

CHRISTIAN & VIVIANE ESCUDIE

From: Caroline Davis [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Caroline Davis

From: Bruce Veit [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bruce Veit

From: bella martinez[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

bella martinez

From: R Riley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

R Riley

From: Megan Montgomery [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you,
Megan Montgomery

Sincerely,

Megan Montgomery

From: Kimberly Haley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Haley

From: lorena peinado [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

lorena peinado

From: Kessy Stevens [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kessy Stevens

From: Javier Perez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Javier Perez

From: Kayla Morrison [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@[redacted]
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kayla Morrison

From: Marlene LeBel [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marlene LeBel

From: Hiroya Orimo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hiroya Orimo

From: Lauren Garcia[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lauren Garcia

From: Beau Pieraccini [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beau Pieraccini

From: Alex Eyestone [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/9/2012 6:00 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 9, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alex Eyestone

From: M Carlile [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen Breeder Rules! Ethics need to be enforced!

Feb 13, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

M Carlile

From: Breyana Heck [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Breyana Heck

From: Michael Buehler[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Buehler

From: Haley Labrasca [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Haley Labrasca

From: Haley Labrasca[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Haley Labrasca

From: Robin Lanzoni [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robin Lanzoni

From: Lila Cahue [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lila Cahue

From: Angela Baumbach [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angela Baumbach

From: Nicolle Potvin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicolle Potvin

From: Brodie Evans [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brodie Evans

From: Audrey Reyburn [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Audrey Reyburn

From: Kathy Comfort [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Comfort

From: Laura Munoz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:27 PM
Subject: Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Texas Dog Breeders

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Laura Munoz

GEOTECH ENGINEERING and TESTING

ACCREDITED

Geotechnical, Environmental, Construction Materials, and Forensic Engineering

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
5425 Polk Avenue, Suite G80
Houston, Texas 77023

February 10, 2012
Tel.: (713) 924-6300
E-mail: executive.director@license.state.tx.us

Attention: Executive Director

Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Gentlemen:

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

I am an animal lover and a pet owner and I will adopt cats from a shelter, before I buy a cat or dog from a breeder. There are so many stray animals in the world that people do not want, after getting them from breeders and leave them alone or abandoned somewhere to fend for itself.

Very truly yours,

GEOTECH ENGINEERING AND TESTING

David A. Eastwood, P.E., C.A.P.M.
President

cc: PETA – Ms. Ingrid E. Newkirk

Texas • Louisiana • New Mexico • Oklahoma
Website: www.geotecheng.com

From: Wendi Lojo <[redacted]
To: "stephen.bruno@license.state.tx.us"[redacted]
Date: 2/23/2012 3:20 PM
Subject: Constituent Comment - HB 1451

Stephen,

Thank you for visiting with me on the proposed rules to implement HB 1451. As we discussed, I am including a copy of the email from Ms. Annie Murchison, a constituent of Rep. Woolley's district. I appreciate you ensuring that her comments are part of the public comments.

Sincerely,

Wendi Lojo

Office of State Representative Beverly Woolley

[redacted]

From:[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 12:33:34 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)
To: District136 Woolley
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

First Name:[redacted]
Middle Name:[redacted]
Last Name:[redacted]
Suffix:
Title:
Business:

Address line 1:[redacted]
Address line 2:
City: Houston
State: TX
Zipcode: 77056
Phone: -
E-mail:[redacted]

Subject:
Puppy Mill Bill

Message:
To the Honorable Representative Beverly Woolley,
I□m writing to you about the Puppy Mill Bill. The bill was supposed to restrict the inhumane treatment of dogs and cats, however the rules now allow for breeders to keep animals on wire floors which is harmful and dangerous to the animals. It also allows for breeders to stack cages on top of one another, which is unsanitary as well as inhumane, as it permits pee and droppings to fall onto the animals below. In addition to these already horrific conditions, non-veterinarians are able to perform surgical procedures on animals. As an animal lover, I am asking you to help strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th and stop the inhumane treatment of these helpless animals.
Thank you for your consideration,

Annie Murchison

ComputerIP: 63.103.24.2

From: Home Fur Good [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 8:38 PM
Subject: Proposed Rules Governing Licenses Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Ruble
[redacted]

From: Ann Harper [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 8:42 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

>>>> Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
>>>> General Counsel's Office
>>>> Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
>>>> Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
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>>>>
>>>> Sincerely,
>>>>
>>>> Ann Harper
>>>>
>>>>
>

From: [redacted]
To: <[redacted]ments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:26 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Margaret Colpa

From: Sher B [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 9:28 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Sher Bae

From: Heather Winters <[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 9:34 PM
Subject: Stop puppy mills

> Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
> General Counsel's Office
> Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
> Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
>
> RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
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> Sincerely, Heather Winters
>

Please send a reply to [redacted]

Thank you.

Heather

From: David Cervantes [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:37 PM
Subject: Speaking Out to Help Animals

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas Dear Ms. Rinard: I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened. The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112). 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility. Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other. Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance. Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112. Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules. Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto. Sincerely,

David Cervantes

From: donna stretch [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 9:39 PM
Subject: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

From: Aimee Norwood [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:40 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

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Sincerely,

Aimee B Norwood

From: madison travis[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:49 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 8, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Miss madison travis
[redacted]

From: Tamara R Pearlman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:50 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 8, 2012

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Austin, TX 78711

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Sincerely,

Ms. Tamara R Pearlman
[redacted]

From: Sandra Flanagan[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 9:51 PM
Subject: Stop the Puppy Mills!!!

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely

Sandra Flanagan

From: "Linda French" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 9:54 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Help

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,

Linda FRench

From: gabriela ortiz [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 10:10 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

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Sincerely,

Your Name

From: Joan Brandenbu[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 10:21 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
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Joan Brandenburg
RenameDeleteColor code viewMark all as readEmpty viewReplyReply allForwardMark as readMark as unreadDeleteJunkNot junkMoveView message sourceSend emailFind emailMove all from...Delete all from...Schedule cleanupInboxCalendarContactsSend emailDocumentsPhotosRecent docsSharedGroupsPhotos of you New Word document New Excel workbook New PowerPoint presentation New OneNote notebookHomeAutosGamesMoneyMoviesMusicNewsSportsWeatherLoading... ContactsProfileAdd friends {2}

< img src="http://b.scorecardresearch.com/b?c1=2&c2=3000001&c3=&c4=wlhotm&c5=&c6=&c15=&cv=1.3&cj=1" style="display:none" width="0" height="0" alt="" />

From: Kimberly Austin [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 10:21 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
>General Counsel's Office
>Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
>Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
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>
Kimberly Austin

From: Laura Duran[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 10:22 PM
Subject: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Cage Stacking:There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures:Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature:Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,

Laura Duran

From: "David Arche[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/8/2012 10:31 PM
Subject: Comments and recommendation to the porposed rules governing licensed breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.

Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
Dave Archer

From: r huski[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/8/2012 10:41 PM
Subject: Animal Welfare

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.

Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.

Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely,
R. McKinney

From: "Neroes, Michelle" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
CC: "Neroes, Michelle" <Michelle.Neroes@acs-inc.com>
Date: 2/8/2012 10:48 PM
Subject: Texas puppy mills

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us <mailto:erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>

RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.

The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).

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Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

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Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.

Sincerely

Michelle Neroes

[redacted]

From: berg jerri [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 7:28 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jerri Berg
[redacted]
San Antonio, Texas [redacted]

From: Sheila Angerer [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 7:29 PM
Subject: Strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 11th

Dear Ms. Rinard,
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Respectfully,
Sheila Angerer
[redacted]
New Braunfels, TX [redacted]
[redacted]
Actually, the world does revolve around my Beagles!

From: Lisa Perry [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 PM
Subject: puppy mill bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please PROHIBIT the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane!

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. Animals are sentient beings and should not be forced to live in these horrible and inhumane conditions for the sake of the almighty dollar.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a LICENSED veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened. When you leave it to the breeder to make a determination, they will also do NOTHING to save a dollar because they don't care about the animals one iota!

In addition, there should be NO and I repeat....NO "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should NOT be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." In fact these places SHOULD be SHUT DOWN completely!! If our state adopted an 'adoption' only plan, the animal shelter over-population problem would be solved and so many homeless animal lives could be saved.

I know someone who paid $1500 for a dog from a breeder and only one year later they already wanted to get rid of it. With my help I got him accepted into a rescue. MANY of the animals are not so lucky. PLEASE don't approve this. We need stiffer laws regarding breeders if we're not going to shut them down completely.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lisa Perry
Atascocita, TX

From: Chris Cross [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Laws

Ms. Rinard or to Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this in hopes that it will help ensure that there are better and enforced laws regarding the welfare of animals in the care of breeders. I have worked in animal rescue for over 30 years and the horrors I can tell you about is unimaginable. We have to work together to stop animal cruelty. Most breeders are some what concerned with their animals wellbeing, but not on levels that are really acceptable. The conditions most of these creatures must live out their lives are not only uncomfortable, but are unhealthy and extremely cruel. It is your job to help ensure there are laws in place to help these animals. Please help them!! There are sooooo many that need your help!

Thank you for reading my plea.
Christy Kurrelmeyer Cross
[redacted]
Cushing, TX. [redacted]

From: Suzy Granger[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 7:34 PM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Suzy Granger
Business Development Officer
DRDA's BORSA Plan
[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:36 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
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Cage Stacking:There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
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Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,
Maurita Kindle

From: Paula Borg [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 7:38 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Paula Braun
[redacted]
Pearland, TX [redacted]

From: michael kelly [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:38 PM
Subject: Please Have a Heart for the Animals

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills.
Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Mike Kelly
[redacted]
Houston, Tx. [redacted]

From: Cae Mcdowra [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:45 PM
Subject: COMMERCIAL BREEDERS LICENSING

I feel that if the licensing fee was fair, within the lines of USDA and the guidelines for operating a kennel were aligned with USDA as well, this rule would be much more fair.
Also, the wording to deal with surgical procedure needs to be reworded to align with that the law says, not to include any other surgical procedures. This leaves way too much ambiguity.
Sincerely,
Cae McDowra

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:47 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Vickie Lander
[redacted]
Dickinson,TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: "Laurie Phillips" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:53 PM
Subject: strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

It is unbelievable how cruel a human being can be.or on the other hand it is also unbelievable how great a human being can be. It is just a fork in the road.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Laurie Phillips
[redacted]
Houston, Tx [redacted]

From: Christen Morris [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:55 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christen Morris

From: Caitlyn Wright [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:55 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Caitlyn Wright

From: Leslie Phillips [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:55 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leslie Phillips

From: Katie Hutson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:55 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katie Hutson

From: Ellen Hargle [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:55 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Ellen Hargle
[redacted]
Mineral Wells, TX [redacted]

From: Gema María López [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:55 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gema María López

From: Jeffrey Bloom [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:55 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Bloom

From: Laurie Mahar [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:55 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laurie Mahar

From: "Armando Ramirez" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:57 PM
Subject: PLEASE HELP ANIMALS!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Armando Ramirez
[redacted]
Missouri City, Texas [redacted]

Phone Number: [redacted]
Email Address: [redacted]

From: Melba Coffee [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:57 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20 th .

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Melba Coffee
[redacted]
Houston, Texas

From: Cathleen Baniqued [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cathleen Baniqued

From: Tatum Oerth [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tatum Oerth

From: Matt Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:58 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Matt Smith

From: Scott Griffith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:59 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Scott Griffith
Houston. Texas

From: "blake" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:02 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Dear Ms. Renard. I am writing to you to urge you to please up the standards for breeders of cats and dogs. Please reconsider allowing them to have to stand on wire flooring in cages, this is unsanitary because the urine and feces drop to the cage under them and it also hurts the dogs feet and can cause problems that cannot be reversed.The stacking of cages is also unsanitary due to the urine and feces and because the air cannot pass thru as it should. Please do not allow the breeders to perform procedures on these animals that should be done by a vet. They need antibiotics as well as pain meds for these procedures to be done. Please make all breeders maintain a cool/warm place to house these animals and to limit the amount in each cage. Also just because the breeder has been doing this before any laws were passed, please do not allow them to continue, make them come up to standards of give up there business. I understand that these breeders rely on the sale of puppies and kittens for their livelyhood, but the animals have rights also and should be treated with dignity, after all a healthy puppy will bring in more business. Last, please limit the number of animals they can have depending on room and how many people work there to give them the care they need. It is bad enough that they spend their entire lives in a cage, they should at least get the care they need and have a clean dry place to live. Thank you so much for your time. Respectfully,
Wilma Yellott [redacted] Thank you again, I know that you care as much as the rest of us do and that you are the one who can make a difference

From: Alanah Hunt [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 8:07 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Animals are pure souls. Completely innocent like an unborn baby. Would you cage up children?
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Alanah Hunt
[redacted]
Friendswood, Texas [redacted]

From: Sue Avary[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:12 PM
Subject: "Puppy Mills"

February 10, 2012

Dear Texas Lawmakers,

I am an advocate of safe environments for animals and am referring specifically to dogs and cats. The Houston SPCA brought to my attention that the bill was passed but with serious flaws. Most of the items needing to be fixed are common sense for all persons interested in the welfare of the animals. If you don't care about healthy environments for animals, then you will not care about this. However, I assume if you want to be elected to public office, you will have the decency to want as safe and healthy of an environment for animals as can be. Obviously, our animals need a human voice. Please fix the bill that allows inhumane treatment of animals including but not limited to "puppy mills." This includes stacking of crates where the urine and feces of an animal drops down below to the animal inside that particular crate. Just picture you or your children as living that way. If you have second thoughts of being treated that way, then please fix it for the animals as well. It overloads them with germs and bacteria causing infections and sick dogs and cats. This is obviously something that can be avoided. The so called "puppy mills" need serious regulations if we are going to allow them at all. Since our governor, Mr. Perry, seems to be not interested in the welfare of others, I want to think I can depend on you guys to work harder at least until he can be voted out of office - the sooner the better for the sake of all Texans, people as well as animals that live in Texas.

Thank you for all you can do in the interest of our loving pet communities.

Sincerely,

Sue Avary
[redacted]
Katy, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: Gail Canny [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:12 PM
Subject: Regarding the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in TX

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.usRE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas Dear Ms. Rinard: I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.Sincerely,

Gail Canny

From: pam rochell [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 8:16 PM

stop puppy mills

From: "Carol Gates" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:23 PM
Subject: Strengthen the Texas dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard,
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Respectfully,
Carol Gates
[redacted]
Marion, TX
[redacted]

From: Dianne Vitaska [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Although there is still a debate among scientists about the "feelings" of animals as compared to humans, most agree that they do feel fear and pain. Whether or not these are analogous to human feelings, I believe that we owe it to these animals to treat them humanely.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Dianne Vitaska
[redacted]
Houston, Tx [redacted]

Sent from my iPad

From: Stephanie Rzansa[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Rzansa

From: Melissa Lott [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa Lott

From: Betty Ruskoski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Betty Ruskoski

From: Nathalie Leblanc [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nathalie Leblanc

From: Roxanne Delgado [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Delgado

From: Stephanie Vega [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Vega

From: Penny Sympson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Penny Sympson

From: Ashton Riggs [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashton Riggs

From: Raphaella Gesumaria [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Raphaella Gesumaria

From: Tasha Peterson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tasha Peterson

From: Eleanor Neufer[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:28 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Neufer

From: Jeana kelly[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:35 PM
Subject: Cat and Dog Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In
addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully,

Jeana Kelly[redacted]Houston, Texas[redacted]

From: Shelley Canada [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 8:39 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Shelley L. Canada, DDS

Houston, TX

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:42 PM
Subject: Please strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Robin Weill
[redacted]
Bellaire, TX [redacted]
Phone Number [redacted]
Email Address [redacted]

From: Amanda Blanchard [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:45 PM
Subject: Please Help Our Puppies!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Amanda Blanchard
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: Norma Loredo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:46 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

They are far from being anything close to humane. These animals are used for nothing but making money and as soon as they become unable to achieve that goal, they are disposed of. Usually killed and thrown into a garbage can. Many of the breeding stock have never, ever seen the light of day or even the outside of the cage they are kept in. How can civilized human beings could treat animals like this.

I am a Texas native and I have always known Texas as being animal friendly. Please help us keep it like that.

I am respectfully asking that the following rules be included in the dog and cat breeder regulations for the state of Texas.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you and I implore your help.

Respectfully,

Norma Loredo
[redacted]
Houston, TX

From: Marie Barclay [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:52 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Marie Barclay

[redacted]

Houston, TX [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: "Sara Karow" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:53 PM
Subject: Please strengthen the Puppy Mill Bill !

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat brêeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and painful.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of wire-bottomed cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. This is exactly the sort of inhumane conditions the original proposed legistlation was intended to stop.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control and replace them with enforceable safe ranges. The current phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. At the very least, Texas standards should match the federal minimum standards, low as they are.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Those currently operating under unacceptable conditions should not be permtted to continue. No animals currently living in these horrific conditions should be allowed to continue suffering under such treatment. If breeders cannot afford to meet acceptable standards, they should scale back their operations to a safe and humane level or not be in business.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sara Karow

[redacted]

Houston, TX [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: nancy moynihan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:56 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,Nancy Moynihan [redacted]

From: Cindy Bucek [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 8:58 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Stop these atrocities of animals

From: Edye Lou Hock [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:59 PM
Subject: Rules governing licensed dog/cat breeders in Texaw

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposed Rules governing licensed dog and cat breeders in Texas. My concerns are as follows:

100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104). Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is unquestionably "cruel confinement". The proposed Rules should be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring and there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities.

Cage Stacking (§94.104). There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs. This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the upper tier cages. As an alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other.

Cage Sizes (§91.104). I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs, but I disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451 which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. If you grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.

Veterinary Procedures (§91.112). Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking.

Respectfully submitted,
[redacted]

Edye Lou Hock

Austin, TX [redacted]

From: "marilyn@marilynjay.com" [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 9:00 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Marilyn Jay
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]

From: joan milford [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:01 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. joan milford
[redacted]
Mansfield, TX[redacted]

From: Pamela Evans [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:01 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

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These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pamela Evans
[redacted]
Kemp, TX [redacted]

From: Leisly Torres [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:01 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

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2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
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These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Miss Leisly Torres
[redacted]
Dallas, TX [redacted]

From: Gail Canny [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gail Canny

From: Suzanne Berkeley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Berkeley

From: Heather Garibay [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:01 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Garibay

From: Daemon [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:01 PM
Subject: puppy mills!@!!!!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th .

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Abigail Juarez
[redacted]
Houston, TX, [redacted]

From: mary naish [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

mary naish

From: Alysha Edelman [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:02 PM
Subject: Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards!!!

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully URGE YOU to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alysha Edelman

From: Darlene Waltonb[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:02 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Darlene Waltonb
[redacted]
Plano, TX
[redacted]

From: Emilia Lovatto [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emilia Lovatto

From: Allison Skinner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Allison Skinner

From: Pamela Muñoz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pamela Muñoz

From: Leslie Yilmaz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:03 PM
Subject: dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard: I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened. In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration. Respectfully, Leslie Yilmaz [redacted] Houston, TX [redacted]

From: Merrick Bonewitz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:05 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

Please stop the cruelty to innocent animals in the State of Texas. Step up to the plate to see that breeders of cats and dogs and other animals follow civilized and respectful rules in regard to animal life.

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A. Merrick Bonewitz
Burton, Texas

From: Esther Salazar-Morales [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:07 PM
Subject: To help animals

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Madelein Salazar-Morales
[redacted]
Houston, Tx. [redacted]
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 9:08 PM
Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT HUMANE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

Dear Ms. Rinard:I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Donya Freitag
[redacted]
The Woodlands, Texas [redacted]

From: d kubiak [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 9:08 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

As a concerned, responsible pet owner, I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Elizabeth Kubiak
[redacted]
Missouri City, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: Amanda Kibbey [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:10 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Amanda Kibbey
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:10 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Erica Nehls
[redacted]
Friendswood, Tx[redacted]

Erica Nehls
Scarlet Properties
[redacted]

From: EVELYN BRAUN [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:13 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Evelyn I. Braun
[redacted]
Houston TX [redacted]

From: Mike Hoeffner [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:15 PM
Subject: Puppy mills are cruel

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Michael Hoeffner
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]

From: Patricia Pace [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:19 PM
Subject: Strengthen Texas Puppy Mill Bill

Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." These are living, feeling, beings that deserve our help, support, and respect.
Thank you for your time and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Trisha Pace
[redacted]
Humble, Tx [redacted]
[redacted]

From: Perk and Debra [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 9:19 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Debra Bearden

[redacted]

Harker Heights, Texas

[redacted]

Deb Bearden
Sent from my iPhone

From: Irma Watson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:31 PM
Subject: Texas Registry

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Irma Watson
[redacted]
Crosby, TX [redacted]

From: jo guthrie [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:31 PM
Subject: comments on HB1451

I feel that the criminal background check for a license is unconstitutional. We put a drivers license in the hands of a 16 year old, or someone who has had more than one DWI or drug charges, and allow him to drive a motor vechicle on the roads in dangering innocent people... with no criminal background check. We have sex offenders working in McDonalds where children play, with no background check. Why are dog breeders being treated this way?
The year Vet check is stupid what a waste of money. Do any other animals have to have yearly check ups? Do humans have to have yearly check ups? Hell, you don't even have to take a drug test to get food stamps and medicare.
Running to the Vet for dewclaws and tail docking. Why not run to the doctor to get your nails clipped too. Stupid waste of money.
Fees! They are just too high. Texas will be over run with breeders from Arkansas and Oklahoma coming to Texas to sale their puppies. Why not control the Texas borders. Better yet, get the illegal aliens out of Texas.
You won't stop the selling of Puppy mill dogs in Texas, you are just trying to keep Texans from making money, send all the Texas dollars to the puppy mills in Oklahoma, Texas reputable breeders won't be able to compete with the Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas breeders. Texas doesn't need the sales tax and income and money flow on supplies and expenses. Give it all to surrounding states.
The government is stupid. Where will this stop, you know this was all started by stupid AR radical groups, they won't stop with dog breeders, they will move on to chickens, cows, horses, before long we will all be eating carrots and wonder what the hell happened. Rick Perry happened! Stupid government saw it coming and rolled over to HSUS and PETA.

Please make your comments of the proposed Regulations and Fees of the TX Breeders Licensing and Regulations by the 17th. Get everyone you know to comment. We need as much support as possible. You can do so through the following manners:

By mail:
Melissa Rinard
Legal Assistant, General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation,
P.O. Box 12157,
Austin, Texas 78711

By facsimile:
(512) 475-3032

By email:
erule.comments@license.state.tx.us.

The text of the proposed regulations and fees:
http://www.tdlr.state.tx.us/bre/Chapter%2091%20Proposed%20Rules.pdf

The text of the enrolled law HB1451:
http://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/82R/billtext/pdf/
HB01451F.pdf#navpanes=0

From: Irene Moreno [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Irene Moreno

From: Luna De Bethencourt [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luna De Bethencourt

From: Sam H [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sam H

From: Taiza Camacho [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Taiza Camacho

From: Carter Rourke [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:33 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carter Rourke

From: "Janice Bencal"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:34 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

DO YOU AGREE WITH US THAT
THIS IS WRONG?

Puppy Mill Photo 2

WE NEED YOUR ACTION TODAY!!

The Puppy Mill Bill, passed in the last legislative session, was SUPPOSED to prevent these types of horrific conditions. Sadly, the proposed rules regarding the licensing and regulation of dog and cat breeders actually ALLOW the keeping of animals on 100% wire flooring, ALLOW the stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (letting urine and feces fall directly on the dog below), ALLOW breeders/non-veterinarians to perform surgical procedures on animals. ANGRY? There is something you can do right now to prevent innocent animals from living in mills like this.

Puppy Mill Photo 1

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Janice Bencal

[redacted]

Houston, Tx[redacted]

[redacted]

http://hspca.convio.net/site/PixelServer?j=Hk6HOI3zMy6d5ahc4CX2Vw

From: Hilda Landaeta de Oviol [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:37 PM
Subject: THANKING FOR TAKING THE TI,ME TO READ THIS LETTER

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Hilda M Landaeta
[redacted]
Pearland, Texas [redacted]

Hilda M. Landaeta de Oviol

From: Jeanie Simonich [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:43 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jeanie Simonich

[redacted]

Houston, TX[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Louccy Nicest[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 9:46 PM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations

Department of Licensing and Regulation
Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Lourdes Hernandez
[redacted]
Houston,Tx.[redacted]

[redacted]

From: "Brian's Email" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:46 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Brian Flannery
[redacted]
Friendswood, TX [redacted]

From: cvn gge [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:49 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill was supposed to prevent innocent animals from living in mills ... but it did not work.....

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Cam Krosnoff [redacted] Indianapolis, IN [redacted]
All truth passes through three stages; 1. it is ridiculed. 2. it is violently opposed. 3. it is accepted as being self-evident -Schopenhauer Corruption is everywhere
All tyrannies rule through fraud and force, but once the fraud is exposed they must rely exclusively on force. - George Orwell Democracy is in distress.
Incomplete Science shapes US Vaccination Policies. Vitamins will not kill you, but pharmaceuticals kill 100,000 Americans (or more) per year.
Modern plagues such as cancer, heart disease, obesity, and diabetes have a dietary component. Real Food is the ultimate protector against poverty. Health is the greatest of Blessings.
If we are not even free anymore to decide something as basic as what we wish to eat or drink, how much freedom do we really have left?" -- Ron Paul
We should always strive to leave the earth better than we found it; we cannot live on our planet and kill it, too. Corporations have hijacked most of the rights of people while evading the responsibilities.
It's bad enough that governments wish to control what we put into our mouths; it's even worse when they ignore sound scientific research & make laws based on fear, hype, & ignorance.
Sometimes "better" is the enemy of good. Capitalism does not provide for the welfare of everyone. Tyrants never stop trying to enforce tyranny; When we the people stand up against tyranny, we win.
Nature abhors a vacuum; when shrinking government, something has to fill the power vacuum, which is always corporate power; don't get rid of the government, get rid of too much corporate influence in government.
We the people are the rightful masters of both Congress and the courts, not to overthrow the Constitution but to overthrow the men who pervert the Constitution -- Abraham Lincoln.
Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds. -- Albert Einstein When truth is replaced by silence, the silence is a lie.
How you do one thing is how you do everything. Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.
The faith described in the Bible does not exist without knowledge but is solidly based on knowledge and sound reason. One must worship God in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, as faith described in the Bible is not something blind and irrational, or a leap of faith; if one thinks through carefully the result will be trust in God and His Word, which is firmly based on reason (reference Romans 12:1).
Not being God's laws, man made religious dogma can be dangerous. We only have to look at ourselves to see how intelligent life might develop into something we wouldn't want to meet. -Stephen Hawking
God, thank You for all my Blessings, and thank You more for everything You took or allowed to be taken from me.

From: Elva Duong [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:51 PM
Subject: Please help the animals and stop puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Elva Duong
Street Address
City, State Zip
Phone Number
Email Address

From: "Laurie Pipenur" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 9:53 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Laurie Pipenur

[redacted]

Houston, TX [redacted]

From: Robert Stanley [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 9:55 PM
Subject: Proposed Dog & Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Robert Stanley
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]

Robert Stanley

From: Gary Pyle [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 10:00 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

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1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

I have a loving and beautiful dog named Abby and a sweet baby kitten named Evie. Both are rescues and both have made our household better with the love they give us. On their behalf, please consider this a sincere and extremely important request. We must put an end to this kind of cruelty.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Sandra Pyle
[redacted]
Cypress, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: Janet Cole [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 10:00 PM
Subject: Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General
Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email:
erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring(§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking:There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures:Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature:Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,
Janet Cole

From: "Jeannie Drevenak" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:01 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jeannie Drevenak
[redacted]

From: Giddy Gee [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 10:01 PM
Subject: license dog breeders

I have a few issues with some of the rules and regulations:
A) Why not license any and everyone who wants a license, then you have their address, phone, location, etc. Everyone has a free pass, then if they fail their yearly inspection, they have 30-60 days to get in compliance or they will be fined or shut down. No reason to start off running the breeders to other states, or in hiding, because of criminal background checks or fees that are just way beyond any other license fee in Texas.
B) Requiring yearly hands on Vet check, what other animal has to be checked yearly. Texas was founded on Ranchers with large cattle operations. For hundreds of years cattle were raised with little to no Vet care. Dogs are much the same, they don't have to see the Vet yearly unless they are ill, or need vaccinations etc.
C) Why require more care, food, Vet care for a dog, than we require for a child?
FYI: a few weeks ago a so called breeder (she was actually an animal hoarder) she breed her dogs, just didn't sell them, so she would be exempted from your rules. Her 27 dogs, 15 puppies, 10 cats, 7 turtles, 2 ferrets and 2 horses (I think that is the correct count) were taken from her home, by SPCA. Which, the conditions were poor. I have never seen a breeder with conditions like this. However, the point of my story, he home was unfit for animal habitation, but her 7 foster children are still in the home. I find this terrible.
D) We need to remember that as much as we love our dogs, they are still livestock, property... they are not humans and do not require/deserve equal treatment. Much less better treatment than children, seniors or even our vetrans.
E) I love my dogs, but if it comes to me, my kids or my dogs... My dogs are on the bottom of the list.
F) Make dog breeding a business, collect the sales tax, don't make it such a taboo bad thing, then the breeders won't be hiding from you.
You need to worry more about the Animal Rights Activist and less about the Dog Breeders before all meat, medical research, leather products, and other animal related products and businesses disappear. This is not just a Dog Breeder problem this is a problem that will cause a tremendous upset in the Texas economy if the AR people aren't stopped. Texas is a big state we could set an example for other states to follow. Just say no to PETA, HSUS, and all AR groups, make a statement that we will not be bought. We like our steak, and our Texas bred and raised puppies. Don't make us go to New York City to buy a puppy to love. I want the right to buy in Texas from a breeder who isn't affraid to let me come see the puppy, the parents, where it is raised. Instead of being afraid that I am an undercover SPCA, HSUS, PETA or AR Crazy. Spend some of that Texas money to kick these groups out of our great state.

From: Stephanie S [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:01 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Schaffler
[redacted]

From: Petra Braun [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:02 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Petra Braun
[redacted]

From: anthony kerr [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:02 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Tony Kerr
[redacted]

From: Kathy Milacek [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:02 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kathy Milacek
[redacted]

From: Barbara DeGrasse [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara DeGrasse

From: Lynne Phillips [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynne Phillips

From: Sarah Dean [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Dean

From: Su Ann Ng MD [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 10:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Su Ann Ng MD

From: TannerLynn Stephens [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

TannerLynn Stephens

From: Ashley Garia [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:02 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Garia

From: Elisabeth Brower [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:05 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Brower

From: Janet Yglesias [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:06 PM
Subject: proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable.- It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,Janet Yglesias
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]rule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:08 PM
Subject: We need your help.

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

For All Suffering Animals,

Jewell Maida
[redacted]

From: Kirsty Rudderforth [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kirsty Rudderforth

From: D Bee [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 4:09 PM
Subject: Animal Protection rights

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Debbie Fincke
[redacted]

From: M123456789 Huynh[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:09 PM
Subject: Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Maggie[redacted]

From: "Steven Berkowitz" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:25 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration, and I wonder how anyone with a conscience can let puppy mills even exist, unbelievable.

Respectfully,

From: Megan Crump[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 4:33 PM
Subject: WRONG

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Megan Rose
[redacted]

From: Susana Rodriguez[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:34 PM
Subject: Puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20 th .

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Susana Rodriguez
[redacted]

From: Elizabeth Larin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:38 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Larin

From: Janice Smith [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janice Smith

From: Jenna Koretz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenna Koretz

From: Saumya Sharma[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Saumya Sharma

From: Savannah Burns [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Savannah Burns

From: H C [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

H C

From: Melissa Sellars [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa Sellars

From: Lelietje Der Dalen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lelietje Der Dalen

From: Rowan McConville [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rowan McConville

From: Peggy Theriault[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:43 PM
Subject: House bill 1451

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,
Peggy Theriault
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 4:44 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

It is a sin and a shame and should be a crime that we allow people to mistreat any of God's creatures. I do not understand how we can consider our country to be civilized, to be a Godly nation, while we are allowing the mistreatment, the cruel treatment and the lives sacrificed for the almighty dollar.

As long as we are killing over 750 defenseless animals an HOUR, whose only crime is being unwanted, with at least 30% of them being these sought after purebred animals, there is no reason whatsoever that ANYONE be allowed to bring more poor little ones into this world.

As long as these breeders are allowed to make money on these little ones misery, we taxpayers will have to spend our tax dollars to warehouse them, feed them, and ultimately kill them.

Disgraceful that there should even be any thought of weakening the already weak legislation or considering any grandfather exemption!

Please help us to be a kinder nation to the least among us.

Patricia and Bobby Wright

From: Terry Merle [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 4:53 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Terry Mitchell
[redacted]

From: Rebecca Fiszer [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 4:57 PM
Subject: Dog/cat breeder legislation

>
> I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
>
> 1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
>
> 2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
>
> 3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
>
> 4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
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> In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
>
> Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> Rebecca Fiszer
[redacted]
>
[redacted]

Pr

From: Isa Uberti [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Isa Uberti

From: Maggie Marlow [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maggie Marlow

From: Merin Srivastava [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Merin Srivastava

From: Laraine Rutherford [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laraine Rutherford

From: Rachel Griffiths [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Griffiths

From: Christof Stelz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christof Stelz

From: Frederic Paiement [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frederic Paiement

From: Gabriel Guarany [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:36 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Guarany

From: John LaMantia [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

John LaMantia

From: Cindy Garza[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cindy Garza

From: Georgi James [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Georgi James

From: Katie Kelly [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 5:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katie Kelly

From: Paulina Stagg [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/11/2012 5:55 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy, unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." Allanimals deserve good treatment, not just those that haven't been in the system long.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Paulina Stagg
[redacted]

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21

From: "Tammy L Clark" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:06 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Tammy Clark

[redacted]

This interest
All interestsSearch:

From: Laurie Hammeke[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laurie Hammeke

From: Heather Stewart [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Stewart

From: Sonya Stewart [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sonya Stewart

From: Glen Venezio [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:07 PM
Subject: A Request

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Glen Venezio

From: Susan Johnson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Johnson

From: Colleen Polito [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Colleen Polito

From: Chey Murray [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chey Murray

From: Jennifer Schnell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Schnell

From: Kelly Watson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Watson

From: Lesli Santoyo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lesli Santoyo

From: Alessandra De sio[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:37 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alessandra De sio

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:50 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane. When I did wildlife rehab, we were always careful to have appropriate flooring for the animal's comfort and safety. Don't our companion animals deserve at least that much?

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below. It horrifies me to even think anyone would actually do this.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. Anything else is practicing medicine without a license, in my opinion.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." If the "cash crop" is no longer as profitable, perhaps those who abuse animals in this way will find another means of making a living and there will be fewer puppies born to unhealthy mothers. There might even be more homes for the abandoned animals, purebred or not, languishing in shelters or euthanized for lack of space.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Sharon Harp
[redacted]

---

53 Year Old Mom Looks 33
The Stunning Results of Her Wrinkle Trick Has Botox Doctors Worried
http://thirdpartyoffers.juno.com/TGL3141/4f370c786673010421e8st01vuc

From: "Gail Rutherford" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 6:55 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

February 11, 2012

Ms. Melissa Rinard

Legal Assistant

General Counsel's Office

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

While I don't understand why puppy/kitty mills aren't declared illegal and shut down completely, the breeders clearly need some tough enforceable rules. As written, the current laws actually aid and abet the breeders' cruelty and greed. I am writing to urge the Department of Licensing and Regulation to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. On behalf of myself and all of my adopted cats, as well as all animals who, at the very least, deserve reasonable, humane care and a decent place to live, I join others in asking the Department to:

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

Respectfully,

From: Miguel Ramos [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Miguel Ramos

From: Rachel Rodriguez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Rodriguez

From: Justine Stange [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Justine Stange

From: Hulya Sen [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:07 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hulya Sen

From: Brooke Peters [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:08 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brooke Peters

From: Abby Harrison [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Abby Harrison

From: Michaela Summers [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michaela Summers

From: Karla Whitaker [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karla Whitaker

From: Susan Be[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Bell

From: Gabriela Camargo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:12 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gabriela Camargo

From: "Katherine & Andrew Parsons" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:16 PM
Subject: Comments to proposed animal breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian. "Debarking" is a particular horrible procedure and should be banned outright.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop." The anti-puppy mill legislation should go into full effect NOW.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Katherine Parsons

From: Jennifer Skiff [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:17 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill/Breeder

Dear Ms. Rinard,

As a pro quality of life advocate for all animals, I beg you to please put an end to the mistreatment of animals by imposing strict/humane regulations on breeders in your beautiful state. I went to TCU and my heart is in Texas. Please use your heart to do what is right for the majority, not the minority.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Skiff

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:20 PM
Subject: HB1451

To whom, it may concern I am writing in regards for HB1451.Can you make the rules according to minimal to USDA which I can live with and be compliance with. Because anything else will be too expensive for me as I am just a small breeder with over 11 intact females. I want to comply and get my licensed but if restrictions are too rigid, I will be forced to reduce my number of female dogs and not get licensed.

thanks Mary Williams

Texas breeder in Browns , TX

From: "Janice Burgi" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
CC: "JANICE BURGI" [redacted]
Date: 2/11/2012 7:27 PM
Subject: PUPPY MILLS

PLEASE TELL ME WHY YOU WOULD EVEN THINK TO ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN!!!!!!!! FIRST OF ALL DID YOU SEE THE PHOTO OR PICTURE OF THESE HORRIFIC CONDITIONS??????????????????????
YOU KNOW I SOMETIME CAN'T EVEN COMPREHEND HOW IN THE WORLD HOW YOU LET THIS GO ON!! DO YOU HAVE A BRAIN???? PLEASE USE IT!!!!! I AM SITTING TYPING ON MY PC, I AM JUST FEELING LIKE I AM TALKING TO AIR!!
TAKE A REFRESHER COURSE ON ANIMALS AND PUPPY MILLS PLEASE!! I HAVE A GUT FEELING YOU JUST 'DON'T GET IT"!!!!!!
JANICE BURGI

From: Blair Evans [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:29 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard;

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Blair Evans
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:35 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill - needs further action

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
These animals need your voice to end their suffering.
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Stephanie Wolf
[redacted]

From: monita kuan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:35 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Monita Kuan
[redacted]

From: Sheena Bisson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sheena Bisson

From: Lee Bradford [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/11/2012 7:43 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 11, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lee Bradford

From: Jamie Rugama [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:26 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Jamie RugamaHouston, TX

From: Karen Cardwell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:27 PM
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Alert From the Houston SPCA

Ms. Melissa Rinard
Legal Assistant
General Counsels Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

Please stop the puppy mills from treating animals as a cash crop.
1. Prevent them from allowing animals to be caged and live on wire flooring.
2. Please do not allow them to stack cages, causing urine and feces to fall on the animals below.
3. Please do not allow them to perform surgical procedures. These should ALL BE DONE BY LICENSED VETERINARIANS.
4. Please remove all language allowing them to use "their best judgement" regarding temperature control. This is ambiguous and allows animals to
freeze and be over heated as well.
5. Do NOT grandfather existing puppy mills.
The rules regarding raising animals need to be strengthened, not weakened. Dogs and cats living in the current horrific conditions should not be allowed to
be breeders and live in such horrible conditions. There are many animals looking for homes, and this would keep so many animals from being euthanized.

How can someone treat any animal like this?

The pictures below break my heart and I am ashamed to say that Texas actually allows this type of treatment.

Respectfully,

Karen Cardwell
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: Houston SPCA [redacted]
Subject: Urgent Alert From the Houston SPCA
To: [redacted]
Date: Friday, February 10, 2012, 7:20 PM

Can't see the images? Click here to view this message in your browser.

DO YOU AGREE WITH US THAT
THIS IS WRONG?

WE NEED YOUR ACTION TODAY!!

From: Caroline Borino [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:28 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Caroline Borino
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]

From: Kathryn Rector [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 6:29 PM
Subject: Puppy mill law

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing to you today to IMPLORE you to please, please strengthen the proposed dog & cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on wire flooring is cruel and inhuman. It causes so many long term problems & pain for the animals.

Please prohibit the stacking of wire cages above ONE (1) level. It is unhealthy, unsanitary & allows urine & feces from one animal to fall on the one below.

Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed ONLY by a licensed veterinarian.

Please remove all reference to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and worst of all UNENFORCEABLE!!!! It also weakens the federal regulations which are minimum standards and can only be strengthened & NEVER weakened.

In addition, there should be absolutely NO "grandfathering of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

As a concerned pet owner (of two rescued dogs) and the "grandmother" of a puppy mill rescue I consider this to be of the utmost importance. How we care for the voiceless speaks volumes about our humanity. Please do not let our wonderful state allow anay of this cruelty to continue.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Kathy H. Rector
[redacted]
Willis, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: "Jackie Pounds" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jackie Pounds

[redacted]

League City, Tx [redacted]

[redacted]

From: Lois Rogers [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:30 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lois S. Rogers

[redacted]

Houston, TX [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: "Roux 'b Doux" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:33 PM
Subject: Licensing & Regulation for Dog & Cat Breeders

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Janice M. Cali

[redacted]

Hughes Springs, TX [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Janice M. Cali

From: "Jane Marcinko" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:36 PM
Subject: Request to send an e-mail to help strengthen the Texas dog and cat breeder regulations

Subject: Strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 11th

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you, and plead with you, to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for reading this most sincere email, please help these animals who are subjected to a horror related lifestyle.

Respectfully,

Jane Currie
[redacted]

From: Michael Combe Jr [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 6:36 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Michael "Hitch" Combe
FAAMA Southwest Regional Director
FAAMA Communication Committee
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:37 PM
Subject: The Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Cristiane M. Rogacheski
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]
[redacted]
Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

From: Claudia [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 6:40 PM
Subject: Strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations

Department of Licensing and Regulation at erule.comments@license.state.tx.us by February 17th. Don't know what to say? Here is a sample letter:
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Claudia Wong
[redacted] Houston, TX. [redacted]

From: "Lisa Goebel" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:41 PM
Subject: dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring - animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor - it is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level - it is unhealthy, unsanitary and feces and urine falls on the animals below.

3. Prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you in advance for your time.

Respectfully,

Lisa Goebel

[redacted]

Spring, TX[redacted]

From: "Greg INGLIS" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:42 PM
Subject: puppy mills

Dear Ms. Rinard

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeders as published in the Texas Registry on Jan.20th

Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.It is cruel and inhumane for animals to spend their entire lives on wire flooring.
Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Its unhealthy and allows faeces and urine to fall on the animals below.
All tail docking and ear cropping should be done by a licensed vet NOT by some backyard wannabe.
In addition there shuld be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mlls. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions,rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop"
Thanyou for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Mrs Rae Inglis
[redacted]
Cambridge [redacted]
New Zealand.
[redacted]

From: Mary Taylor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:42 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mary Taylor
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:43 PM
Subject: dog and cat breeder regulations

Though I have copied the sample e-mail that the humane society provided, I only did so as a way to make sure all the facets I oppose are mentioned. I 100% wholeheartedly believe these laws should be changed!

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Your Name
Street Address
City, State Zip
Phone Number
Email Address

From: carl weber [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:44 PM
Subject: please help

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Carl Weber
[redacted]
Houston, Tx. [redacted]

From: Faye Wissner [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 6:45 PM
Subject: Re: puppy mill regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Faye & Ross Wissner
[redacted]
Houston, Tx[redacted]

From: "Marla Kegresse" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:47 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Marla Kegresse.

[redacted]
La Porte,T[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

The information contained in this email and any attachments is confidential and may be subject to copyright or other intellectual property protection. If you are not the intended recipient, you are not authorized to use or disclose this information, and we request that you notify us by reply mail or telephone and delete the original message from your mail system.

From: Susan Huey [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:47 PM
Subject: Dog and cat breeder regulations as proposed are not adequate

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Susan Huey
[redacted]
Houston, TX
[redacted]

From: Sherry Lucas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:47 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th .
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Sharon Lucas
[redacted]
Sugar land, T[redacted]
[redacted]

From: Carmen Villafuerte[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:48 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Legislation - In desperate need of strengthing

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I was very happy to learn that the Puppy Mill Bill passed in the last legislative session. Unfortunately, I've learned that it does not go nearly far enough. And while the below may be a form letter that you have seen before, please be assuredI have read it thoughly and completely agree that this is how the bill should be published into the Texas Registry. It would be a shame to leave this bill with so many holes in it that it continues to allow puppy mills to continue largely unaffected and the animals to continued to be abused.

So, I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration

Respectfully,
Carmen Villafuerte
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: Julie Lister [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:48 PM
Subject: Please read....

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I adopted a dog from a puppy mill rescue not too long ago, and know first-hand what great pets they can be, but also know of the fear that follows them even after they have been rescued from abuse. I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Julie Lister
[redacted]
League City, TX [redacted]
[redacted]

From: Esther Torres [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 6:49 PM
Subject: THE PUPPY MILL BILL

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to
strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities.
Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Esther Torres
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]

From: David[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 6:49 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat breeder regulations.

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Rodari Newman
[redacted]
Houston, Texas[redacted]

From: J Adicks [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 6:51 PM
Subject: Ref: The Puppy Mill Bill - Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear Ms. Rinard:

With all due respects, I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th 2012.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and not humane for the animals.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages one on top of another. This is unhealthy and unsanitary because feces and urine will fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and almost totally unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and should only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Let us show the Nation, we in Texas, protect our animals.

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

JC Adicks
[redacted]
Katy, TX [redacted]

[redacted]

(Please remember to use the BCC area and to remove all names and addresses when you forward emails to keep your friends from being SPAMMED).

From: Angeles Keum[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angeles Keum

From: Rosemary Gorora [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Gorora

From: Erin Milc [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:52 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erin Milc

From: hazel crespo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:53 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

hazel crespo

From: Lena Vasylenko [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:53 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lena Vasylenko

From: Amy Schommer [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:53 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amy Schommer

From: Julie Graves [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:53 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Graves

From: Rebecca Mason [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:53 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Mason

From: Bruce Burns [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:53 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mr. Bruce Burns
[redacted]
Austin, TX [redacted]

From: Claire Slattery <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:53 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claire Slattery

From: cindy petrosky [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:53 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

cindy petrosky

From: "Amy McCarty" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: plea for help

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Let's show that the state of Texas can be a leader in the humane and compassionate treatment of the helpless.

Respectfully,

Amy McCarty

[redacted]

Plano TX [redacted]

[redacted]

From: "Harrisons" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:59 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Ms. Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant,
General Counsel's Office,
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Gary E & Ethel J Harrison

From: "Ceci" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:59 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills - the new laws need more regulating

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Cecilia Bodey

[redacted]

Spring, TX [redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:59 PM
Subject: (no subject)

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Olive Sanchez
[redacted]
Baytown, TX [redacted]

From: Isabelle Truckey[redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 7:00 PM
Subject: Read!

I am Emailing you to to let you know how cruel it is to have animals locked in cages. HSPCA and I would like to aware you how wrong and unhealthy it is to have animals in stacked up cages. These conditions are deadly.

Isabelle [redacted]

From: "Bob Payne" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:00 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

This is a form statement provided but, I must acknowledge I agree with all requests herein. Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

C. R. "Bob" Payne

[redacted]

Splendora, TX [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: "Michele Reynolds" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:05 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Michele A. Reynolds

[redacted]

Katy, TX [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

"if you don't like the road you're walking,

start paving another one."

From: "Jackie & lloyd" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:10 PM
Subject: Puppy Mills

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Jacqueline R. Steele
[redacted]
Pensacola, FL[redacted]

From: Ruth Layne [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:11 PM
Subject: Breeders License

My comment to you is to use the tried and true USDA regulations that have worked for years in all states. Breeders who really care for their animals and who would want to get a breeders license here in Texas probably already comply (or are close to being in compliance) with these regulations. The USDA already make routine inspections of all kennels that sell to brokers, which would encompass most of the really large kennels.
We do not need the HSUS (who do not own nor operate any kennels) trying to tell experienced kennel operators how to run our own kennels.

From: Jocelyn Wedelich [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/10/2012 7:15 PM
Subject: Proposed Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

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Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jocelyn Wedelich
[redacted]
Houston, TX [redacted]

From: "Susan Schrenzel"[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:15 PM
Subject: Humane conditions on behalf of those who cannot speak and act for themselves

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am appealing to your position,your ability to make a difference to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1.Do not allow wire flooring in facilities caring for dogs. This is so cruel. I cannot imagine the discomfort of this situation.

2.Of course,do not allow the practise of surgical procedures such as ear cropping,tail docking,and debarking. And certainly not by non-veterinarians. This has only to do with appearances
and has nothing to do with the wellfare of the animal.

Additionally,there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Animals living in these unacceptable conditions,inhumane conditions should not be sentenced to further,continuous suffering at the hands of individuals who,simply,only want to make money...whatever the means.

Please do the right thing!.

Sincerely,

Susan Schrenzel
[redacted]
New York,New York [redacted]

From: Shelby Moran [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shelby Moran

From: Kate Griffiths [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kate Griffiths

From: Kelly Dalton [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Dalton

From: Morgan Clark [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Morgan Clark

From: Summer Taylor [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Summer Taylor

From: Cristina Faure [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:22 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cristina Faure

From: Ruth Layne[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Licensing

My comment regarding the annual veterinarian exam for each dog is that this is cost prohibitive. Most breeders know their dogs, and take very good care of their dogs (it is their livelihood!!); they will take the dogs to the vet when it is needed. Most breeders have taken many courses through the AKC, their local kennel club, Hunte Corporation and go to many other seminars to learn about the health, care and welfare of their dogs. We here in Texas do not need the HSUS trying to tell us how to micro-manage our kennels.

From: Sharon Hall [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Hall

From: Mykaila Ramirez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mykaila Ramirez

From: Natascha Minidis [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Natascha Minidis

From: Sadie Zaldivar [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sadie Zaldivar

From: Kyrii' Dixon [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:23 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kyrii' Dixon

From: Ellen Warwick [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:24 PM
Subject: Please Stop Puppy Mills in Texas

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Regards,

Ellen K. Warwick

Houston, TX

[redacted]

From: Alexandra Karydas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Karydas

From: Pamela Stickney [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

I worked for a groomer in 1971 and in pet stores in 1980. I saw back then the substandard animals coming in from puppy mills. Breeding defects have become much worse since then. Both puppy mills and backyard breeders need to be strictly regulated.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Ms. Pamela Stickney
[redacted]
Allen, TX [redacted]

From: Allison Wilkins [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:26 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Allison Wilkins

From: "Cindy M. Young" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:28 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Breeder Regulations - Not Acceptable

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th. These are the main bullet points I believe anyone would feel have to be put into effect. I have a rescue of my own and give a large percent of my annual donations to animal saving and adoption centers and see so much devastation in the animal industry.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

I strongly believe in protecting the helpless and have a vested interested in saving the lives of animals. Please, please take this into consideration and do the right thing.

Respectfully,

Cindy Young
[redacted]
Houston, Texas [redacted]

From: Mia Lopez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mia Lopez

From: Brooke Chamberlain [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brooke Chamberlain

From: Rhadames Tellez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rhadames Tellez

From: Maureen Woods [redacted]>
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maureen Woods

From: Kelcey Morette [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelcey Morette

From: Jill Hall [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill Hall

From: Tara Cantagallo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tara Cantagallo

From: Jewel Courville[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>[redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

This is not much better than what they do now, For Gods Sake strengthen these requirements. It is inhumane. I dont understand why it is so difficult to do what is Right!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jewel Courville

From: Sharon Alexander[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Alexander

From: Kelly Bohl [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Bohl

From: Frances Blankenship [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frances Blankenship

From: Susan Leiper [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Leiper

From: Selina Hower[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Selina Hower

From: Paula Arsenault [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paula Arsenault

From: Lesliann Ortega [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lesliann Ortega

From: Julie Oyediran [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:05 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Oyediran

From: Hailey Molson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:04 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hailey Molson

From: tammy tidwell [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

tammy tidwell

From: Bora Isyar [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bora Isyar

From: Elya Levitskaya [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elya Levitskaya

From: Julie Jordan-Wade [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:03 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

As an animal lover and responsible pet owner, I have had many animals included in my family in the past 30 or so years. Each dog and cat have been rescues from shelters or from the streets, and it is highly likely that several were born puppy or kitten mills. While I am pleased at the passing of the Dog & cat Breeders Act, there is still much to be done close the gap of cruelty and substandard conditions that will continue unless specific rules are implemented and enforced.

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

These regulations need to be required from the get-go, and they need to be strictly enforced if any breeder is found to be in violation of them. As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act. And, wasn't this act passed to improve animal welfare in the first place? Please take every necessary step to improve and strengthen the proposed breeder rules and standards.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Jordan-Wade

From: Bianca Rose[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bianca Rose

From: Bianca Rose [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bianca Rose

From: Ada Roberts[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ada Roberts

From: Oscar Tirado Ijjasz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Oscar Tirado Ijjasz

From: Amanda Frost [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 8:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Frost

From: Suzanne Ruggeri [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:35 AM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 10, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Suzanne Ruggeri
[redacted]

From: Raquel Zarza [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:33 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Raquel Zarza

From: John Perez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:33 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Perez

From: Harri Nuolivirta[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.[redacted]
Date: 2/10/2012 7:33 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Harri Nuolivirta

From: S A [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

S A

From: Jane Callahan [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 AM
Subject: Please do the RIGHT THING. Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane Callahan

From: Lauren Terri[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lauren Terrill

From: Dan Barton [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dan Barton

From: Savannah Brunnemann[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Savannah Brunnemann

From: francesca pistolett[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

francesca pistoletti

From: Alissa Siegfried [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:32 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alissa Siegfried

From: Amy Simmons [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amy Simmons

From: Carolina Camarillo [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carolina Camarillo

From: Jen Beagle[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jen Beagle

From: Elise Indri[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elise Indri

From: Charlotte Martin [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Martin

From: Nephi Ferguson[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nephi Ferguson

From: Annie Barce [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Annie Barce

From: monique la marca[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

monique la marca

From: Kaleigh Akers [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kaleigh Akers

From: Molly Amai [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Molly Amai

From: Deborah Clement [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah Clement

From: Kayla Wyant [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kayla Wyant

From: "John I. Blair" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John I. Blair

From: Romy Goltz [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Romy Goltz

From: Jamie Seay[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jamie Seay

From: Judith Fairly [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judith Fairly

From: Ashley Elee[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Elee

From: Sarah Purdy [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Purdy

From: Camila Cavallone[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Camila Cavallone

From: Katie Bate [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katie Bate

From: Gulden Bostanci[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gulden Bostanci

From: Janice Earley [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janice Earley

From: Nikki Lewis [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:31 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nikki Lewis

From: Anthony Az[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anthony Az

From: Julia Novaes [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:30 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julia Novaes

From: Joshua Molina [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joshua Molina

From: Julie Jones [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:02 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Jones

From: Laura Bennett [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Bennett

From: Steven Miskell[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven Miskell

From: KEVIN TANNIAN [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:01 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

KEVIN TANNIAN

From: Lindsay Thomson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Thomson

From: Kimberley Hill [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Hill

From: Fernando Casaca[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 6:00 AM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 10, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Fernando Casaca

Sincerely,

Fernando Casaca

From: "Starbar" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/10/2012 7:28 PM
Subject: Puppy Mill Bill

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jim Orum

[redacted]

The Woodlands, [redacted]

[redacted]

From: "David Michael" <[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:31 PM
Subject: Please strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.

2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

David M Kuntschik
[redacted]

From: "Laurie McDowell" [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:39 PM
Subject: FW: Puppy Mill Bill- prevent horrific conditions

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

Specifically, please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. This is cruel and inhumane having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor.

2. Please prohibit the unhealthy and unsanitary act of stacking cages above one level.

3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Laurie A. McDowell

[redacted]

From: Kelly Calahan[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:44 PM
Subject: Cruelty to anamals!

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian in a sterile environment.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and need to be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. It makes no sense to allow these existing mills to continue their same cruel practices. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop".

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kely & Karen Calahan
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:45 PM
Subject: Breeder Regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Julie Vicars
[redacted]

From: Edith Gore[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:46 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Edith Gore
[redacted]

From: Tamara Kreimerman[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tamara Kreimerman

From: Liz Noelle [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Liz Noelle

From: Heather Thomas [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Thomas

From: Sandra Edwards [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sandra Edwards

From: Chelsea Davison [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Davison

From: Katelyn Broadwater[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katelyn Broadwater

From: Jessi Rodriguez [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessi Rodriguez

From: Rosemary Gorora [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Gorora

From: Erica Renaud [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erica Renaud

From: Morgan Rybkowski [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Morgan Rybkowski

From: Haley Labrasca[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:54 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Haley Labrasca

From: Tansy Woods [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:55 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tansy Woods

From: Liz Stillings[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 6:57 PM
Subject: Strenthen dog and cat breeder regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on Jan. 20.

1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below causing them harm.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.

In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Liz Stillings
[redacted]

From: karenmodonnel[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:00 PM
Subject: (no subject)

Melissa Rinard, Legal Assistant
General Counsel's Office
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Email: erule.comments@license.state.tx.us
RE: Comments and Recommendations to the Proposed Rules Governing Licensed Breeders in Texas
Dear Ms. Rinard:
I strongly supported the passage of HB 1451 and believe that its passage will significantly help the animals in large scale breeding facilities. However, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's (TDLR) proposed rules and standards has me very concerned that the goals of HB 1451 will not be realized unless the weak and possibly unenforceable provisions contained in the proposed Rules are strengthened.
The major problem areas are as follows: allowing the use of 100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104); allowing stacking of primary enclosures of dogs (§91.104); grandfathering existing breeder's cage sizes for dogs (§91.104); requiring only a "best efforts" standard for temperature requirements in §91.101 and §91.102; and allowing lay persons to perform veterinary procedures like tail docking, ear cropping debarking and claw removal (§91.112).
100% wire flooring (§91.102 and §91.104): The single most health and injury issue seen in dogs and cats from substandard breeding facilities is their having to spend their entire life on wire flooring, 24/7. Having an animal spend its entire life on a wire floor is by definition "cruel confinement." The proposed rules absolutely must be changed to prohibit 100% wire flooring. Also, there should not be any grandfathering of existing facilities. 100% wire flooring is far too cruel and inhumane to be allowed to continue in any licensed breeder facility.
Cage Stacking: There should be no stacking of primary enclosures for dogs as allowed in §91.104.This practice is unhealthy, unsanitary and can lead to a lack of proper inspection and care for the animals in the higher tier cages. As a last alternative, you should limit only one primary enclosure on top of the other. This is certainly not ideal, but it is much better than going above one cage on top of the other.
Cage Sizes: I agree with the increased cage sizes for dogs in §91.104, but disagree with allowing current licensed breeders to be exempt from those requirements. This is not in keeping with the intent of HB 1451, which had as its primary purpose to protect and provide animals in breeding facilities with humane housing and care. All breeding facilities should be treated equally, and existing facilities should be required to meet the higher standards currently proposed for future licensed facilities. When animals are kept in tight quarters, they have a tendency to become stressed and antisocial. These animals are very difficult and often impossible to adopt out. If you, for whatever reason, grandfather existing facilities, you should include an outside date for them to come into compliance.
Veterinary Procedures: Only veterinarians should perform surgical procedures like tail docking, ear cropping, declawing and debarking. Both veterinarians on the Advisory Committee strongly recommend this and the entire Advisory Committee agreed. These should be included in §91.112.
Temperature: Lastly, the I question why the term "using best efforts" was inserted in §91.101 and §91.102 and I also would like to see you remove "for four consecutive hours" in regulating temperature requirements. The proposed rules were taken from the USDA Regulations, and there is no reference in the USDA Regulations to "using best efforts. "It's not there for a purpose; it would not be possible to enforce this requirement if the term "using best efforts" is included. No one will be able to determine what "best efforts" are and whether the breeder was using best efforts. It would require a trial and that would be a disincentive for any inspector to write up that violation. Also, the four hour rule will lead to unenforceability of these two sections. No inspector can wait at a facility for four hours to determine whether or not it is or is not in compliance with the rules.
Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments and recommendations. I would appreciate receiving your thoughts and intentions with respect thereto.
Sincerely,
Karen M. O'Donnell

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]<erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:03 PM
Subject: Proposed dog and cat regulations

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
2. Please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. This is unhealthy and unsanitary and allows feces and urine to fall on the animals below.
3. Please prohibit non-veterinarians from performing surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are surgical procedures and should be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
Jo Anna Green
[redacted]

From: Jennifer Steigerwald [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:09 PM

Dear Ms. Rinard:
I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations as published in the Texas Registry on January 20th.
1. Please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. Having animals spend their entire lives on a wire floor is cruel and inhumane.
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4. Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened.
In addition, there should be no "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."
Thank you for allowing my comments and for your consideration.
Respectfully,
jennifer steigerwald

From: Monica Millican [redacted]
To: "erule.comments@license.state.tx.us" <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us...
Date: 2/13/2012 7:22 PM
Subject: Dog and Cat Mills

Ms. Rinard

I work with two animals shelters and personally see how many friendly animals are killed because there aren't enough homes. At least there they receive humane treatment before being killed which is more than you can say for the dogs and cats produced in some animal mills.

It is disgusting to think of cages being stacked more than one level and the feces and urine dripping on a nursing mom. We are restricted in what procedures we can perform and they should be as well. Only a licensed vet should be allowed to crop ears, dock tails and other surgical procedures.

Please remove all references to a licensed breeder to use their "best efforts" regarding temperature control. This phrase is vague, ambiguous and unenforceable. It also weakens the federal regulations which are the minimum standards and can only be strengthened, NOT weakened. Shelters aren't allowed this behavior.

Please do not allow "grandfathering" of existing breeder mills. Dogs and cats currently living in these horrific conditions, rampant in Texas, should not be sentenced to a future of suffering and painful death at the hands of individuals who consider animals a "cash crop."

Monica Millican

[Monica Millican 72.jpg] [logo]
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[redacted]

From: Shanna Sisson[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:24 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations. Just say "No" to puppy mills!

Feb 13, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Shanna Sisson
[redacted]

From: Krista Lesa[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krista Lesa

From: Haley Labrasca[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Haley Labrasca

From: Nikki H[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nikki H

From: Rachel Labrasca[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Labrasca .

From: Lynne Phillips [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

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As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynne Phillips

From: Alexandra Yeselson [redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please strengthen proposed licensed breeder regulations

Feb 13, 2012

Melissa Rinard
P.O. Box 12157
Austin, TX 78711

To Rinard,

I am writing today to urge you to strengthen the proposed dog and cat breeder regulations to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Although the proposed regulations address many of the basic needs of dogs and cats at breeding facilities, several of the provisions need to be strengthened.

1. Under 91.102(e), please prohibit the use of wire flooring for all facilities. If wire flooring is to be allowed, then at a minimum require that at least half of the floor area consists of solid flooring. Grid-style flooring frequently leads to entrapment or injury as dogs' and puppies' paws and toes become wedged or entangled in openings intended for feces
2. Under 91.104, please prohibit the stacking of cages above one level. Stacked cages encourage overcrowding and make it more difficult for adequate lighting and air flow to reach all parts of the enclosures.
3. Under 91.112(b), please prohibit licensed breeders from performing additional surgical procedures such as ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, and dew claw removal. These are painful procedures that should only be conducted by a licensed veterinarian.
4. Under 91.101 (a) and 91.102(a), please remove the sentence allowing a licensed breeder to use their best efforts in not allowing the air temperature to fall below 45 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours and not rise above 85 degrees for more than 4 consecutive hours. This language is weaker than the federal regulations and as such counter to state statute.

These changes are in the best interest of the animals and we urge you to modify the regulations to reflect these much need changes to improve the health and well-being of the animals.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Alexandra Yeselson
[redacted]

From: Madison Trav[redacted]
To: <erule.comments@license.state.tx.us>
Date: 2/13/2012 7:25 PM
Subject: Please Strengthen the Proposed Breeder Rules and Standards

Feb 13, 2012

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Dear of Licensing and Regulation,

I respectfully urge you to make changes to the proposed breeder rules and standards that are necessary to implement the Dog and Cat Breeders Act regarding the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. In particular, please remove grandfather clauses that would allow breeders in business before the Dog and Cat Breeders Act was passed to use smaller caging and caging with wire floors; forbid the use of cage stacking; ban breeders from performing surgical procedures (including debarking, ear-cropping, tail-docking, dew claw removal, etc.); and require all licensed breeders to keep ambient temperatures at adequate levels at all times.

As currently written, the proposed rules will not promote the improvements in animal treatment required by the Dog and Cat Breeders Act.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Madison Travis