

Bill as Introduced

HB 1624-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2010 SESSION

10-2201

08/01

HOUSE BILL ***1624-FN***

AN ACT relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

SPONSORS: Rep. Kepner, Rock 15; Rep. Skinder, Sull 1; Rep. Reagan, Rock 1

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

ANALYSIS

This bill requires certain standards of care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~(in brackets and struckthrough.)~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Ten

AN ACT relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Subdivision; Dog Breeders. Amend RSA 437 by inserting after section 22 the following
2 new subdivision:

3 Dog Breeders

4 437:23 Definitions. In this subdivision:

5 I. "Adequate caging" means caging for dogs who are housed in cages, kennels, stalls, or runs, the
6 structure of which has a solid impermeable floor or a slatted floor with gaps of no more than 1/2 inch
7 between slats, that is not stacked or otherwise placed on top of or below another animal's enclosure, and
8 is placed no more than 42 inches above the floor. For dogs who are housed in a home with people,
9 "adequate caging" means the animal lives loose in the home amongst people who reside in the home.

10 II. "Adequate rest between breeding cycles" means, at minimum, ensuring that dogs are not
11 bred during consecutive heat cycles and are not bred before attaining one year of age.

12 III. "Debarking" means the cutting or procuring of the cutting of a dog's vocal cords or the
13 altering, causing or procuring the alteration of any part of a dog's resonance chamber.

14 IV. "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, limited
15 liability company, company, corporation, estate, trust, receiver or syndicate, including a commercial
16 kennel, pet shop, and broker.

17 V. "Regular exercise" means, at minimum, one period during each day for a total of not less
18 than one hour for each dog over the age of 4 months, which shall include removal from the dog's
19 primary enclosure and which shall allow the dog free mobility for the entire period either by leash
20 walking or providing access to a play area at least 3 feet wide and 20 feet long, but shall not include
21 use of a treadmill, jenny mill, slat mill, or similar device, unless prescribed by a doctor of veterinary
22 medicine to address a specific medical condition.

23 VI. "Surgical birth" means birth by cutting through the abdomen and uterus in order to
24 deliver the dog.

25 VII. "Tail docking" means docking, cutting off, causing or procuring the docking or cutting
26 off of the tail of a dog over 5 days old.

27 437:24 Prohibitions.

28 I. Any person having custody of more than 10 intact dogs over the age of 4 months for the
29 purpose of selling their offspring as household pets, or any person acting as agent or intermediary in
30 negotiating, buying, selling, or transferring dogs, when transfer to the final owner occurs in New
31 Hampshire, shall abide by the rules set out in AGR 1702.

1 II. In addition to the rules contained in AGR 1702, any person having custody of more than
2 10 intact dogs over the age of 4 months for the purpose of selling their offspring as household pets, or
3 any person acting as intermediary in negotiating, buying, selling, or transferring dogs, when transfer
4 to the final owner occurs in New Hampshire, shall provide every dog in his or her care regular
5 exercise, adequate caging, and adequate rest between breeding cycles.

6 III. No person shall have custody of more than 50 intact dogs over the age of 4 months for
7 the purpose of selling their offspring as household pets.

8 IV. Debarking, tail docking, and surgical birth shall be prohibited unless performed under
9 general anesthesia by a licensed veterinarian.

10 437:25 Duties of the Commissioner.

11 I. The commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets, and food, or designee,
12 including any duly appointed agent of any humane society, S.P.C.A. incorporated in the state of
13 New Hampshire, or animal control officer, is hereby authorized on the commissioner's own initiative
14 or pursuant to complaints of other persons to investigate complaints made pursuant to this section.

15 II. The commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets, and food may adopt rules
16 under RSA 541-A to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

17 437:26 Penalties.

18 I. Any person who violates this subdivision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

19 II. Any person or owner who violates any of the provisions of this subdivision or rule adopted
20 under it may be subject to an administrative fine not to exceed \$1000 for each violation.

21 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2011.

LBAO
10-2201
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HB 1624-FN - FISCAL NOTE

AN ACT relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Judicial Branch, the Judicial Council, the Department of Justice and the New Hampshire Association of Counties state this bill may increase state and county expenditures by an indeterminable amount in FY 2011 and each year thereafter. The Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food states this bill will increase state expenditures by an indeterminable amount and may increase local expenditures by an indeterminable amount in FY 2011 and each year thereafter. There will be no fiscal impact on state, county and local revenue.

METHODOLOGY:

The Judicial Branch states this bill will add RSA 437:23 through RSA 437:26 to impose standards of care and treatment of dogs on dog breeders within New Hampshire and to make it an unspecified misdemeanor for any person violating the standards. Misdemeanor charges can be either a class A or class B, with the presumption they will be class B in accordance with RSA 625:9,IV. However, the Branch has no information to estimate how many new misdemeanors would be brought as a result of this bill or if they would be a class A or class B misdemeanors. The Branch states the cost of a class A misdemeanor case is \$51.14 and the cost of a class B misdemeanor case is \$36.89 in FY 2011 and each year thereafter. The possibility of appeals increases the likelihood the fiscal impact on the Branch will exceed \$10,000.

The Judicial Council states to the extent an unspecified misdemeanor results in a misdemeanor offense where the right to counsel exists this bill may result in an indeterminable increase in general fund expenditures. The Council states if an individual is found to be indigent, the flat fee of \$275 per misdemeanor is charged by a public defender or contract attorney. If an assigned counsel attorney is used the fee is \$60 per hour with a cap of \$1,400 for a misdemeanor charge. The Council also states additional costs could be incurred if an appeal is filed. The public defender, contract attorney and assigned counsel rates for Supreme Court appeals is \$2,000 per case, with many assigned counsel attorneys seeking permission to exceed the fee cap. Requests to exceed the fee cap are seldom granted. Finally, expenditures would increase if services other than counsel are requested and approved by the court during the defense of a case or during an appeal.

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The Department of Justice states the criminal offense created by this bill is typically prosecuted by a local prosecutor or county attorney's office. If an appeal is filed, the Department would have increased expenditures. The Department is unable to estimate how many cases would be prosecuted by the Department or appealed to the Supreme Court. Additionally, the Department would have some increase in expenditures related to client counseling duties for the Department of Agriculture; however any fiscal impact would likely be absorbed by existing resources.

The New Hampshire Association of Counties states to the extent an individual is prosecuted, convicted, and sentenced to incarceration, the counties may have increased expenditures. The Association is unable to determine the number of individuals who might be detained or incarcerated as a result of this bill. The average cost to incarcerate an individual in a county facility is \$35,342 a year.

The Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food states this bill will increase state expenditures and may increase local expenditures by an indeterminable amount. The Department assumes no additional funding or personnel would be provided. The Department states that without additional personnel the state veterinarian will not be able to assume the additional responsibilities contained in this bill and continue to perform the state veterinarian's current responsibilities. The state veterinarian would need to not perform 366 to 687 hours of other functions per year to meet the responsibilities contained in this bill. There would also be indeterminable costs associated with administrative and legal proceedings for the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food and the Department of Justice. The Department states to the extent municipal animal control officers are authorized to and investigate complaints local expenditures may increase.

Amendments

Rep. Kepner, Rock. 15
January 20, 2010
2010-0211h
08/09



"Not Adopted"

Amendment to HB 1624-FN

1 Amend RSA 427:23, I-II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 I. "Adequate caging" means caging for dogs who are housed in cages, kennels, stalls, or runs,
4 the structure of which has a solid impermeable floor or a slatted floor with gaps of no more than 1/2
5 inch between slats, that is not stacked or otherwise placed on top of or below another animal's
6 enclosure, and is placed no more than 42 inches above the floor.

7 II. "Adequate rest between breeding cycles" means, at minimum, ensuring that dogs are not
8 bred during consecutive heat cycles without appropriate veterinary care, and are not bred before
9 attaining one year of age.

10

11 Amend RSA 427:23, V as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

12

13 V. "Regular exercise" means, at minimum, one period during each day for a total of not less
14 than one half hour for each dog over the age of 4 months, which shall include removal from the dog's
15 primary enclosure and which shall allow the dog free mobility for the entire period either by leash
16 walking or providing access to an indoor or outdoor play area, in accordance with guidelines
17 established for the breed, but shall not include use of a treadmill, jenny mill, slat mill, or similar
18 device, unless prescribed by a doctor of veterinary medicine to address a specific medical condition.

Amendment to HB 1624-FN

"Not Adopted"

1 Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

2
3 1 New Subdivision; Dog Breeders. Amend RSA 437 by inserting after section 22 the following
4 new subdivision:

5 Dog Breeders

6 437:23 Definitions. In this subdivision:

7 I. "Adequate caging" means caging for dogs who are housed in cages, kennels, stalls, or runs,
8 the structure of which has a solid impermeable floor or a slatted floor with gaps of no more than 1/2
9 inch between slats, that is not stacked or otherwise placed on top of or below another animal's
10 enclosure, and is not placed so high as to inhibit routine cage cleaning and monitoring of animals.

11 II. "Adequate rest between each consecutive breeding cycle" means, at minimum, ensuring
12 that dogs are not bred during consecutive heat cycles without appropriate veterinary care and are
13 not bred before attaining one year of age.

14 III. "Debarking" means the cutting or procuring of the cutting of a dog's vocal cords or the
15 altering, causing or procuring the alteration of any part of a dog's resonance chamber.

16 IV. "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, limited
17 liability company, company, corporation, estate, trust, receiver or syndicate, including a commercial
18 kennel, pet shop, and broker.

19 V. "Primary enclosure" means a kennel, crate, carrier, or physical structure designed to
20 enclose or house a dog or cat, and shall not include the dwelling space of a home.

21 VI. "Regular exercise" means, at minimum, one period during each day for a total of not less
22 than one-half hour for each dog over the age of 4 months, which shall include removal from the dog's
23 primary enclosure and which shall allow the dog free mobility for the entire period either by leash
24 walking or providing access to an indoor or outdoor play area at least 3 feet wide and 20 feet long, or
25 use of a treadmill, jenny mill, slat mill, or similar device which shall not constitute regular exercise
26 unless prescribed by a doctor of veterinary medicine to address a specific medical condition.

27 VII. "Surgical birth" means birth by cutting through the abdomen and uterus in order to
28 deliver the dog.

29 VIII. "Tail docking" means docking, cutting off, causing or procuring the docking or cutting
30 off of the tail of a dog over 5 days old.

31 437:24 Prohibitions.

Amendment to HB 1624-FN

- Page 2 -

1 I. Any person having custody of more than 10 intact dogs over the age of 4 months for the
2 purpose of selling their offspring as household pets, or any person acting as agent or intermediary in
3 negotiating, buying, selling, or transferring dogs, when transfer to the final owner occurs in New
4 Hampshire, shall abide by the rules set out in AGR 1702.

5 II. In addition to the rules contained in AGR 1702, any person having custody of more than
6 10 intact dogs over the age of 4 months for the purpose of selling their offspring as household pets, or
7 any person acting as intermediary in negotiating, buying, selling, or transferring dogs, when transfer
8 to the final owner occurs in New Hampshire, shall provide every dog in his or her care regular
9 exercise, adequate caging, and adequate rest between breeding cycles.

10 III. No person shall have custody of more than 50 intact dogs over the age of 4 months for
11 the purpose of selling their offspring as household pets.

12 IV. Debarking, tail docking, and surgical birth shall be prohibited unless performed under
13 general anesthesia by a licensed veterinarian.

14 V. Nothing in this section shall apply to persons who raise and train sled dogs for the
15 purpose of mushing.

16 437:25 Duties of the Commissioner; Enforcement of Subdivision.

17 I. Any duly appointed agent of any humane society, S.P.C.A. incorporated in the state of
18 New Hampshire, or animal control officer, may investigate complaints made pursuant to this section.

19 II. The commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets, and food may adopt rules
20 under RSA 541-A to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

21 437:26 Penalties. Any person or owner who violates any of the provisions of this subdivision or
22 rule adopted under it may be subject to an administrative fine not to exceed \$1,000 for each
23 violation.

Speakers

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # HB 1624-FIN Date 1-21-10
 Committee E + A

** Please Print All Information **

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one)	
				Pro	Con
Rep MARY GORMAN		886-1652	HILLS 23		X
Amy Dillon	Hinsdale, NH	702-2117			✓
Patricia Morris, Esq		344-8878		✓	
SHERRY BEZANSON	Londonderry	235-4027		✓	
Rep Tom Donohue	Sullivan Ct, 4				✓
Brenda Wilbur	143 Kennard Rd. N.H.			✓	
Patricia Roix	115 Mitchell Rd Nottingham			✓	
Deborah Wilson	NORTH SANDWICH	284-7129		✓	
Jean Skopian	1252 Rt 123 N Stoddard			✓	
Tricia Orr	101 W. Roby Dist. Rd. ^{Wagner, NH}	456-2349		✓	
Carol A. Denton	250 Pinewood Dr Contoocook NH	3229 746-3860		✓	
SUZANNE MIESO	340 NOTTING RD. PO BOX 357 SAFFORD, NH 03452	532-4248		✓	
Elith Weiler	330 Paganella Wy Manchester NH	537-5304		X	
Cheryl Kerr	39 NASHUA RD PELHAM NH	365-1873			X
Britain Hill	1006 Pleasant Pond Rd Frances town	547-8878			X
TOM D'AMAGGIO	NORTH RD CAUDIA	483-2677	NAMA		X
BILL WEILER	330 BAGUETTE AVK MANCHESTER	493-0783		X	
Kat Ranalletti	13 Beech St Nashua NH			X	
Susan McDowell	61 McKenna Dr Nashua NH			✓	
SUZANNE L. FOURNIER	ALFORD, NH		ANIMAL PROTECTION ACTIVIST NETWORK	✓	
Megan Lavalla	Nashua, NH				X
BRENDA ABRAHAMSEN	PLAISLOW NH		GRANITE STATE SHETLAND SHEEPING CLUB		X
Ilany Heibel	New Boston NH				X

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # _____ Date _____

Committee _____

**** Please Print All Information ****

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one)	
				Pro	Con
Martha Heckman Kingston, VA			NESDC GSSSC		X
CYNTHIA WEBSTER	DERRY		GRANITE STATE SHELTER CLUB		X
Heather Faria	PERMIAW		CONCORD MERR CITY SPCA	X	
Cathy Emerson	Bow		CONCORD SPCA	X	
Juanne Bowhman	PO Box 619		Jacksonville, VT HUS	X	
Steve Spruill	NHSPCA		Stratham N.H	X	
Lisa Dennison	NHSPCA		Stratham N.H	X	
Gloria Hong	Sandwich NH			X	
Dominique PATERNO	Sandwich NH			X	
Miranda Levin	Bradford				X
Leland Yee	No Sandwich			X	
Hinda Rauter	51 Centerbury Rd. Chichester	03258	Self	X	
Bob Jean	712 First NH	TPK Northwood NH	03261	X	
Rep John R. Cloutier	Chicheston	542-6190	Sull. #4		✓
Kel Leung	21 Upper Pratt, New Ipswich, VA				✓
Kelinda Alexander	Sullivan			X	
Rep John A. Gacy	Rochester			X	
Edward W. Hall	Merimack NH				✓
Laura Lewis	Merimack NH				✓
Barbara Smith	Nelson NH				✓
Barbara Schwartz	Hollis, NH				✓
Kathy Farley	Raymond, NH				✓
Cindy Williams	Amherst, NH				✓

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # _____ Date _____

Committee _____

** Please Print All Information **

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one)	
				Pro	Con
Jane Turner	5 Keefe Drive, Newport NH	863-9924		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jean Cloutier	35 Old Gordon Rd Brentwood NH	603-778-0560		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rep ERIC STOHL			Coos 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Emily Scofield	Canterbury			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEJANA JOKIC	Prescott Str Concord	228-3593		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wiz Key	285 Middle Rd Hewitt, NH	525 9411		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EVELYN A NAGLIE	211 Middleboro Rd Peterborough, NH	924-7472		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PAMELA A. GAGNON	74 Bosse Ave. Manchester, NH	03103		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUSAN J. THOMPSON	110 Shaw St, Manchester, NH	03104		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Christine Hann	14 South Road, Hopkinton	03229		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Doris Hood	91 South Gray, Fitch NH	608-4889		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Louise Tyler	9 Donald Ave Pembroke NH	03102 485-7366		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Greg Barker	Bow, NH			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Keith Boyer	Lacrosse, N.H.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will Casperson, REP			Pratt 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
H. C. Dickinson	Ctr. Concord			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Christine Lee-Yee	N. Sandwich			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ken Silva	New Boston			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jim Williams	Amherst			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1624-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

DATE: January 21, 2010

LOB ROOM: 308 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:00 p.m.

Time Adjourned:

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Sad, Beaulieu, Owen, P. Allen, Webb, Beauchamp, Lindsey, Poznanski, S. Smith, Wiley, Haefner, Messier, B. Williams, Knox, Gandia, Groen, Palmer and Tucker.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Kepner, Rock 15; Rep. Skinder, Sull 1; Rep. Reagan, Rock 1

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

- **Rep. Susan Kepner** – Prime sponsor of bill. She is bringing forward amendment 0211h. She submits petitions signed by 286 people in favor of bill.

Dr. Steve Crawford, State Veterinarian – Opposes bill. Dept. doesn't have people to enforce something like this. In drafting a fiscal note, he found 7 complaints in a year that would be affected by this bill. 534 hours to investigate these complaints. A place that dept. licensed and there were a series of complaints and they had their license revoked. That was a small kennel. 2nd reason is that dog breeding is not agriculture or food. This bill should be a local animal control issue as these small breeders are not 'markets.'

There are 5 licensed commercial kennels in the state. He talked with vets and roughly each one has 1-6 dog owners that would be affected by this bill. These numbers are drawn from demographic studies.

State has standards in Agriculture rules. When we go to a complaint, those are the standards we apply. How far down below commercial level we apply this, is up to this legislature to decide.

Animal health standards good? This bill is not about animal cruelty.

To allow groups to investigate complaints under auspices of state is not a good idea. Other states that allow this require at least 40 hour week training course before they authorize. Every town is required to have animal control even if not an animal control officer.

- **Hon. Jim Powers** – supports bill.
- **Yvonne Nanasi** – Dog Owners of the Granite State (AKC affiliate in NH) opposed to bill. See written testimony for references to courts in other states that have thrown out cases based on situations based on this bill. This bill does not take into needs of specific breeds and how there needs need to be met. States like PA have dog auctions.

Jean Slepian – Supports bill. She represents a grassroots network of 400 people around the state. She submits letter from Margo Santorum who couldn't be here. Why do we have to wait for things escalate to cruelty before we do anything? We need to be proactive. 1624 asks that animal cruelty officers may be appointed by Dept. of Ag so they can inspect facilities. Rep. Beaulieu asks if people in this room would contribute annually to help municipalities hire animal control officers so the job could be done? Ms. Slepian does not feel qualified to answer. But she might contribute.

- **Joyce Arivella** – Dog Owners of Granite State – Opposes bill. Is on Governors commission on Humane Treatment of Animals. If people don't know about the rules that apply to these issues, how will passing 1624 teach them?
- **Bob Jean** – Supports bill as amended only. His testimony itemizes things that he thinks need to be amended in bill.

Tricia Orr – In support of bill. This bill calls for basic care and treatment for dogs. She has heard people in check out lines in grocery store talk about getting into dog breeding to make money. This is a big reason to pass this bill. Animal Legal Defense Fund places NH in the middle of the 50 states. **Rep. Dick Drisko** – Opposes bill. He tells us that Jay Phinnizey is also opposed to bill.

- **Barbara Schwartz** – Opposed bill. She has mailed us all testimony. Biggest problem in this state is dogs from out of state which isn't regulated. Breeders in NH have rules and standards to abide by. Each dog has different needs and the same requirements for each type of dog is not realistic or safe. Male dogs neutered early develop bone cancer, get brittle bones and high degree of prostatitis. Bitches spayed early become incontinent.
- **Sherry Bezanson** – Supports bill. Volunteers at veterinary clinics and member of National Humane Society. Works with rescuing dogs with a national organization (many from NH) and finding them homes. She has seen unscrupulous breeders in NH.
- **Pat Johnson** – Opposes bill in part. Has been deputy sheriff and animal control officer. She is against ruling against crates in bill. Dogs cannot be outside for an hour in cold winter weather. My dogs need to be in good physical condition and 6 months of the year, I can't take them out for an hour. Treadmills by prescription only not a good idea.
- **Eva Powers** – supports bill.
- **Nancy Holmes** – Opposes the bill. She is a dog expert on line. I am appalled at this bill. Breeding is not animal cruelty. Safer for female dogs in good conditions to breed them back to back. Stacked crates are used at dog shows and veterinary clinics. Slatted crates are a danger to dogs. Raised puppy pens are beneficial for puppies and this bill regulates how far bill can be off of the floor. Difficult to regulate how often to breed dogs when they are not caged. Docking situation – this bill redefines docking differently than in manuals. She does not think that vets are trained to do docking. Breeders are and they often use constriction method.
- **Maureen Pendergrast** – Animal Rescue League of NH – supports bill. Animals from out of state have to have interstate travel certificate. Cruelty situations they often don't go to court. They work out voluntary surrender with owner. Seized animals where owners go to court, the animal is often in their kennel for a year waiting for court date. Puppy mill is large scale breeding operation that produces puppies for profit. She will cite examples and is submitting photos. Rottweiler breeder that she received numerous complaints – owner abused mother if she didn't nurse puppies. Used household rubber bands to dock tails. More info in testimony. Some

animals she has had to intervene on, have lived in cages – never been out of cages. 110 Sharpeis in one household – cages, non-spayed, living in cages all over the house and in vehicles.

- **Hon. Paul Mirski** – opposes bill. Represents NH Wildlife Federation.
- **Nancy Pollard** – supports bill.
- **Gregory Kitteridge** – Foxhound Kennels. He opposes bill. He is in violation of this bill. He has 10 intact males. He doesn't breed a male hound until he is at least 4 years old. Neutering at 4 months old? I won't know how good they are going to be for breeding stock at that age. I've spent 200,000 building my kennel. I love my hounds. It's heated and air conditioned. 2 humane societies near me. They call and ask me if I have puppies they can adopt out. I keep my animals for that purpose. Qualifications to work in humane society are nil. I would not want those people inspecting my facilities. I do not want them to enforce laws. Anybody can find anything wrong with anything. This is a cog in the wheel for an agenda. Pennsylvania SPCA seized a woman's basset hounds last fall because they felt she wasn't in compliance. Judge later awarded animals back to woman but the animals were already gone and she couldn't get them back.
- **Brenda Wilber** supports the bill. Pictures of Kennel in Nottingham. Dr. Crawford has visited this kennel and seen pictures. Even after numerous complaints filed, this kennel still operates. She doesn't think Dr. Crawford is doing his job.
- **Raymond Gorma – AKC America, NH Bird Dogs** - opposes the bill. Reputable breeders don't want this bill. Some of these rules can be interpreted by people who don't know dogs. Don't want more regulation.
Patricia Roix – supports bill. She lives in same neighborhood as the Nottingham kennel about mistreatment and bad condition of kennel. She has contacted governor about this kennel. Kennel lost it's license but it is still operating. There needs to be some accountability. Potential buyers cannot see actual conditions where dogs live. They now have pigs to cover the dogs' odor. She thinks bill needs work and be made more specific so that breeders who lose their licenses still have accountability.
- **Sue Lavulla** – Opposes bill. Gives testimony about how early neutering can lead to cancer. Also disagrees with breeding rules in this bill. Concerned about illegal search and seizure by Humane Society who then spay or neuter and sell the animal.
- **Christine Leachman-Yee** supports bill. Talks to a kennel in Sandwich where dogs are kept outside 24/7, never get out of their enclosure and never have a good run.
- **Elin Phinizy** – opposes bill. Raised Scottish deerhounds for 40 years. Ag rules are not written for home situations. Ag rules say dogs and cats cannot be in same primary enclosure. Anesthesia concern. It is already illegal to perform NH veterinary medicine without a license. To prescribe what kind of anesthesia a vet should use should not be up to legislature. We are not a business – IRS says we are not. Leashes required in this bill and we walk our dogs for an hour in the woods daily. (picture included).
- **Lisa Dennison** – NH SPCA – supports bill. She's seen numerous cases of neglect over the years. We offer Dr. Crawford support. We lose money on every case – we discount rates for towns.

April Gray – Opposes bill. She has sent us testimony in email. Most hobby breeders are already regulated through AKC. Pure bred breeders do not cross breeds.

- **Bill Weiler** – Paws N’ Effects - supports bill . His business is animal behavior and he has seen too many instances of negative effects of dogs mistreated.
- **Dr. Stephen Crawford** – He did not receive notice of this particular kennel (Nottingham) until Monday morning. Photos were taken on a Friday night and emails sent over weekend were not received until Monday. He told complainant to call local law enforcement.
- **If license taken away, they are not shut down but just they can’t sell more than 50 puppies.**

Keith Bryan – opposes bill. He had to leave

- **Laura LaBounty** – opposes bill. Left testimony but had to leave.

Patricia A. Morris Esq. – practices animal law – supports bill. She is working on Nottingham puppy mill case. When Nottingham’s kennel license was revoked, she doesn’t need to comply with rules since unlicensed. Now trying to make her accountable. She is not an average breeder in the state. What is happening in Nottingham violates many state statutes. If you are selling dogs in NH, have an LLC or sole proprietorship you are classified as a business but IRS would call you a hobby breeder because of the number of dogs. Animal Control Officers give up and in Nottingham she is selling under 50 dogs so therefore not operating as a commercial kennel. Since not a commercial kennel, can’t get on property to expect. At operations in Milford, Nottingham and Keene they are using other ordinances and laws to try to enforce the law. Nuisance issues etc. Rule 1702 doesn’t allow access to the property.

- **Tom DiMaggio** – President of NH Musers – He opposes the bill. He has 18 dogs – intact – in his kennel. With his breed, sled dogs, he won’t know which are the best dogs until they are 5 years old. His dogs travel in their two-story dog box. My dogs are athletes. They come in the house and he has a cat so he is in violation of this bill. Musers brought over \$5,000,000 into the state last year and that is just in races. We bring a lot more than that into the state. (see testimony) This bill will shut us down. Sled dog community tries to monitor their own community – put out notice to not sell to a particular sled dog breeder. He thinks this bill will send violators underground.
- **Joanne Bourbeau** – Humane Society of US. – supports this bill. She would like to hear from breeders how to make this bill work. She is willing to work with breeders on compromise.
- **Steven Sproul** – NH SPCA – supports bill. He had to leave but submitted testimony.

Deborah Wilson – supports bill. Had to leave.

Kathy Farley dog breeder – opposes bill. She wants to know where her dogs are. Buyers sign a contract, and . If they can’t keep them, she wants the dogs back. I want potential buyers to see the parents of the puppies. She thinks the docking and cropping issue needs to be addressed.

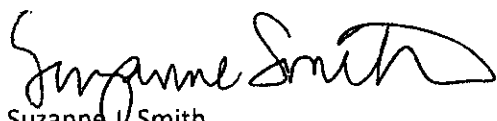
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Laurie Methuen – supports bill. Left so no testimony.

Nancy Johnson – HSUS – supports bill. We spoke with breeders prior to hearing about compromises. Please agree to let us work on this bill for a compromise. I hear more agreement than I did even a week ago. Steve Crawford, mushers, breeders and HSUS.

Nancy Holmes - No compromise – let’s just use the cruelty laws. They want to turn breeders into criminals.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'S' and a long, horizontal flourish at the end.

Rep. Suzanne Smith

Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1624-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

DATE: 1-21-10

LOB ROOM: 308 Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 1:00

Time Adjourned:

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Sad, Beaulieu, Owen, P. Allen, Webb, Beauchamp, Lindsey, Poznanski, S. Smith, Wiley, Haefner, Messier, B. Williams, Knox, Gandje, Groen, Palmer and Tucker

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Kepner, Rock 15; Rep. Skinder, Sull 1; Rep. Reagan, Rock 1

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

34 attended for the bill
31 " against

Environment & Agriculture Committee

HB 1624 Public hearing 1-20-10

Relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

- **Rep. Susan Kepner** – Prime sponsor of bill. She is bringing forward amendment 0211h. She submits petitions signed by 286 people in favor of bill.

Dr. Steve Crawford, State Veterinarian – Opposes bill. Dept. doesn't have people to enforce something like this. In drafting a fiscal note, he found 7 complaints in a year that would be affected by this bill. 534 hours to investigate these complaints. A place that dept. licensed and there were a series of complaints and they had their license revoked. That was a small kennel. 2nd reason is that dog breeding is not agriculture or food. This bill should be a local animal control issue as these small breeders are not 'markets.'

There are 5 licensed commercial kennels in the state. He talked with vets and roughly each one has 1-6 dog owners that would be affected by this bill. These numbers are drawn from demographic studies.

State has standards in Agriculture rules. When we go to a complaint, those are the standards we apply. How far down below commercial level we apply this, is up to this legislature to decide. Animal health standards good? This bill is not about animal cruelty.

To allow groups to investigate complaints under auspices of state is not a good idea. Other states that allow this require at least 40 hour week training course before they authorize. Every town is required to have animal control even if not an animal control officer.

- **Hon. Jim Powers** – supports bill.
- **Yvonne Nanasi** – Dog Owners of the Granite State (AKC affiliate in NH) opposed to bill. See written testimony for references to courts in other states that have thrown out cases based on situations based on this bill. This bill does not take into needs of specific breeds and how there needs need to be met. States like PA have dog auctions.

Jean Slepian – Supports bill. She represents a grassroots network of 400 people around the state. She submits letter from Margo Santorum who couldn't be here. Why do we have to wait for things escalate to cruelty before we do anything? We need to be proactive. 1624 asks that animal cruelty officers may be appointed by Dept. of Ag so they can inspect facilities. Rep. Beaulieu asks if people in this room would contribute annually to help municipalities hire animal control officers so the job could be done? Ms. Slepian does not feel qualified to answer. But she might contribute.

- **Joyce Arivella** – Dog Owners of Granite State – Opposes bill. Is on Governors commission on Humane Treatment of Animals. If people don't know about the rules that apply to these issues, how will passing 1624 teach them?
- **Bob Jean** – Supports bill as amended only. His testimony itemizes things that he thinks need to be amended in bill.

Tricia Orr – In support of bill. This bill calls for basic care and treatment for dogs. She has heard people in check out lines in grocery store talk about getting into dog breeding to make money. This is a big reason to pass this bill. Animal Legal Defense Fund places NH in the middle of the 50 states.

Rep. Dick Drisko – Opposes bill. He tells us that Jay Phinnizey is also opposed to bill.

- **Barbara Schwartz** – Opposed bill. She has mailed us all testimony. Biggest problem in this state is dogs from out of state which isn't regulated. Breeders in NH have rules and standards to abide by. Each dog has different needs and the same requirements for each type of dog is not realistic or safe. Male dogs neutered early develop bone cancer, get brittle bones and high degree of prostatitis. Bitches spayed early become incontinent.
- **Sherry Bezanson** – Supports bill. Volunteers at veterinary clinics and member of National Humane Society. Works with rescuing dogs with a national organization (many from NH) and finding them homes. She has seen unscrupulous breeders in NH.
Pat Johnson – Opposes bill in part. Has been deputy sheriff and animal control officer. She is against ruling against crates in bill. Dogs cannot be outside for an hour in cold winter weather. My dogs need to be in good physical condition and 6 months of the year, I can't take them out for an hour. Treadmills by prescription only not a good idea.
- **Eva Powers** – supports bill.
- **Nancy Holmes** – Opposes the bill. She is a dog expert on line. I am appalled at this bill. Breeding is not animal cruelty. Safer for female dogs in good conditions to breed them back to back. Stacked crates are used at dog shows and veterinary clinics. Slatted crates are a danger to dogs. Raised puppy pens are beneficial for puppies and this bill regulates how far bill can be off of the floor. Difficult to regulate how often to breed dogs when they are not caged. Docking situation – this bill redefines docking differently than in manuals. She does not think that vets are trained to do docking. Breeders are and they often use constriction method.
- **Maureen Pendergrast** – Animal Rescue League of NH – supports bill. Animals from out of state have to have interstate travel certificate. Cruelty situations they often don't go to court. They work out voluntary surrender with owner. Seized animals where owners go to court, the animal is often in their kennel for a year waiting for court date. Puppy mill is large scale breeding operation that produces puppies for profit. She will cite examples and is submitting photos. Rottweiler breeder that she received numerous complaints – owner abused mother if she didn't nurse puppies. Used household rubber bands to dock tails. More info in testimony. Some animals she has had to intervene on, have lived in cages – never been out of cages. 110 Sharpeis in one household – cages, non-spayed, living in cages all over the house and in vehicles.
- **Hon. Paul Mirski** – opposes bill. Represents NH Wildlife Federation.
- **Nancy Pollard** – supports bill.
- **Gregory Kitteridge** – Foxhound Kennels. He opposes bill. He is in violation of this bill. He has 10 intact males. He doesn't breed a male hound until he is at least 4 years old. Neutering at 4 months old? I won't know how good they are going to be for breeding stock at that age. I've spent 200,000 building my kennel. I love my hounds. It's heated and air conditioned. 2 humane societies near me. They call and ask me if I have puppies they can adopt out. I keep my animals

for that purpose. Qualifications to work in humane society are nil. I would not want those people inspecting my facilities. I do not want them to enforce laws. Anybody can find anything wrong with anything. This is a cog in the wheel for an agenda. Pennsylvania SPCA seized a woman's basset hounds last fall because they felt she wasn't in compliance. Judge later awarded animals back to woman but the animals were already gone and she couldn't get them back.

- **Brenda Wilber** supports the bill. Pictures of Kennel in Nottingham. Dr. Crawford has visited this kennel and seen pictures. Even after numerous complaints filed, this kennel still operates. She doesn't think Dr. Crawford is doing his job.
- **Raymond Gorma – AKC America, NH Bird Dogs** - opposes the bill. Reputable breeders don't want this bill. Some of these rules can be interpreted by people who don't know dogs. Don't want more regulation.

Patricia Roix – supports bill. She lives in same neighborhood as the Nottingham kennel about mistreatment and bad condition of kennel. She has contacted governor about this kennel. Kennel lost its license but it is still operating. There needs to be some accountability. Potential buyers cannot see actual conditions where dogs live. They now have pigs to cover the dogs' odor. She thinks bill needs work and be made more specific so that breeders who lose their licenses still have accountability.

- **Sue Lavulla** – Opposes bill. Gives testimony about how early neutering can lead to cancer. Also disagrees with breeding rules in this bill. Concerned about illegal search and seizure by Humane Society who then spay or neuter and sell the animal.
- **Christine Leachman-Yee** supports bill. Talks to a kennel in Sandwich where dogs are kept outside 24/7, never get out of their enclosure and never have a good run.
- **Elin Phinizy** – opposes bill. Raised Scottish deerhounds for 40 years. Ag rules are not written for home situations. Ag rules say dogs and cats cannot be in same primary enclosure. Anesthesia concern. It is already illegal to perform NH veterinary medicine without a license. To prescribe what kind of anesthesia a vet should use should not be up to legislature. We are not a business – IRS says we are not. Leashes required in this bill and we walk our dogs for an hour in the woods daily. (picture included).
- **Lisa Dennison** – NH SPCA – supports bill. She's seen numerous cases of neglect over the years. We offer Dr. Crawford support. We lose money on every case – we discount rates for towns.

April Gray – Opposes bill. She has sent us testimony in email. Most hobby breeders are already regulated through AKC. Pure bred breeders do not cross breeds.

- **Bill Weiler** – Paws N' Effects - supports bill . His business is animal behavior and he has seen too many instances of negative effects of dogs mistreated.
- **Dr. Stephen Crawford** – He did not receive notice of this particular kennel (Nottingham) until Monday morning. Photos were taken on a Friday night and emails sent over weekend were not received until Monday. He told complaintant to call local law enforcement.
- **If license taken away, they are not shut down but just they can't sell more than 50 puppies.**

Keith Bryan – opposes bill. He had to leave

- **Laura LaBounty** – opposes bill. Left testimony but had to leave.

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Rule 1702 doesn't allow access to the property.

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Nancy Holmes - No compromise – let's just use the cruelty laws. They want to turn breeders into criminals.

Testimony



Testimony by: Steven Sprowl
In Support of: HB 1624
Committee: House Environment and Agriculture Committee
Date: January 21, 2010

My name is Steven Sprowl. I have been employed as the Humane Agent for the New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, (NHSPCA) for the past 9 years. I am a retired Detective with the Rochester NH Police Department. I am also a member of the New Hampshire Federation of Humane Organizations and a member of the New Hampshire Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals.

As an agent for the NHSPCA, I receive an average of 80 complaints a month; some of these complaints are dealing with dogs that are neglected and living in their own waste. I receive reports from NH residents as well as customers from out of state complaining about the dogs they visited with the intent of purchasing a puppy they have seen on the web and after visiting these breeders, called to report the filthy conditions the puppies were living in.

Customers call to tell me they purchased sick dogs that cost them hundreds of dollars at their veterinarian because several days after purchasing the puppy, it became violently ill and some have even died as a result of the illnesses. The customers call to report the breeders would not refund their money, the breeders refused to pay the veterinarian costs, or the puppy died from the illness and the breeder refuses to refund their money.

Customers report they were not given a health certificate, others report they did not receive health certificates. Customers report they were not allowed into the home to see the other puppies in the litter or to see the puppies' sires and dams. Some are required to meet with the breeders in a parking lot and required to bring cash, refusing to accept a check or money order for the purchase of the puppy.

Then there is an issue with "traveling Veterinarians" that go from breeder to breeder issuing health certificates for the puppies, and in some cases, issue health certificates on puppies that are sick and/or have health issues. These "Traveling Veterinarians" names often come up on cases I work on. One such veterinarian licensed in both NH and Maine lost his license in the State of Maine for issuing health certificates for sick puppies as well as issuing prescriptions for drugs by telephone without ever having seen the puppies.

Let's face the truth; puppy mills are a multi-million dollar a year business and some don't care about the living conditions of the dogs as long as they produce good offspring and make money for the breeders. I often ask the breeders I deal with if they report their income to the IRS and some Breeders do not file their income or business under the Federal Income Tax laws so they don't have to pay income tax on the puppies they sell.

If they are selling 10 Litters of 8 dogs a year for \$1,000 that totals \$80,000 a year income they are not reporting. 50 or more puppies a year at \$1,000 each totals \$50,000 and so on. A lot of breeders sell their pure bred puppies higher than that amount.

In New Hampshire there are many breeders that would fall into the Commercial Kennel section of the law.

RSA 466:4 III describes a Commercial Kennel as an establishment or domicile of any person who sells dogs at wholesale or retail; and if retail, who sells or transfers 10 or more litters per year, or sells or transfers 50 or more puppies per year; or who derives 40 percent or more of gross annual income from the sale or transfer of dogs. The owner or keeper of any dog licensed under this paragraph shall not be assessed a companion animal population control fee.

As an investigator, I can tell you, it is nearly impossible to enforce breeders to register as a commercial kennel because there is no one overseeing their business and no way to prove how many litters they are selling/transferring a year.

The Department of Agriculture for the State of New Hampshire keeps a record of Health certificates that are sent into their agency, but breeders that are running the above described puppy mills often do not send in health certificates; some do not even obtain health certificates and some do not even have the puppies tended by a veterinarian before they are sold to the public.

As an investigator for the NHSPCA I believe that this HB 1624 will help establish laws to make breeders abide by the same standards as animal shelters, commercial kennels and pet shops.

Many people that are against this bill will be some of the above described breeders and of course they do not want to see this bill pass as they will have to abide by the law, clean

up their filthy establishments and may be even have to start claiming them as income on their tax returns.

There are also good breeders in this State that take real good care of their animals and treat them as family pets until they are sold. These are the breeders we normally don't receive calls on for cruelty issues.

If breeders are held to higher standards and have to obtain a license and inspection requirements, the licensing fees would generate money for the State.

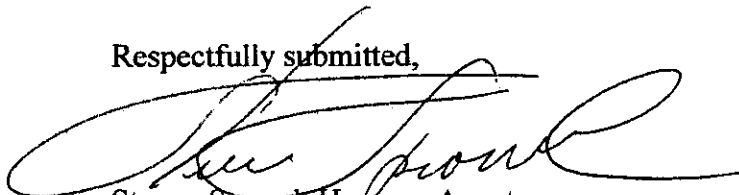
Enclosed with this testimony, I have attached some photographs of actual establishments I have investigated over the years and you will see the puppies in this state need your support for this bill.

Humans take on the responsibility of caring for animals when they possess them. It has to be part of their responsibility to take proper care of them. Give them proper housing, food, water and clean up after them and not let them set around in their own feces and urine all day.

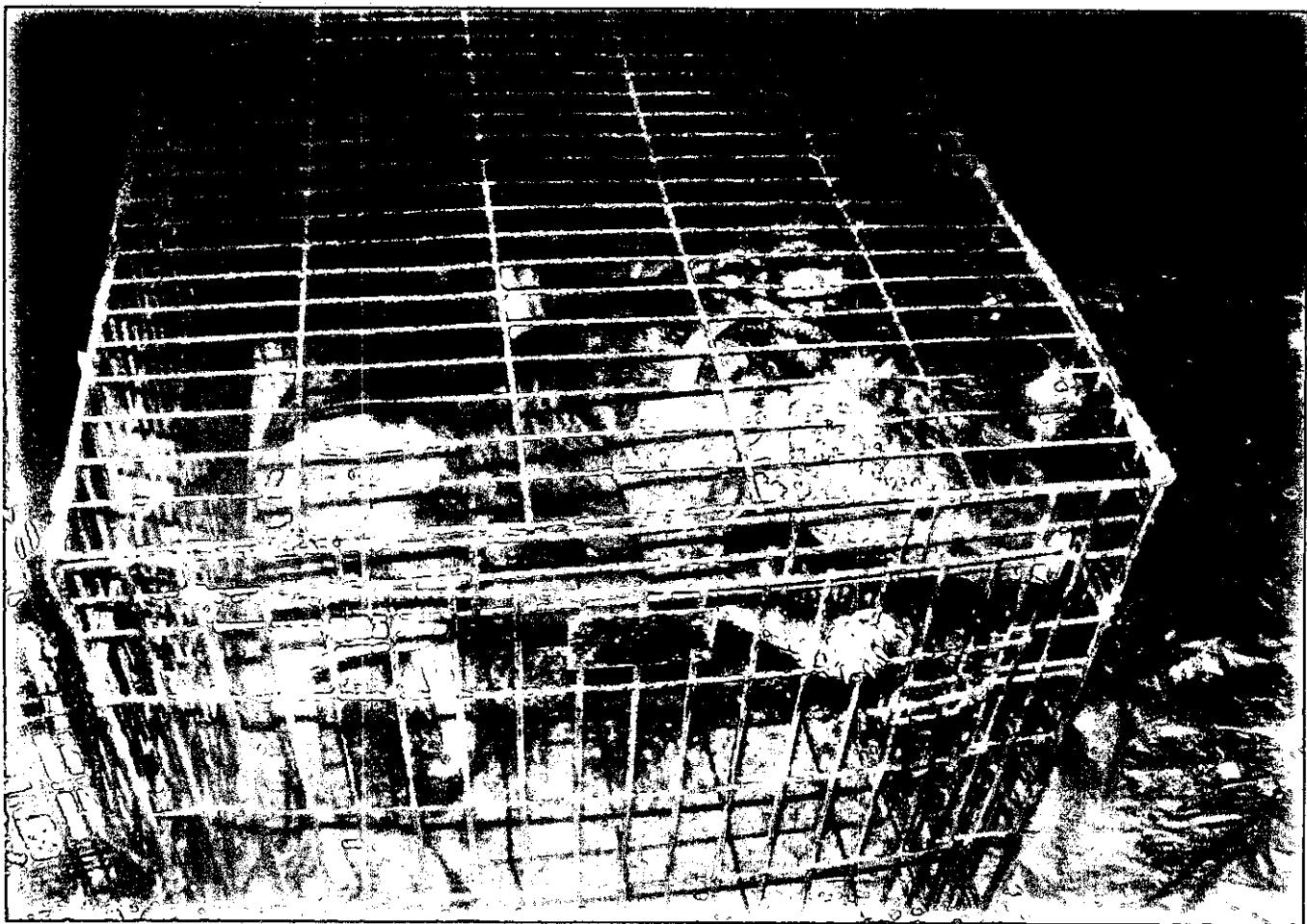
I believe we the people of New Hampshire have the responsibility to establish laws, rules and regulations to see that these animals are properly taken care of.

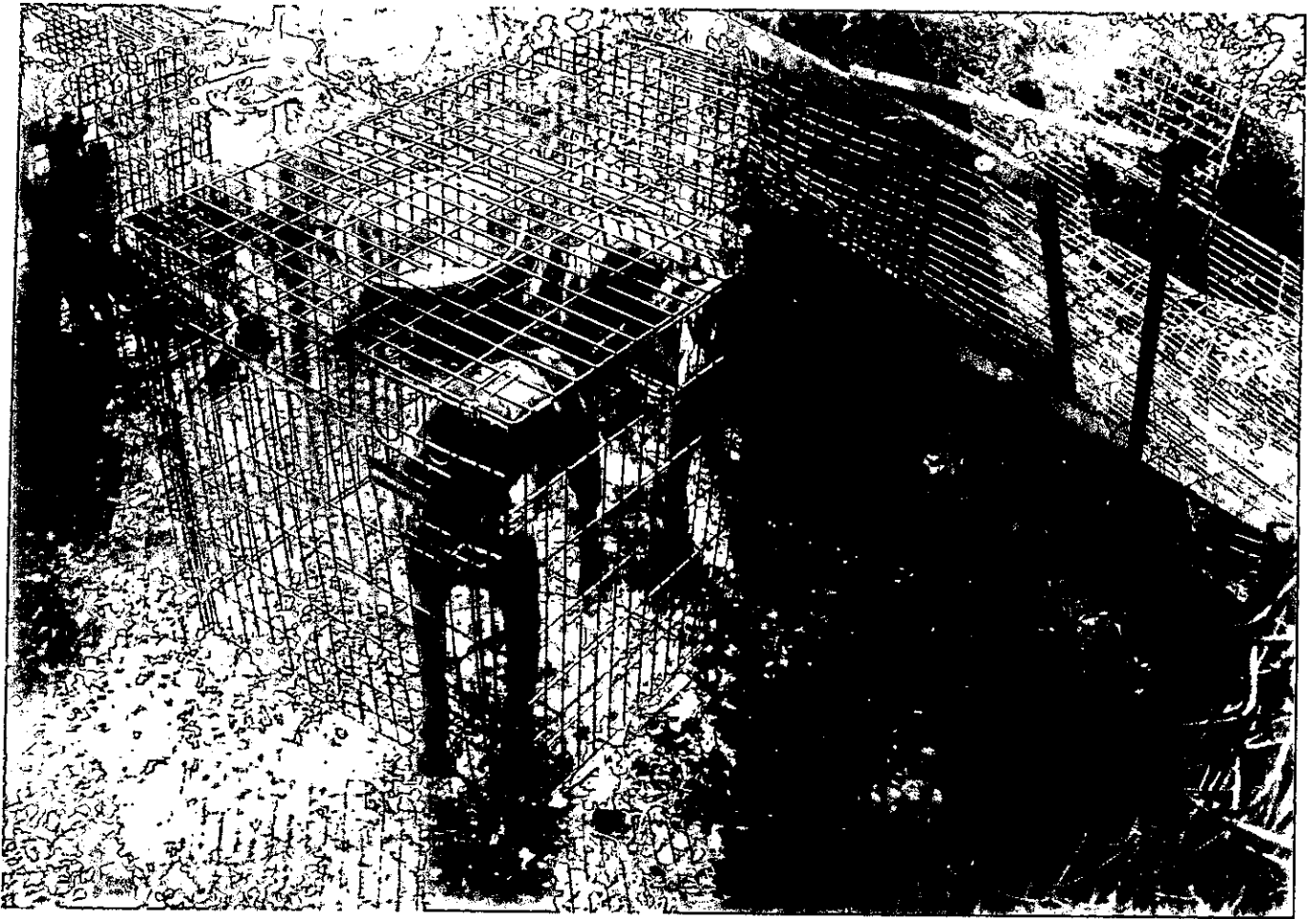
Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

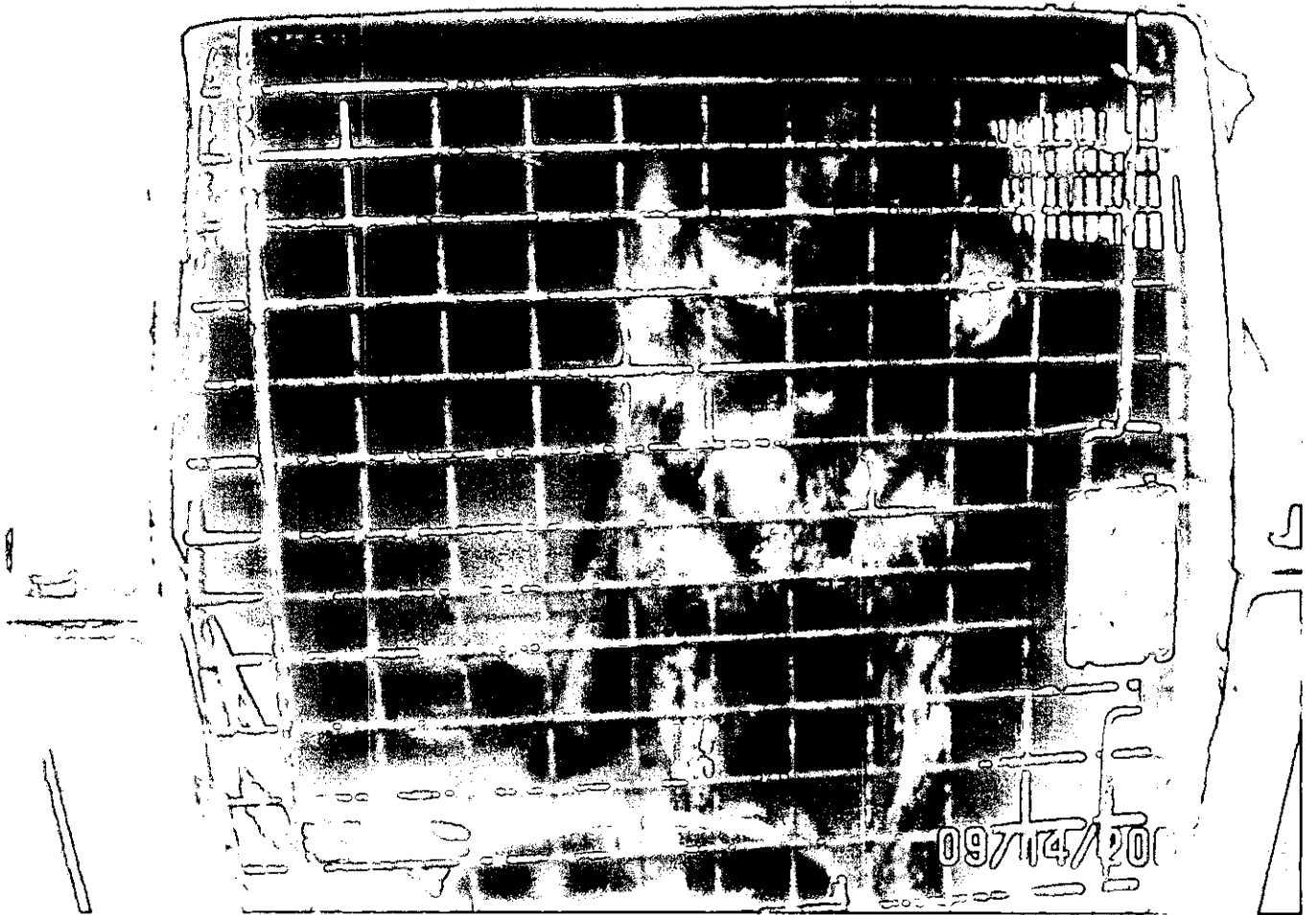
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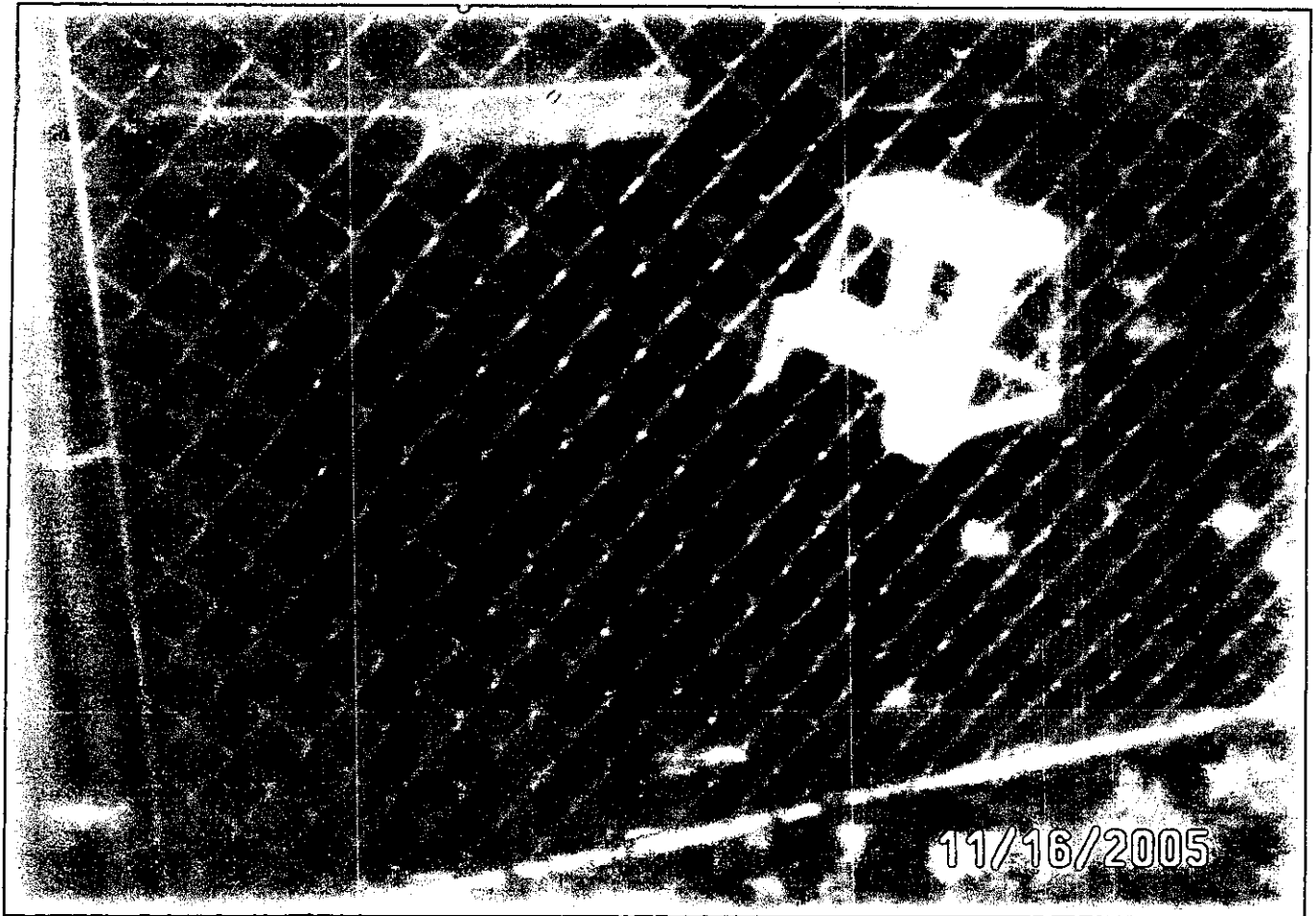
Steven Sprowl, Humane Agent
NHSPCA

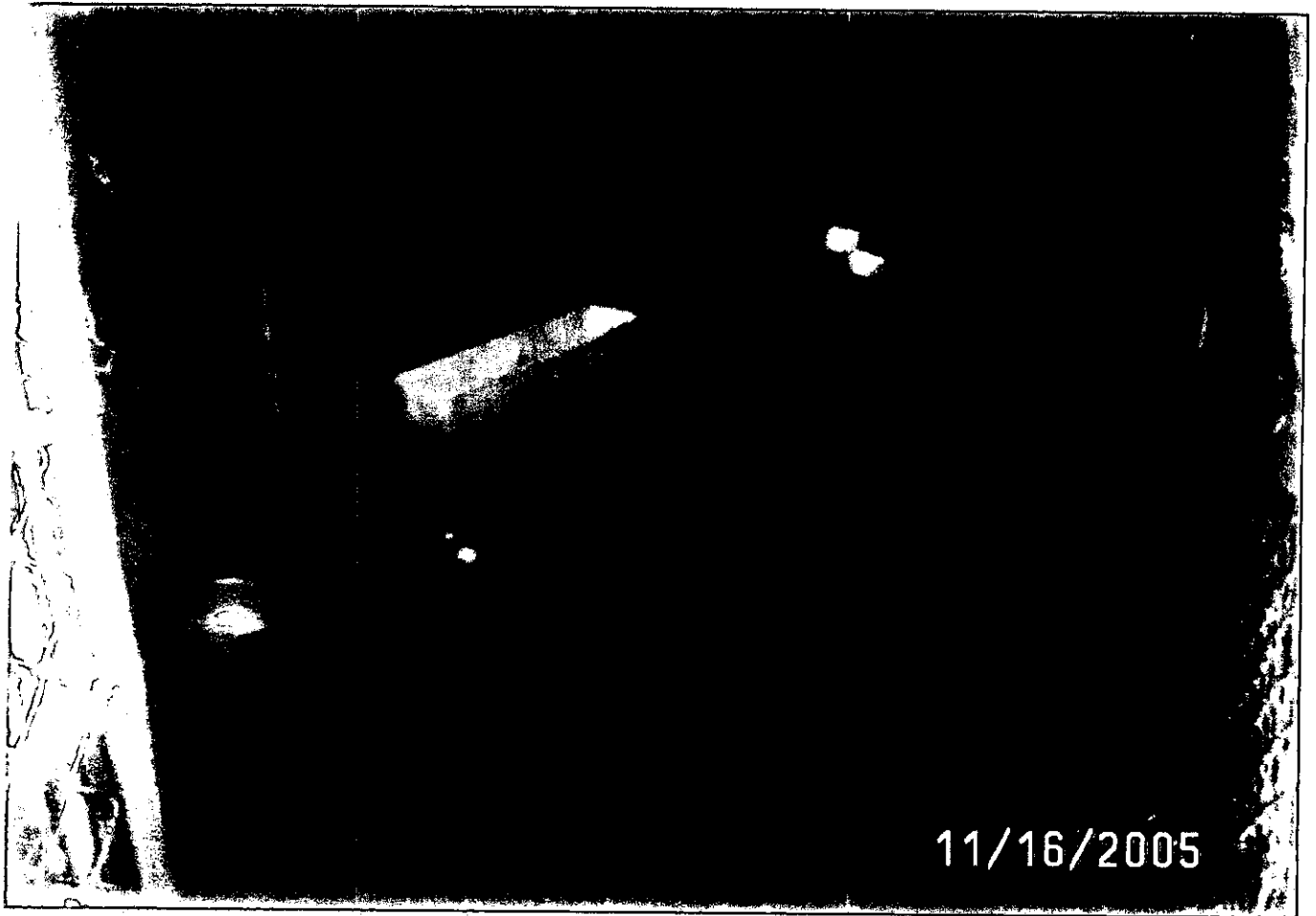












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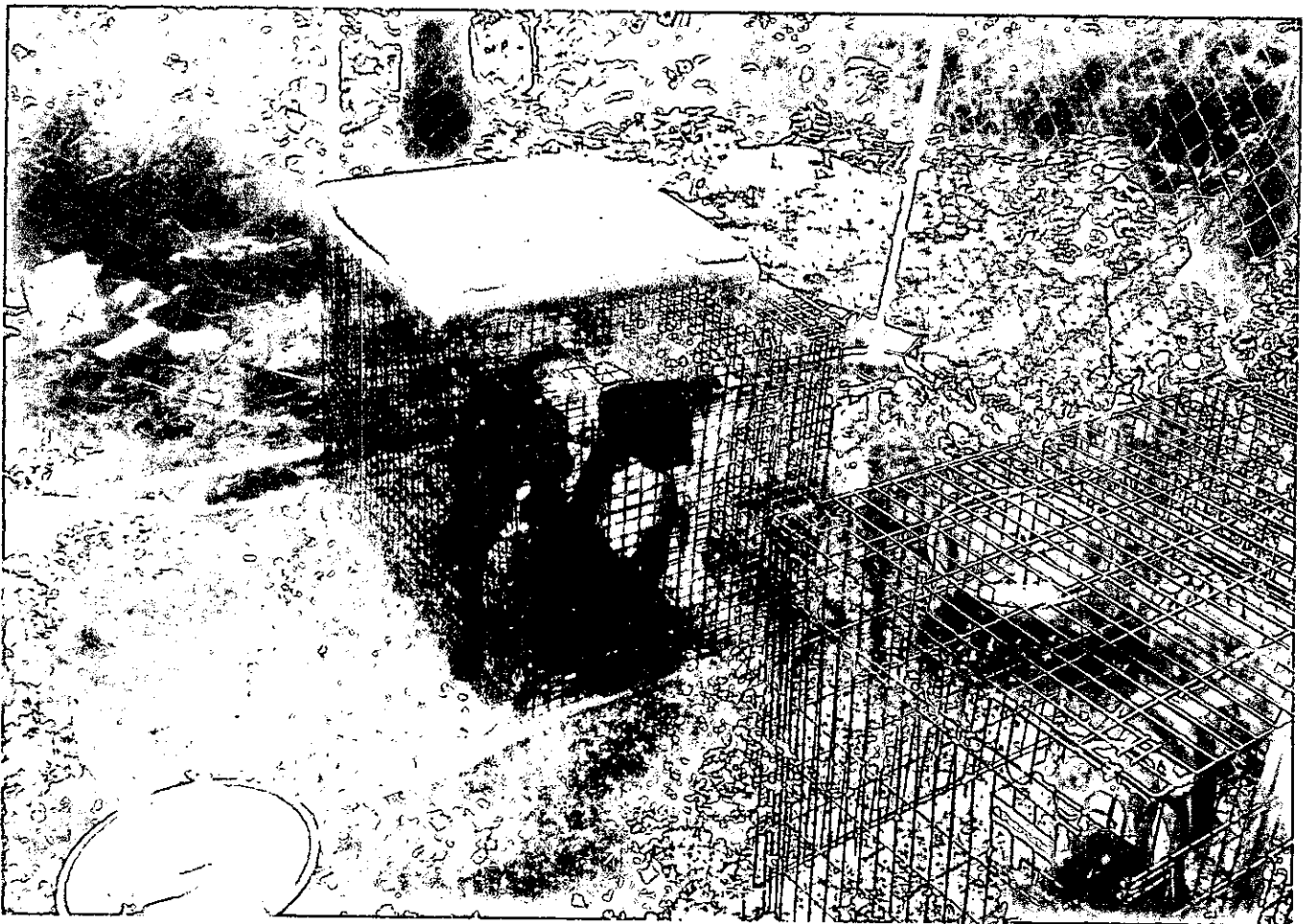
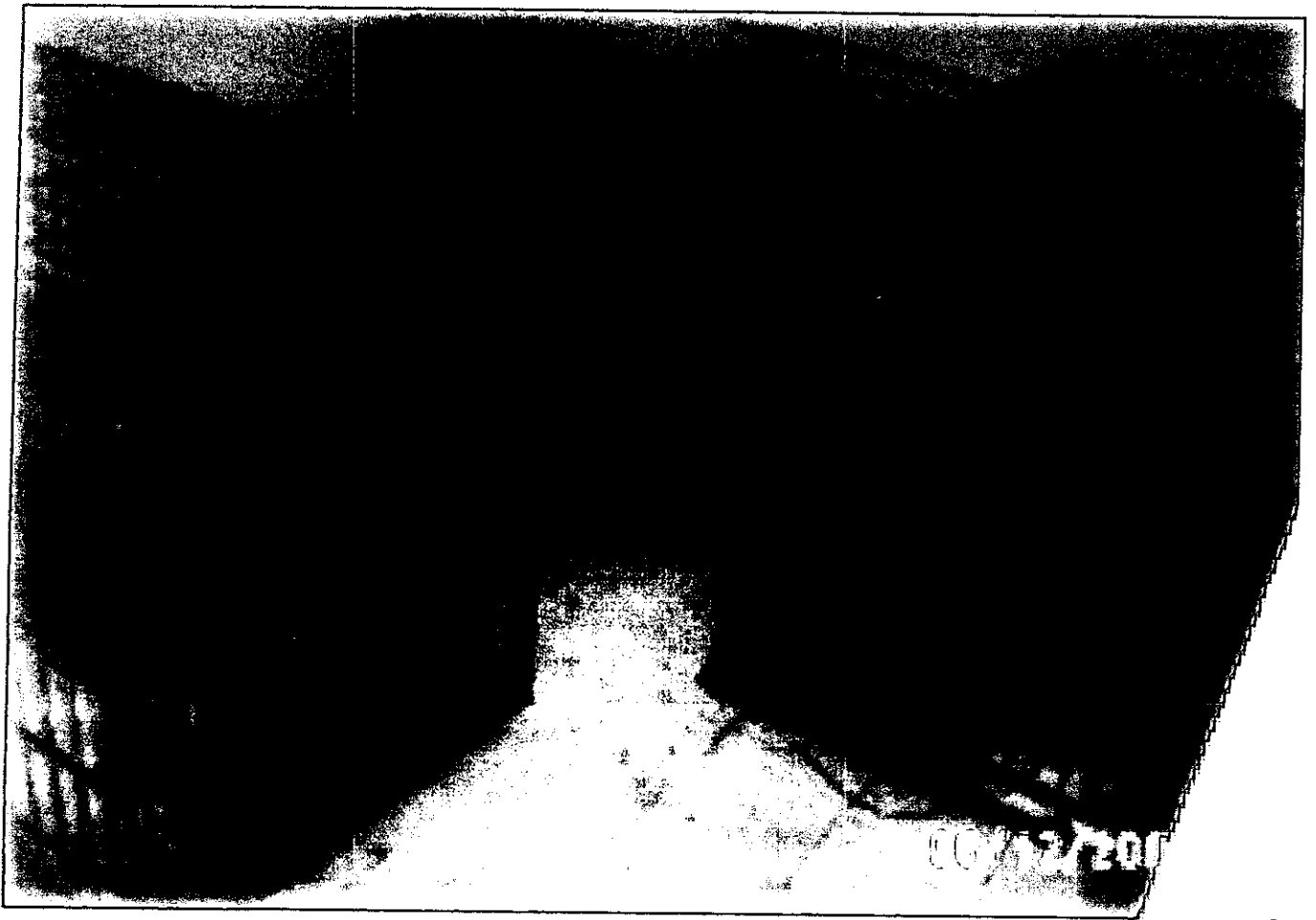
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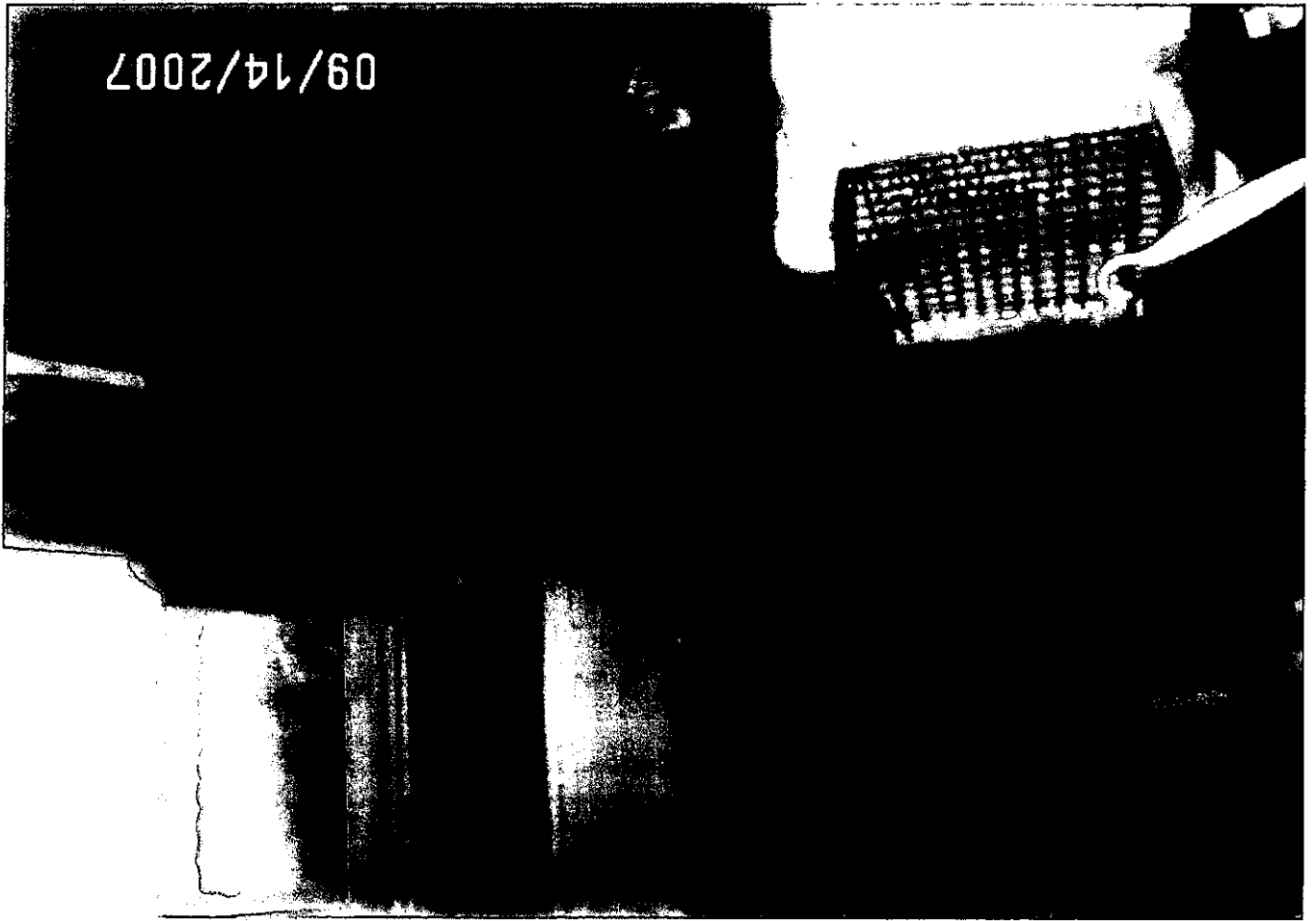
DEPT. OF JUSTICE



DEPT. OF JUSTICE



09/14/2007



09/14/2007



Monadnock Humane Society

THE BEST SHELTER IS ... A HUMANE COMMUNITY

101 West Swanzey Road
PO Box 678
West Swanzey, NH 03469
603-352-9011
Fax 603-358-6095
www.monadpets.org

January 21, 2010

To the NH House Committee on the Environment and Agriculture:

My name is Stephanie Frommer, and I am the Director of Field Services for the Monadnock Humane Society, which serves a constituency of more than 100,000 residents in Cheshire County and portions of Hillsborough and Sullivan Counties. I am a certified NH police officer, appointed by the Cheshire County Sheriff as a Special Deputy charged with investigating animal cruelty. I am writing today to ask for your support of HB 1624, an act relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

This bill is an important step in preventing the emergence of large-scale commercial dog breeders, known also as "puppy mills", and providing more enforcement of breeder care standards. It is not, as some will likely testify today, an effort to end responsible dog breeding or the keeping of companion dogs in New Hampshire. On the contrary, these proposed increased regulations will support the efforts of responsible breeders by eliminating competition by commercial breeders while protecting dogs from unacceptable breeding and husbandry practices.

In the interest of brevity, and because I am certain other proponents of this initiative will address this, I will refrain from describing the horrors of puppy mills and the impact they have on local shelters and their communities. Instead, I would like to focus on the positive impact this bill would have on enforcement efforts if passed.

Current breeder regulations are passed by and enforced solely by the state veterinarian's office under the Department of Agriculture. Understandably, the state vet's office would oppose any legislative change that increases their workload without providing for additional resources to carry out that work. Dr. Crawford and his staff are responsible for the oversight of animal care standards in all areas of domestic animal care in the state of New Hampshire, from dairy farms to boarding kennels to animal shelters. HB 1624 could potentially lighten their load by allowing animal control officers and humane law enforcement agents to investigate complaints made pursuant to these regulations.

Under current regulations, the only breeders that are required to be licensed, and thus inspected, are those who sell ten or more litters OR fifty or more puppies annually, and is based essentially on self-reporting by those breeders who follow the rules and submit required health certificates for the dogs they sell. It is unknown how many irreputable breeders operate under the radar and/or are not subject to inspection because they do not sell enough dogs to require licensure. This bill would put very basic requirements on breeders based on how many intact animals they have, not just how many dogs they sell. While an irresponsible breeder seeking to bend the rules

could easily hide the number of dogs they sell, it would be simple to count the number of intact dogs in their care at any given time.

Finally, I would like to stress that the care standards outlined in HB 1624 are incredibly basic. I would be hard pressed to identify a responsible breeder who truly cares for his or her dogs that does not already meet these standards. It is hard to believe that a reasonable person would oppose proper housing, sufficient exercise, and a requirement that veterinary procedures be performed by a properly trained, licensed veterinarian.

On behalf of the Monadnock Humane Society, and in the interest of reputable breeders and the dogs we all value, I urge you to support House Bill 1624. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Frommer', written in a cursive style.

Stephanie S. Frommer
Director of Field Services

January 6, 2010

Margo Santoro
PO Box 306
645 Whitney Road
Stoddard, NH 03464
446-2223

Dear Representatives,

I adopted a beautiful dog named Mowgli from the Humane Society (HS). He came from a puppy mill in Stark NH and when they confiscated all the dogs, he was the only one who could not find a home. I had a history with the HS of taking in dogs they could not place, so they called me and asked me to take him.

He was born in the puppy mill, he had never been socialized. When they found him, he was in a cage with 16 dogs, and a dead cat. The cage had a tin roof. Because he was not accustomed to people, he had extreme fear of all people. To make a long story short, it took 2 people from the Monadnock HS to bring him out to my house. He was living in terror. He went behind my wood stove and lived there for 4 days, I fed him there and cleaned up after him. It was on the fifth day, I was sitting on my bed crying about this poor dog when he came to comfort me. He put his head on my lap and from that day forward, I was his human. I had 9 other dogs at the time, mostly retired greys and he found great comfort in them but he would never let any other human near him.

Eventually, when there were only 2 dogs left, poor Mowgli regressed back into his world of terror. He began to bite people out of fear and the HS worked with me but told me in no uncertain terms, that a dog such as Mowgli, with no human contact in his early years exhibiting his fear would never be placed today and would be euthanized. They advised me that I had to do just that, they in fact told me, at one of our home visits, that if he bit someone who sued me, they would testify against me.

After 7 years of loving Mowgli, and caring for him, I had no choice but to have them come to my house and put him to sleep. Let me tell you, it was the hardest day of my life. I still cry when I think of him, he was SO good with me.

I implore you to support HB 1624, and any future bills which may end our inhumane treatment of our beloved companion animals.

Thank you very sincerely for your attention,

Margo Santoro



Testimony by: Lisa Dennison
In Support of: HB 1624
Committee: House Environment and Agriculture Committee
Date: January 21, 2010

Good Afternoon,

My name is Lisa Dennison and I am the president of the New Hampshire Federation of Humane Organizations. I am also the Executive Director of the NHSPCA and have been with the organization for the past fifteen years. During that time, I have seen numerous cases of cruelty and neglect from individuals who are breeding dogs to sell without concern for their well-being.

It is heart-wrenching to witness, filthy dogs, matted, infested with parasites and at times with infected wounds and painfully thin arrive terrified. It takes a team of staff and volunteers to remove the animals, transport them and admit them for an unknown period of time.

It is not uncommon, in fact the norm, that the animals will be with us for months through their rehabilitation and then wait, month after month for the courts to make a determination on their outcomes. The burden on the shelter is enormous. The animals from these large seizures occupy large numbers of kennels crippling the ability of the agency to perform its routine work. The resources required daily to care for these animals, perform the medical care that is necessary and keep the animals healthy both mentally and physically is challenging during long-term stays. The costs mount and it is the shelters that bear the burden. The NHSPCA is still awaiting payment from the Town of Epping for the 19 Italian Greyhounds that were removed from a hot attic in Epping in July 2007. They were living in their own feces with 2-3 puppies per crate and no means of water or fresh air. The costs to the agency exceeded \$17,000 and though the horrific case of the English and French Bulldogs took place in Bedford in 2003, we have still not been paid through probation for the balance of the bill (\$10,000) as the defendant found guilty on numerous counts of cruelty has left the state.

Some of the recent cases include the removal of 48 Pitbulls from Northwood. After the initial case was resolved, we needed to return and remove an additional ten animals most, never socialized and so crippled with fear that even after weeks of gentle care they could not tolerate being looked at or touched. They lost their lives due to their cruel history that didn't consider the social needs of these animals. Under HB 1624, it would have been illegal.

The costs to the agency are not just in dollars but also the emotional burden placed on staff as we care for these animals that have suffered tremendously and then languish for long periods of time.

New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

PO Box 196 • 104 Portsmouth Avenue • Stratham, NH 03885 • Telephone (603) 772-2921 • Fax (603) 778-7804
www.nhspca.org

These are just a few of the hardships to both animals and the agencies that care for them. I encourage you to support HB 1624 and make the welfare of the animals a priority. Thank you.


Lisa Dennison, Executive Director

NHSPCA

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Thank you Madame Chair and members of the Environment and Agriculture Committee for hearing my testimony today.

For the record my name is Joyce Arivella. I am here on behalf of Dog Owners of the Granite State. DOGS is a NH registered non-profit corporation for which I serve as President. I am also a member of the NH Governor's Commission for the Humane Treatment of Animals (although I don't speak for them), Chair of the Obedience Committee for the Newfoundland Club of America; a Director on the board of the Tracking Club of Massachusetts, and a member in good standing of Souhegan Kennel Club and the Newfoundland Club of New England.

I would like to start by telling you how I think this bill will affect all dog owners, not just breeders. In section IV the bill explains the meaning of "person". My concern is that part of that meaning is "any individual," which means any dog owner. First of all a breeder is much less likely to have an accidental litter but a "person" in the general public has a good chance of it if they are not vigilant or do not understand animal husbandry. Some can have 5 intact bitches and think they are safe because they don't have a male. One accidental first heat litter (under 1 year old) and suddenly they could easily now have 12 or more dogs and they can't place them all before they are 4 months old. Suddenly they have broken 2 of the laws in this bill. Even a breeder could have a problem. I own 4 intact dogs and breed one, she has 10 puppies. As a responsible breeder and dog owner I will generally keep my puppies for 10 – 12 weeks. If I have placed only 2 puppies before they are 16 weeks old this bill would then make me guilty of a misdemeanor and this would be just the beginning of my problems.

The Rules, including Rule 1702 which is referenced in this bill are meant to apply to businesses, not to private homes. These rules would now dictate how I have to set up my home, what types of flooring I need to have and how I'd need to regulate the temperature in my house. We don't even have these kinds of restrictions on parents for their children. This would mean animal rights activists, in their zeal to "protect" animals are demanding that animals be treated better than children. Can you imagine the reaction if a bill were introduced to force our children to go outside and exercise for one hour a day, even for 15 or 30 minutes? Our kids would call the Dept of Social Services. Some kids might consider it cruel that they have to sleep on the top bunk of the bed, but if someone tried to introduce a bill on these issues to "help" children I wonder how many legislators would take it into consideration? Lastly, infant boys are not circumcised under general anesthesia, yet no one is introducing a bill to change that either.

I'm not sure where this 4 month age cut off comes in. This seems to be laying the groundwork for a mandatory early castration bill. Bitches can not be bred at 4 months old. A bitch first comes into heat between 6 and 12 months. Four months is far too young to castrate any dog. There are numerous studies and proof that early castration significantly shortens a canine's life and the chances of cancer are greatly increased. Whoever is using four months as a cut off point on whether a bitch will be bred obviously doesn't know or understand animal husbandry. Even in one breed each individual dog has different requirements.

NH has excellent cruelty laws. Those few that don't follow them are prosecuted. Making more laws will only restrict good breeders and dog owners. Those that don't care about our current cruelty laws will care even less about more restrictions. Fortunately those people are few in NH. There are approximately 150,000 licensed dogs in NH. Yet there were less than 10 cruelty convictions of owners of multiple dogs between 2003 and 2008 according to the survey results listed in Appendix D of the 2008 Cost Analysis of Animal Cruelty in NH report submitted to the Governor from the Governor's Commission for the Humane Treatment of Animals. These convictions are overwhelmingly pet owners, not breeders. Approximately .0067% of all NH dog owners, which includes breeders, are breaking our current cruelty laws.

Just for illustration, the American Kennel Club reports that, between 2007 and 2009, 1360 people in New Hampshire bred 5469 litters. The breakdown for numbers show that 38% bred only 1 litter in that three year period; 35% bred 2 to 3 litters; and only 30% bred more than an average of one litter a year. In 2009 alone, 558 dogs owned by New Hampshire residents earned an AKC title of some sort including 193 conformation championships, 239 Agility titles, 230 Obedience and Rally titles, and one New Hampshire owned and bred dog became only the second dog in the nation to become Versatile Companion Dog Champion which is awarded to any dog that becomes an Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH), a Master Agility Champion (MACH), and is awarded a Champion Tracker (CT) title.

Dog license fees are supposed to go to animal control. If they aren't used by the end of the year, the money is rolled into the town's general fund. License fees range from \$4.50 to \$7.00 with \$2.00 on top to do the state spay/neuter fund and .50¢ of each license goes to the veterinary diagnostic laboratory.

That means that every year, dog owners pay:

\$300,000 to the spay/neuter fund

\$75,000 to the veterinary diagnostic laboratory

Between \$600,000 (if all dogs were castrated) to \$975,000 (if all dogs were intact) to pay for animal control for all animals, not just dogs, in New Hampshire.

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XLV/466/466-mrg.htm>

Next, I must comment on 437:25. This states that a duly appointed agent of any humane society, animal control officer or SPCA will be authorized to investigate complaints made pursuant to this section. I want this committee to know that no training is required for animal control officers in NH. Even police officers are not required to meet any standards or have any education in animal husbandry or cruelty. This has been discussed by the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals. It is generally agreed by the Commission that education is the best way to deal with cruelty.

Also, to my knowledge, very few humane society investigators have been deputized. Therefore, they are not trained in law enforcement and do not meet the requirements for law enforcement. If they are not deputized, they should not be trying to enforce the law. They should also not be deputized without the proper training. Just because we are dealing with animals does not mean that just anyone can do this job. Proper training is important for any job to be done well.

Having said that, part of my handout is a list of the licensed shelters and rescues (considered shelters in NH). I have heard testimony that there are 84 shelters in this state. This bill would allow for any of them to investigate complaints pursuant to this section. No training is required to open a rescue or shelter, none, no animal training whatsoever. Is this who we want investigating these complaints?

For your reading pleasure, I have also included AKC statistics on the number of litters registered in NH over the last three years. There is a list of how many NH dogs have earned titles during that time as well. This shows how seriously breeders take their responsibilities of bettering the breed or breeds they love. They care about producing healthy, happy puppies that can go on to live long lives in forever homes. Breeders actually care whether their dogs do the work they were bred to do or if they train for and participate in obedience, agility, rally, tracking or search and rescue. Almost 100% of NH breeders and owners are responsible and properly care for their animals. We don't need more laws when the current laws are being followed just fine.

AKC statistics on the numbers of litters registered in New Hampshire annually.

- 5469 litters have been registered to 1360 NH households for the 3-year period beginning January 2007. They break down as follows:
 - 1 litter – 474 households
 - 2 litters – 367
 - 3 litters – 108
 - 4 litters – 117
 - 5 litters – 47
 - 6 litters – 52
 - 7+ litters – 195

- 558 titles were earned by NH dogs in 2009. Attached is a spreadsheet showing the by-title breakdown.

	A	B	C	D
1	Titles earned in 2009 by New Hampshire dogs			
2	Event Type	Title Code	Title Desc	Total
3	Conformation	CH	Champion	193
4	Conf, FT/LC, Herding	DC	Dual Champion	1
5	Agility	AJP	Excellent Agility Jumper Preferred	4
6	Agility	AX	Agility Excellent	8
7	Agility	AXJ	Excellent Agility Jumper	15
8	Agility	AXP	Agility Excellent Preferred	4
9	Agility	MACH	Master Agility Champion	8
10	Agility	MACH2	Master Agility Champion 2	4
11	Agility	MACH3	Master Agility Champion 3	3
12	Agility	MACH4	Master Agility Champion 4	1
13	Agility	MACH12	Master Agility Champion 12	1
14	Agility	MACH13	Master Agility Champion 13	1
15	Agility	MJP3	Master Excellent Jumper Preferred 3	1
16	Agility	MJP4	Master Excellent Jumper Preferred 4	2
17	Agility	MJP6	Master Excellent Jumper Preferred 6	1
18	Agility	MJP7	Master Excellent Jumper Preferred 7	1
19	Agility	MJP8	Master Excellent Jumper Preferred 8	1
20	Agility	MJP9	Master Excellent Jumper Preferred 9	1
21	Agility	MX	Master Agility Excellent	11
22	Agility	MXF	Agility Master FAST Excellent	4
23	Agility	MXJ	Master Excellent Jumper	10
24	Agility	MXP3	Master Agility Excellent Preferred 3	1
25	Agility	MXP4	Master Agility Excellent Preferred 4	1
26	Agility	NA	Novice Agility	22
27	Agility	NAJ	Novice Agility Jumper	24
28	Agility	NAP	Novice Agility Preferred	11
29	Agility	NF	Agility FAST Novice	18
30	Agility	NFP	Agility FAST Novice Preferred	4
31	Agility	NJP	Novice Agility Jumper Preferred	13
32	Agility	OA	Open Agility	17
33	Agility	OAJ	Open Agility Jumper	9
34	Agility	OAP	Open Agility Preferred	7
35	Agility	OF	Agility FAST Open	7
36	Agility	OFF	Agility FAST Open Preferred	3
37	Agility	OJP	Open Agility Jumper Preferred	7
38	Agility	PAX	Preferred Agility Excellent	2
39	Agility	XF	Agility FAST Excellent	12
40	Earthdog	JE	Junior Earthdog	3
41	Earthdog	ME	Master Earthdog	1
42	Earthdog	SE	Senior Earthdog	3
43	Field Trial	AFC	Amateur Field Champion	1
44	Field Trial	FC	Field Champion	6
45	Herding Trial	HIAS	Herding Intermediate Course A Sheep	1
46	Herding Trial	HSAD	Herding Started Course A Ducks	2
47	Herding Trial	HSAS	Herding Started Course A Sheep	3
48	Herding Test	HT	Herding Tested	2
49	Herding Test	IT	Instinct Tested	9
50	Herding Test	PT	Pre-Trial Tested	3
51	Hunt Test	JH	Junior Hunter	16
52	Hunt Test	MH	Master Hunter	5
53	Hunt Test	SH	Senior Hunter	17
54	Lure Coursing Trial	FC	Field Champion	1

	A	B	C	D
55	Lure Coursing Trial	MC	Master Courser	2
56	Obedience	CD	Companion Dog	32
57	Obedience	CDX	Companion Dog Excellent	14
58	Obedience	OM1	Obedience Master 1	6
59	Obedience	OM2	Obedience Master 2	4
60	Obedience	OM3	Obedience Master 3	1
61	Obedience	OTCH	Obedience Trial Champion	3
62	Obedience	UD	Utility Dog	6
63	Obedience	UDX	Utility Dog Excellent	3
64	Obedience	UDX13	Utility Dog Excellent 13	1
65	Obedience	UDX14	Utility Dog Excellent 14	1
66	Obedience	UDX2	Utility Dog Excellent 2	3
67	Rally	RA	Rally Advanced	38
68	Rally	RAE	Rally Advanced Excellent	4
69	Rally	RE	Rally Excellent	25
70	Rally	RN	Rally Novice	89
71	Tracking	TD	Tracking Dog	5
72	Versatile Companion Dog	VCCH	Versatile Companion Dog Champion	1
73	Versatile Companion Dog	VCD1	Versatile Companion Dog 1	2
74	Versatile Companion Dog	VCD2	Versatile Companion Dog 2	1
75	Versatile Companion Dog	VCD3	Versatile Companion Dog 3	1
76	Versatile Companion Dog	VCD4	Versatile Companion Dog 4	2
77	Variable Surface Tracking	CT	Champion Tracker	1
78	Variable Surface Tracking	VST	Variable Surface Tracker	1
79				558

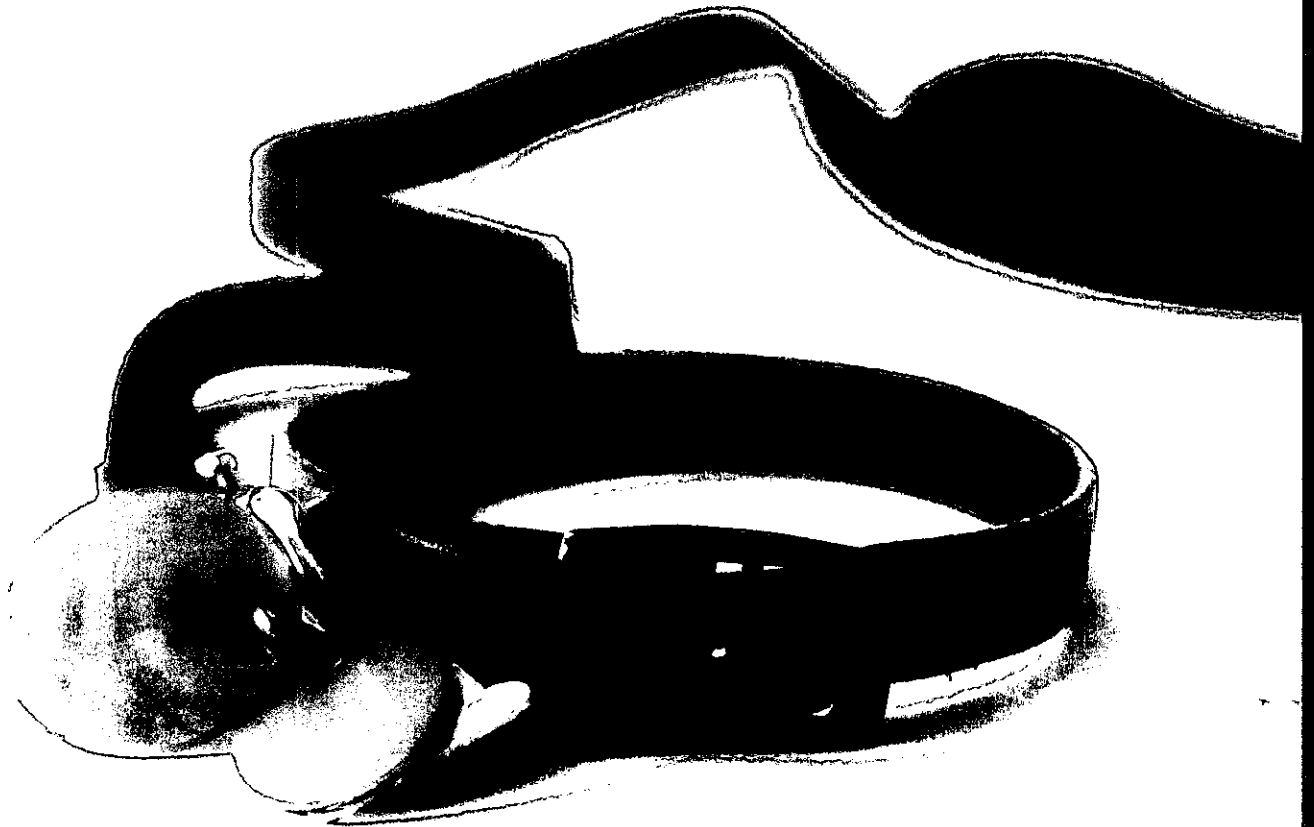
TYPE OF LICENSE	BUSINESS NAME	LOCATION	CITY	STATE	ZIP
BROKER	CANINE GUARDIANS FOR LIFE INC	P O BOX 304	WOLFEBORO	NH	03894
BROKER	GOT ORPHANS TRANSPORTERS	1425 COLE DEADING RD	SCOTT	AZ	72142
BROKER	MY BUDDYS COMING HOME PET TRANSP SVC, LLC	282 SPRING CHASE CIRCLE	KATHLEEN	GA	31047
BROKER	PETS LLC (PETERSON EXPRESS TRANSP SVC)	P O BOX 3302	COOKEVILLE	TN	38502
BROKER	PORT-A-PUPS TRANSPORT	1785 CENTERPOINT DR	MASON	TN	38049
BROKER	PUPPY RAILROAD RESCUE	17 NORTHFIELD RD	HINSDALE	NH	03451
BROKER	RESCUE RIDERS TRANSPORT LLC	P O BOX 1155	HILLSBORO	NH	03244
BROKER	RESCUEROADTRIPS.COM	P O BOX 107	WHITE COTTAGE	OH	43791
CMRCL KNL	BROOKS BEAUTIFUL BULLDOGS	8 DEE DEE DR	SANDOWN	NH	03873
CMRCL KNL	CORBETT CREEK FARM	808 JAFFREY RD	MARLBOROUGH	NH	03455
CMRCL KNL	CRABAPPLE DOWNS	47 MILLS RD	COLEBROOK	NH	03576
CMRCL KNL	IRONWORKS BULLIES	57 CRYSTAL LAKE RD	GILMANTON IW	NH	03837
PET SHOP	ALL CRITTERS CORNER	10 THIRD STREET	DOVER	NH	03820
PET SHOP	AMHERST GARDEN CTR & FLOWER SHOP	305 ROUTE 101	AMHERST	NH	03031
PET SHOP	ANNIE'S PLACE	243 JENNISON RD	MILFORD	NH	03055
PET SHOP	AQUA ADDICTS LLC	52 LOWELL RD	SALEM	NH	03079
PET SHOP	BARGAINWORLD	235 OCEAN BLVD	HAMPTON BEACH	NH	03842
PET SHOP	BEN FRANKLIN STORE	15 FREETOWN ROAD	RAYMOND	NH	03077
PET SHOP	BIG FISH LITTLE FISH AQUATICS	345 SUNCOOK VALLEY RD	CHICHESTER	NH	03258
PET SHOP	BIRD SUPPLY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE LLC	522 AMHERST ST	NASHUA	NH	03063
PET SHOP	BLUE SEAL FEEDS	274 ELM ST	MILFORD	NH	03055
PET SHOP	BLUE SEAL FEEDS INC	275 PORTLAND ST	ROCHESTER	NH	03867
PET SHOP	BREEDERS CONNECTION & PET SUPPLIES	2 OUR WAY	NORTHWOOD	NH	03261
PET SHOP	BRIARBROOK KENNEL	9 EATON ROAD	PITTSFIELD	NH	03263
PET SHOP	BROOKSTONE COMPANY # 114	1500 S WILLOW ST	MANCHESTER	NH	03103
PET SHOP	BROOKSTONE COMPANY # 158	THE MALL AT ROCKINGHAM PK #W-221	SALEM	NH	03079
PET SHOP	BROOKSTONE COMPANY # 68	310 DANIEL WEBSTER HWY	NASHUA	NH	03060
PET SHOP	BROOKSTONE COMPANY # 87	RT 16 R 302	N CONWAY	NH	03860
PET SHOP	CLAREMONT PET & AQUARIUM CENTER	203 WASHINGTON STREET	CLAREMONT	NH	03743
PET SHOP	COLEBROOK FEEDS	84 COLBY STREET	COLBROOK	NH	03576
PET SHOP	CONCORD AGWAY	258 SHEEP DAVIS ROAD	CONCORD	NH	03301
PET SHOP	CV EXOTICS INC	320 SANDOWN RD, UNIT 2	E HAMPSTEAD	NH	03826
PET SHOP	DAVE'S DRAGONS LLC	679 MAST RD	MANCHESTER	NH	03102
PET SHOP	DEBBY'S PET LAND	310 DANIEL WEBSTER HWY	NASHUA	NH	03060
PET SHOP	DEBBY'S PET LAND	1500 S WILLOW ST	MANCHESTER	NH	03103
PET SHOP	EVERYTHING DOG & CAT OF KEENE	222 WEST ST SUITE 28	KEENE	NH	03431
PET SHOP	FAMILY PET & AQUARIUM OF NASHUA INC	379 AMHERST STREET	NASHUA	NH	03063
PET SHOP	GAMEKEEPER KENNEL	30 HIGH ST	NEW BOSTON	NH	03070
PET SHOP	GLORY B FARM / KENNEL CO	175 LUCAS POND ROAD	NORTHWOOD	NH	03261
PET SHOP	HELEN MORGENSTERN	125 OCEAN BOULEVARD #11-12	HAMPTON BEACH	NH	03842
PET SHOP	HOOKSETT AGWAY	343 LONDONDERRY TPK	HOOKSETT	NH	03106
PET SHOP	JAY'S AQUATICS	10 LAWRENCE RD	SALEM	NH	03079
PET SHOP	JAY'S MONITORS	139 SOUTH ST #2	LITTLETON	NH	03561
PET SHOP	LACONIA PET CENTER LLC	1343 UNION AVENUE	LACONIA	NH	03246
PET SHOP	LEBANON PET & AQUARIUM CENTER	196 SOUTH MAIN STREET	WEST LEBANON	NH	03784

PET SHOP	LITTLE CRITTER PET	558 MEADOW ST	LITTLETON	NH	03561
PET SHOP	LITTLE CRITTER PET CENTERS	15 FREETOWN RD	RAYMOND	NH	03077
PET SHOP	LITTLE CRITTER PET CENTERS	81 PORTSMOUTH AVE	EXETER	NH	03833
PET SHOP	LITTLE SHOP OF PETS	2909 LAFAYETTE RD	PORTSMOUTH	NH	03801
PET SHOP	MRS MITCHELLS	285 OCEAN BOULEVARD BOX 193	HAMPTON BEACH	NH	03842
PET SHOP	NATURE' S COURSE	FOX RUN MALL 50 FOX RUN RD	NEWINGTON	NH	03801
PET SHOP	NORTHEAST DISCOUNT PET CTR	49 BRIDGE ST UNIT 5	PELHAM	NH	03076
PET SHOP	ONE STOP COUNTRY PET SUPPLY	149 EMERALD ST SUITE C/E/F	KEENE	NH	03431
PET SHOP	PAINTED WINGZ	23 MAY ST	ENFIELD	NH	03748
PET SHOP	PET CITY LLC	185 LAFAYETTE ROAD	SEABROOK	NH	03874
PET SHOP	PET CONNECTION LLC	50 FOX RUN RD #123	NEWINGTON	NH	03801
PET SHOP	PET JUNCTION LLC	140 RTE 108	SOMERSWORTH	NH	03878
PET SHOP	PET PARADE	12B UNIT #2 MAIN ST	CTR HARBOR	NH	03226
PET SHOP	PET PARADISE	36 LILAC MALL	ROCHESTER	NH	03867
PET SHOP	PET PARADISE	96 DANIEL WEBSTER HWY	BELMONT	NH	03220
PET SHOP	PET QUARTERS	377 S WILLOW ST	MANCHESTER	NH	03103
PET SHOP	PET QUARTERS	45 GOSLING RD	NEWINGTON	NH	03801
PET SHOP	PET QUARTERS	1584 WHITE MOUNTAIN HWY	N CONWAY	NH	03860
PET SHOP	PET SUPPLIES PLUS	1328 HOOKSETT RD	HOOKSETT	NH	03106
PET SHOP	PETCO #1824	55-63 KEY ROAD	KEENE	NH	03431
PET SHOP	PETCO #281	92 CLUFF CROSSING	SALEM	NH	03079
PET SHOP	PETCO #3709	123 RTE 101A #B	AMHERST	NH	03031
PET SHOP	PETCO #742	1049 S WILLOW ST	MANCHESTER	NH	03103
PET SHOP	PETCO #743	7 EAST DESILVIO DR	NASHUA	NH	03060
PET SHOP	PETCO #761	9 PLAISTOW RD RTE 125	PLAISTOW	NH	03865
PET SHOP	PETCO #865	35 FORT EDDY RD	CONCORD	NH	03301
PET SHOP	PETLAND	893 HANOVER ST	MANCHESTER	NH	03104
PET SHOP	PETSMART #1166	290 S BROADWAY	SALEM	NH	03076
PET SHOP	PETSMART #1494	4 CELLO DR	NASHUA	NH	03063
PET SHOP	PETSMART #1593	299 LOUDON RD	CONCORD	NH	03301
PET SHOP	PETSMART #1869	777 S WILLOW ST	MANCHESTER	NH	03103
PET SHOP	PETSMART #788	213 DANIEL WEBSTER HWY	NASHUA	NH	03060
PET SHOP	SEA WORLD PET CENTER	356 SOUTH BROADWAY	SALEM	NH	03079
PET SHOP	SHIRTSWORKS	105 OCEAN BOULEVARD	HAMPTON BEACH	NH	03842
PET SHOP	STEVE'S PET SHOPPE	55 MECHANIC STREET	LEBANON	NH	03766
PET SHOP	TEMPLE EMPORIUM	128 WEST RD	TEMPLE	NH	03084
PET SHOP	THE FISH BOWL	31 UNION SQUARE	MILFORD	NH	03055
PET SHOP	THE PUPPY BREEDER CONNECTION	69 MAIN ST	RAYMOND	NH	03077
PET SHOP	THE PUPPY PALACE LLC	375 S BROADWAY	SALEM	NH	03079
PET SHOP	THE PUPPY STORE	1292 HOOKSETT RD	HOOKSETT	NH	03106
PET SHOP	TRACTOR SUPPLY CO #1168	515 DANIEL WEBSTER HWY STE A	MERRIMACK	NH	03045
PET SHOP	TRACTOR SUPPLY CO #1247	630 W MAIN ST STE 900	TILTON	NH	03276
PET SHOP	TRACTOR SUPPLY CO #1253	191 ELM ST UNIT 1	MILFORD	NH	03055
PET SHOP	TRACTOR SUPPLY CO #1260	683 MEADOW ST	LITTLETON	NH	03561
PET SHOP	TRACTOR SUPPLY CO #1305	491 MAIN ST	GORHAM	NH	03581
PET SHOP	TRACTOR SUPPLY CO #1326	307 DOVER RD	CHICHESTER	NH	03258
PET SHOP	TRACTOR SUPPLY CO #1372	55 CRYSTAL AVE UNIT 17A	DERRY	NH	03038

PET SHOP	TRI CITY AQUARIUM	100 TRI CITY PLAZA	SOMERSWORTH	NH	03878
PET SHOP	WALMART #1749	430 HIGH ST	SOMERSWORTH	NH	03878
PET SHOP	WALMART #1753	30 MANCHESTER RD	DERRY	NH	03038
PET SHOP	WALMART #1762	270 LAFAYETTE ROAD	SEABROOK	NH	03874
PET SHOP	WALMART #1796	85 ROUTE 101A	AMHERST	NH	03031
PET SHOP	WALMART #1975	14 BOWEN ST	CLAREMONT	NH	03743
PET SHOP	WALMART #2055	344 LOUDON RD	CONCORD	NH	03301
PET SHOP	WALMART #2130	2460 LAFAYETTE RD	PORTSMOUTH	NH	03801
PET SHOP	WALMART #2138	285 PLAINFIELD RD	W LEBANON	NH	03784
PET SHOP	WALMART #2140	46 N SOUTH RD	N CONWAY	NH	03860
PET SHOP	WALMART #2142	300-344 N BROADWAY	SALEM	NH	03079
PET SHOP	WALMART #2330	116 FARMINGTON RD	ROCHESTER	NH	03867
PET SHOP	WALMART #2399	300 KELLER ST	MANCHESTER	NH	03103
PET SHOP	WALMART #2681	615 MEADOW ST	LITTLETON	NH	03561
PET SHOP	WALMART #2758	683 TENNEY MOUNTAIN HWY	PLYMOUTH	NH	03264
PET SHOP	WALMART #3535	35 FRESH RIVER RD	EPPING	NH	03042
PET SHOP	YANKEE PET & SUPPLY	648 JOHN STARK HIWY	NEWPORT	NH	03773
PET SHOP	ZOO CREATURES	149 PLAISTOW RD	PLAISTOW	NH	03865
SHELTER	4 LIL PAWS FERRET SHELTER	49 PRESCOTT RD	BRENTWOOD	NH	03833
SHELTER	ABOVE AND BEYOND ENGLISH SETTER RESCUE	94 GROVE RD	RYE	NH	03870
SHELTER	ADAR ANIMAL RESCUE	1445 HATFIELD ROAD	HOPKINTON	NH	03229
SHELTER	ALMOST HOME RESCUE	P O BOX 9421 #377	S PORTLAND	ME	04116
SHELTER	AMERICAN LAB RESCUE INC	PO BOX 215	WILLINGTON	CT	06279
SHELTER	ANIMAL ALLIES	13 MELISSA CIRCLE	PELHAM	NH	03032
SHELTER	ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF NH	545 ROUTE 101	BEDFORD	NH	03110
SHELTER	BEV'S DOG SHELTER	289 COTTON VALLEY RD	WOLFEBORO	NH	03894
SHELTER	BIG FLUFFY DOG RESCUE	54 ALLEN ST	MANCHESTER	NH	03102
SHELTER	BIRCH HILL KENNELS	343 TILTON RD	NORTHFIELD	NH	03276
SHELTER	CANDIA ANIMAL SHELTER	472 RAYMOND ROAD	CANDIA	NH	03034
SHELTER	CATS 1ST	4 BAKER ST	NEWFIELDS	NH	03856
SHELTER	COCHECO VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY	262 COUNTY FARM RD	DOVER	NH	03820
SHELTER	COMMUNITY ANIMAL RESCUE & ADOPTION (C.A.R.A.)	322 GRAFTON TURNPIKE RD	CANAAN	NH	03741
SHELTER	CONCORD-MERRIMACK COUNTY SPCA	130 WASHINGTON ST	PENACOOK	NH	03303
SHELTER	CONWAY AREA HUMANE SOCIETY	223 EAST MAIN ST	CONWAY	NH	03818
SHELTER	DOBERMAN RESCUE UNLIMITED INC	52 TENNEY RD	SANDOWN	NH	03873
SHELTER	FAST FRIENDS	14 WEST SWANZEY RD	SWANZEY	NH	03446
SHELTER	FELINE FRIENDS RESCUE / ADOPTION LEAGUE	3 JONATHAN HEIGHTS	SALEM	NH	03079
SHELTER	FOR THE LOVE OF DOG	98 CLINTON RD	ANTRIM	NH	03440
SHELTER	FREEDOM PAWS FOSTER & RESCUE	42 NEW CHESTER RD	HILL	NH	03243
SHELTER	FRIENDS OF HOMELESS ANIMALS INC	P O BOX 3475	OCEAN CITY	MD	21843
SHELTER	GERMAN SHEPARD RESCUE OF NEW ENGLAND INC	29 DAVISVILLE RD	WILTON	NH	03086
SHELTER	GRANITE STATE ANIMAL LEAGUE	71 PUNCH BROOK ROAD	FRANKLIN	NH	03235
SHELTER	GREATER DERRY HUMANE SOCIETY	57 LAWRENCE ROAD	DERRY	NH	03041
SHELTER	GREYHOUND PLACEMENT SERVICE INC	265 MAST ROAD	GOFFSTOWN	NH	03045
SHELTER	HAPPY DOGS OF NEW ENGLAND INC	9 BUTTONWOOD DR	DERRY	NH	03038
SHELTER	HOLLIS TOWN KENNEL	MUZZEY ROAD	HOLLIS	NH	03049
SHELTER	HOMeward BOUND PROJECT	111 RESERVATION RD	DEERFIELD	NH	03037

SHELTER	HUMANE SOCIETY OF GREATER NASHUA	24 FERRY ROAD	NASHUA	NH	03064
SHELTER	KINGSTON POLICE DEPT	16 MAIN STREET	KINGSTON	NH	03848
SHELTER	LAKES REGION HUMANE SOCIETY	11 OLD RTE 28	OSSIPEE	NH	03864
SHELTER	LANCASTER HUMANE SOCIETY	62 MARTIN MEADOW POND RD	LANCASTER	NH	03584
SHELTER	LIBBYS HAVEN FOR SENIOR CANINES	108 WEST RD	CANTERBURY	NH	03224
SHELTER	LIVE & LET LIVE FARM	20 PARADISE LN	CHICHESTER	NH	03258
SHELTER	LONE STAR PYRS & PAWS	513 CASH ST	CROYDEN	NH	03773
SHELTER	MANCHESTER ANIMAL SHELTER	490 DUNBARTON RD	MANCHESTER	NH	03102
SHELTER	MONADNOCK HUMANE SOCIETY	101 W SWANZEY RD	WEST SWANZEY	NH	03469
SHELTER	MONADNOCK KITTY RESCUE & ADOPTION	11 PLANTATION DR	JAFFREY	NH	03452
SHELTER	NATIONAL BRITTANY RESCUE & ADOPTION NETWORK	236 DAME HILL RD	ORFORD	NH	03777
SHELTER	NEW ENGLAND BRITTANY RESCUE INC	659 RTE 113	N SANDWICH	NH	03259
SHELTER	NH HUMANE SOCIETY	1305 MEREDITH CENTER RD	LACONIA	NH	03246
SHELTER	NHSPCA	104 PORTSMOUTH AVE	STRATHAM	NH	03885
SHELTER	NORTH COUNTRY HUMANE SOCIETY	270 US RTE 3	COLUMBIA	NH	03590
SHELTER	NORTH WOODS ANIMAL RESCUE INC	266 WHITE ST RTE 110	BERLIN	NH	03570
SHELTER	PATRIOT LAB & ALL BREED RESCUE	495 ABBOT HILL RD	WILTON	NH	03086
SHELTER	PEACE AND PAWS	PO BOX 1155	HILLSBORO	NH	03244
SHELTER	PEACEABLE KINGDOM ANIMAL RESCUE	42 CHAMBERLAIN ST	ROCHESTER	NH	03867
SHELTER	PELHAM POLICE ANIMAL CONTROL	100 SIMPSON MILL RD	PELHAM	NH	03076
SHELTER	PETS IN NEED ANIMAL RESCUE	PO BOX 123	DRACUT	MA	01826
SHELTER	PUPPY ANGELS INC	406 POVERTY PLAINS RD	WARNER	NH	03278
SHELTER	REGAP OF NH-YANKEE GREYHOUND RACING INC	218 NEW ZEALAND RD	SEABROOK	NH	03874
SHELTER	RIVER VALLEY ANIMAL PROTECTION LEAGUE	23 MAIN ST	CHARLESTOWN	NH	03603
SHELTER	ROSEMONT LABRADORS	13 ROSEMONT DR	HINSDALE	NH	03451
SHELTER	SALEM ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE	4 SARL RD	SALEM	NH	03079
SHELTER	SARGENTS KENNEL	40 HARRIMAN RD	PLAISTOW	NH	03865
SHELTER	SAVE YOUR ASS LONG EAR RESCUE	23 SAW MILL RD	S ACWORTH	NH	03607
SHELTER	SAVIN 'EM ALL ANIMAL RESCUE	2854 TOWNSHIP RD 180	FREDERICKTOWN	OH	43019
SHELTER	SEACOAST AREA FELINE EDUCATION AND RESCUE	85 LOCKE ROAD	HAMPTON	NH	03842
SHELTER	SECOND CHANCE SATO RESCUE	22 APPLEWOOD LN	TEMPLE	NH	03084
SHELTER	SUNSHINE GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE	201 WHITE MOUNTAIN HIWY	CHOCORUA	NH	03817
SHELTER	THE BARKING DOG, LTD	208 LONDONDERRY TPK	HOOKSETT	NH	03106
SHELTER	THE WYNN DOG RESCUE	79 TOWN FARM ROAD	JAFFREY	NH	03652
SHELTER	TOWN OF HAVERHILL DOG KENNEL	2975 DARTMOUTH HWY	N HAVERHILL	NH	03774
SHELTER	TOWN OF HUDSON ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY	6 CONSTITUTION DRIVE	HUDSON	NH	03051
SHELTER	TOWN OF LITCHFIELD ANIMAL SHELTER	INCINERATOR ROAD	LITCHFIELD	NH	03052
SHELTER	TOWN OF SALEM NH DOG KENNEL/SHELTER	344 S BROADWAY RTE 28	SALEM	NH	03079
SHELTER	TWIN STATE HUMANE SOCIETY	366 DANIELS ROAD	PIKE	NH	03780
SHELTER	UPPER VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY	300 OLD RTE 10	ENFIELD	NH	03748
SHELTER	WHITE MOUNTAIN FOSTER & RESCUE	127 TURNER RD	WENTWORTH	NH	03282
SHELTER	WHITE MOUNTAIN FOSTER & RESCUE	33 EVANS RD	WENTWORTH	NH	03282
SHELTER	WHITE MOUNTAIN FOSTER & RESCUE	97 COUNTRY LAND DR	N HAVERHILL	NH	03774
SHELTER	WHITE MOUNTAIN FOSTER & RESCUE	28 EAST SIDE RD	WENTWORTH	NH	03282
SHELTER	WHITE RIVER ANIMAL RESCUE	28 FLAGG STREET	MARLOW	NH	03456
SHELTER	WOODS KENNELS	8 EXETER RD	N HAMPTON	NH	03862
SHELTER	WOODLAWN KENNELS	406 POVERTY PLAINS RD	WARNER	NH	03278

Where did all the dogs go?



Think it can't happen?

Think again.

If we spay and neuter all dogs and ban all breeding, where will it lead?

Read the fine print when contributing to your pet causes. You may be supporting an animal rights group that equates owning domestic pets to exploitation, which threatens your right to own a dog.

*We're more than champion dogs.
We're the dog's champion.*



**AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®**

www.akc.org

Please vote NO on HB1624

I want to tell you about my concerns regarding HB 1624 An Act relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state--that comes up for a hearing in front of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee this Thursday (1/21/2010).

I am a Swanzey voter, a longtime breeder of champion Collies, a former Board Member of the Monadnock Humane Society, the Treasurer of the Collie Health Foundation and a member in good standing of many dog clubs including the Cheshire Kennel Club, which is based in Keene. I also regularly donate puppies to NEADS in Princeton, MA which is the country's oldest training center for dogs to assist disabled kids and adults.

I am very concerned about HG1624 for many reasons. I believe it is unnecessary – NH already has great anti-cruelty and abuse laws that work well as evidenced by the number of cases prosecuted and won each year in our state.

This law is intrusive. For every hundred great breeders, a couple of bad ones make the news. Breeding dogs is both an art and a science. No two breeds are alike and the state should not try to regulate things like when to breed heat cycles and exercise periods for this reason.

I am concerned about the crating stipulation in this bill as it would inevitably make it impossible for NH to hold dog shows anymore. It is hard to find venues that allow dog shows and since space is at a premium at these events, most people stack their dog crates. Dog shows are a great place for responsible breeders and dog clubs to educate the general public on dog care and training. The Cheshire Kennel Club holds many events, both competitive and educational. From our profits, we annually donate at least \$1,000 (this year it was \$1,500) to the Keene Parks and Rec. Center and have endowed a \$20,000 scholarship fund at UNH.

Here is another example of why the crating provision is bad: Two weeks ago we had spayed a 7 year old retired champion collie bitch who recuperated comfortably and quietly in her huge 700 size crate. On top of her is a 200 size crate with my 8 pound Tibetan Spaniel in it who wears an E-collar as she recuperates from an oozy hot spot on her butt. The small crate is stacked on top of the big crate, not because I'm a bad breeder, but so that the small dog has a view out the window, which is a lot better than the view of my feet walking by 50 times a day. Under this new bill HB 1624, I could be arrested and prosecuted for cruelty.

I am deeply concerned by the provision IV that mandates "Debarking, tail docking, and surgical birth shall be prohibited unless performed under general anesthesia by a licensed veterinarian." I worry that this provision is the first step toward banning de-barking. Did you know that the de-bark procedure is much less invasive than a spay or neuter with a very short recovery time? It is also not cruel, like the alternative of anti-barking shock collars that send a shot of electricity into the dogs neck when it communicates. Please be aware that the

procedure actually softens the bark, it does not make the dog totally silent, so they can still communicate without offending the neighbors.

For some dogs, de-barking is the only way they will be able to stay in their happy homes. Especially when living in apartments and crowded neighborhoods, dogs will bark and neighbors will complain. My breed, the beautiful collie, is a breed that was developed to have a high-pitched bark that carries for miles to let the farmer know there is danger approaching the sheep flock. I can attest to the difficulty of training a dog not to bark, which is their natural instinct to alert their humans of something. The procedure to lower their volume while affording them to communicate is a valuable and valid method to allow dog, owner, and neighborhood to happily co-exist.

New Hampshire's bill HB1624 is eerily similar to the initiative currently sponsored by HSUS and being pushed in Missouri and other states. HSUS has a motto "One generation and out" which means they intend to end all dog breeding. Their 50 state plan to end all animal breeding, ownership and hunting includes New Hampshire. Please do not let the HSUS push their anti-animal agenda in NH.

Sincerely,

Laura LaBounty

1057 Old Homestead Hwy.

East Swanzey, NH 03446

603-352-8597

specialcollies@msn.com

437:25 Duties of the Commissioner.

I. The commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets, and food, or designee, including any duly appointed agent of any humane society, S.P.C.A. incorporated in the state of New Hampshire, or animal control officer, is hereby authorized on the commissioner's own initiative or pursuant to complaints of other persons to investigate complaints made pursuant to this section.

How can untrained shelter people pass any judgment on medical, breeding, or exercise issues or be trusted to investigate fairly with the natural bias all shelters have against breeders who cut into the shelter's share of the pet market?

II. The commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets, and food may adopt rules under RSA 541-A to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

437:26 Penalties.

I. Any person who violates this subdivision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

II. Any person or owner who violates any of the provisions of this subdivision or rule adopted under it may be subject to an administrative fine not to exceed \$1000 for each violation.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2011.

To me this bill looks like an attempt to make breeding into cruelty plus interfere with normal practices of breeding and the relationship between a veterinarian and his or her clients. It mandates cruel housing and is obviously written by someone who really knows nothing about veterinary terminology, practice, or the proper care of dogs.

I see no way to determine the 'crimes' committed under this law actually happened and no way to determine owner intent and no way to determine when a procedure happened or how after the fact.

LBAO

10-2201

12/10/09

HB 1624-FN - FISCAL NOTE

Big problem with this is that vets do not typically have anything to do with dogs before during or after breeding unless there is a problem. The only things vets typically know about breeding is how to do a c-section and how to spay neuter or diagnose an illness. Vets typically don't get a lot of training in normal breeding or animal husbandry at school. I've had a vet call me for help in proper neonatal care when their new breeder client had trouble with a litter.

There is no scientific basis for the 'rest' between heat cycles. In fact it has been proven to be detrimental to the dogs to do so because the uterine changes that take place with the heat cycle when there is no pregnancy leads to a likelihood of infection of the uterus.

III. "Debarking" means the cutting or procuring of the cutting of a dog's vocal cords or the altering, causing or procuring the alteration of any part of a dog's resonance chamber.

Debarking is a medical procedure best left between a vet and their client. Once the procedure is done there is no way to determine who did it or how.

IV. "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, limited liability company, company, corporation, estate, trust, receiver or syndicate, including a commercial kennel, pet shop, and broker.

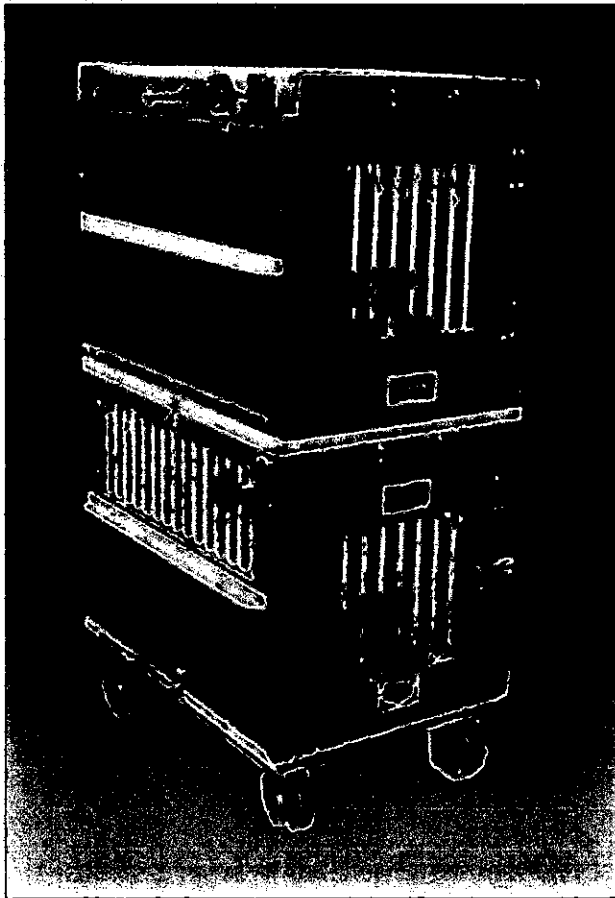
This is relegating private breeders to be the same as commercial breeders and pet stores.

~~V. "Regular exercise" means, at minimum, one period during each day for a total of not less than one hour for each dog over the age of 4 months, which shall include removal from the dog's primary enclosure and which shall allow the dog free mobility for the entire period either by leash walking or providing access to a play area at least 3 feet wide and 20 feet long, but shall not include use of a treadmill, jenny mill, slat mill, or similar device, unless prescribed by a doctor of veterinary medicine to address a specific medical condition.~~ "Regular exercise" means , at minimum, one period during each day for a total of not less than one half hour for each dog over the age of 4 months, which shall include removal from the dog's primary enclosure and which shall allow the dog free mobility for the entire period either by leash walking or providing access to an indoor or outdoor play area, in accordance with guidelines established for the breed, but shall not include use of a treadmill, jenny mill, slat mill, or similar device, unless prescribed by a doctor of veterinary medicine to address a specific medical condition.

Just how is this to be determined? How will compliance be checked for and by whom?

With NH weather a half hour outside could be deadly for a variety of dog breeds. There is no one competent to determine what correct guidelines should be other

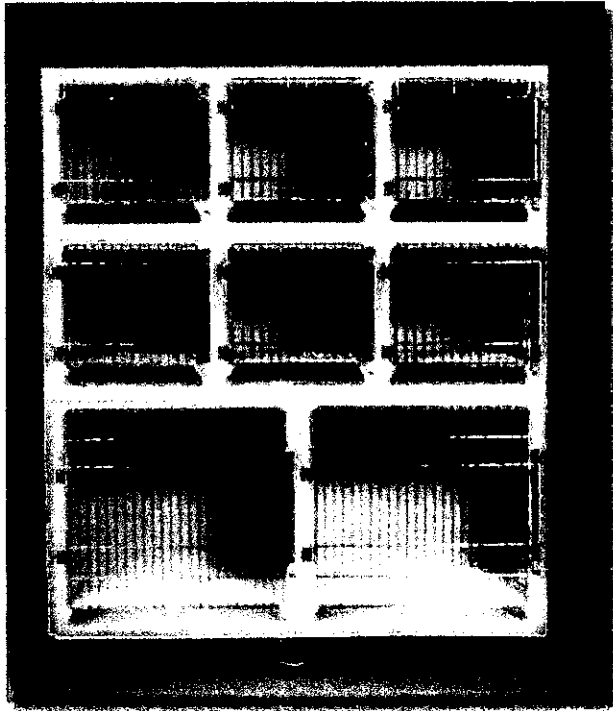
I believe we heard testimony last year about there never being a case where a public defender was available for animal cruelty charges.



Solutions



Typical crate stack for dog show and for home stacking of crates. Note solid floors and secure stacking



Typical stack of cages in shelter, vet office or groomers business



Even Cesar Milan uses treadmills in his training facility to help reduce a hyper dog's energy levels.

<http://www.cesarsway.com/askcesar/overexcitement/Help-Using-the-Treadmill>

Help Using the Treadmill

Hi Cesar!

I have a 95 lb American Bull Terrier, and I purchased a treadmill to help with his exercise since I am somewhat disabled and cannot walk him as much as he should be walked.

However, he is scared to death of the thing, and I am just not strong enough to hold him there and get him used to it. I watch your show all the time and love it! Do you have an in-depth video showing the process in detail? What should I do?

Thanks,

MJ Lindsey

Dear MJ,

A dog doesn't have to run on the treadmill right away. You can give him affection when he sits on the treadmill. He could eat or drink water on the treadmill. You can put his bed on the treadmill. The point is to associate positive feelings with the treadmill in order to remove the fear. Once the dog has overcome his fear, then you can turn it on.

Unfortunately, I haven't yet made a video that specifically demonstrates the various strategies I would use in different cases, when dogs have issues with treadmills; though it's a great idea and something I will strive for!

UPDATE: Cesar made a video! You can now get tips for putting your dog on a treadmill in the *Common Canine Misbehaviors* DVD.

Until then, I can provide the knowledge that it is indeed natural for a dog to fear a moving belt at first, because it is a similar sensation to an earthquake. Hours before humans even know an earthquake is coming, animals sense the vibration in the ground and run away. The key is to find a way to keep the dog on the treadmill until he overcomes that natural fear, realizes that the treadmill is a positive thing, and finally calms down and enjoys it. This can be done with the help of friends. Two or three people can block him in as you turn on the treadmill. Once he gets into a rhythm on the treadmill, he will eventually find it an addictively enjoyable activity.

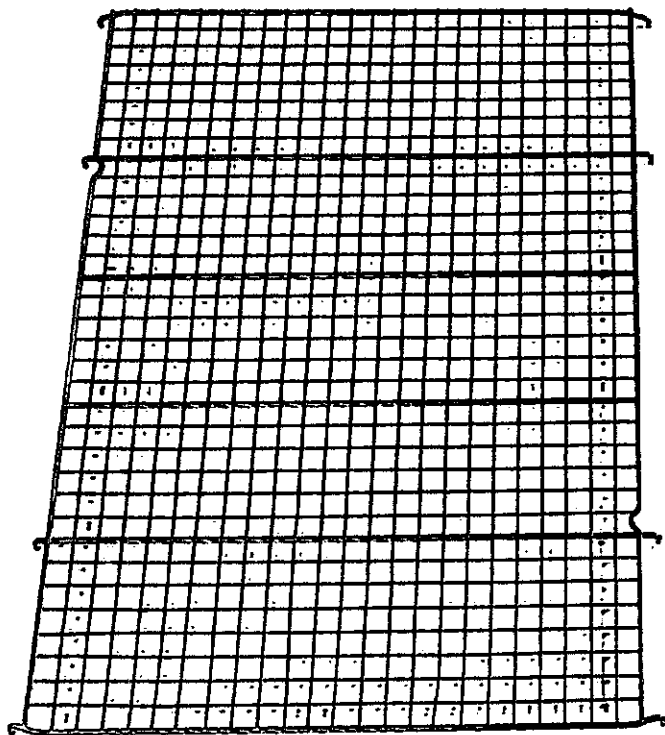
If you do not have enough help to get you past this phase, I would suggest setting the treadmill against the wall. Then you can block the other exits with different objects – a chair or other pieces of furniture. This way, he feels that he has no option but to stay there. Once he stays there long enough, he gets in “the zone” and enjoys it.

Another option is to add a backpack to your dog and walk inside the house with him by your side while you go about your day. The dog becomes more like a service dog and can carry water, rice, beans, books, DVD's ... whatever you need to be carried! Backpacks are available at most major pet stores and should be about 10-12% of the dog's body weight. Consult your veterinarian for a specific weight recommendation.

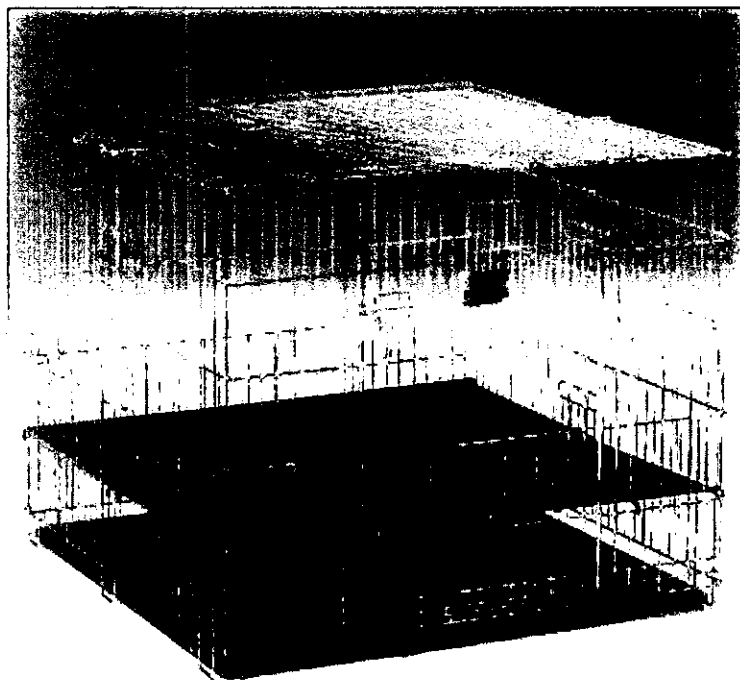
I hope you find the correct professionals and supportive friends to help you, so that eventually, you can do it on your own!

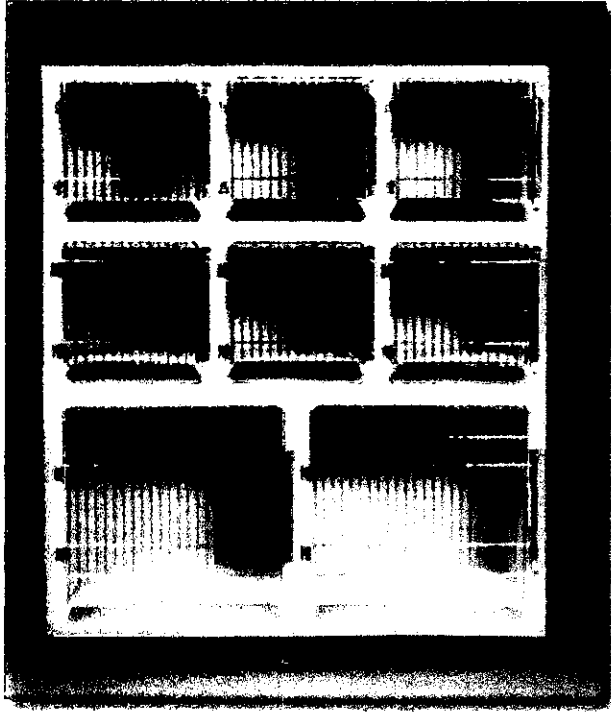
Stay calm and assertive,

Cesar Millan

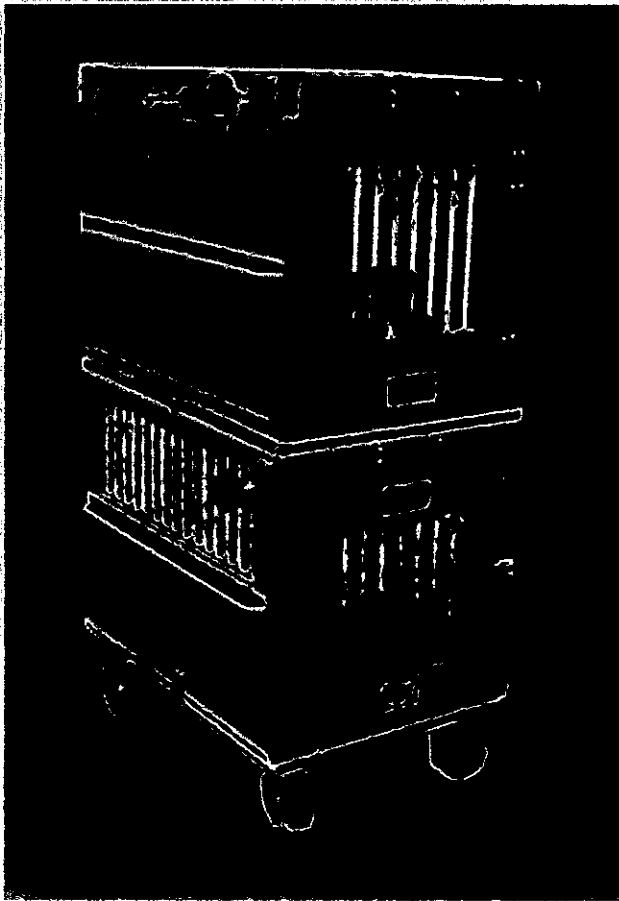


Grid from raised puppy pen below





Typical stack of cages in shelter, vet office or groomers business



Solutions



Typical crate stack for dog show and for home stacking of crates. Note solid floors and secure stacking

PART Agr 1702 FACILITIES AND OPERATING STANDARDS RELATIVE TO PET SHOPS AND ADOPTING ANIMAL SHELTERS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Agr 1702.01 Pet Shop and Animal Facilities.

(a) Housing facilities for dogs or cats in pet shops and animal facilities shall be:

- (1) Structurally sound; and
- (2) Maintained in good repair to:
 - a. Protect the animals from injury;
 - b. Contain the animals; and
 - c. Prohibit the entrance of other animals.

(b) The shelter shall provide reliable and adequate electric power, if required to comply with other provisions of this section, and adequate potable water.

(c) Supplies of food and bedding shall be stored in facilities which adequately protect such supplies against infestation or contamination by vermin. Refrigeration shall be provided for supplies of perishable food.

(d) The following provisions for waste disposal shall be made:

- (1) Any waste that would be considered infectious waste under Env-Sw 904.01 shall be stored, treated, transported and disposed of pursuant to Env-Sw 904;
- (2) Provision shall be made for the removal and disposal of:
 - a. Animal and food wastes;
 - b. Bedding;
 - c. Dead animals; and
 - d. Debris; and
- (3) Disposal facilities shall be constructed to provide and operate so as to minimize:
 - a. Vermin infestation;
 - b. Odors; and
 - c. Disease hazards.

Agr 1702.02 Indoor Facilities.

(a) Indoor housing facilities for dogs or cats shall have the following heating requirements:

- (1) Facilities shall be sufficiently heated when necessary to:
 - a. Protect the dogs or cats from cold; and
 - b. Provide for their health and comfort; and

(2) The ambient temperature shall not be allowed to fall below 50 degrees F. for dogs and cats not acclimated to lower temperatures.

(b) The following provisions shall be made for ventilation:

(1) Indoor housing facilities for dogs or cats shall be adequately ventilated to provide humidity control and fresh air exchange;

(2) Such facilities shall be:

a. Provided with fresh air either by means of:

1. Windows;
2. Doors;
3. Vents; or
4. Air conditioning; and

b. Ventilated so as to minimize:

1. Drafts;
2. Odors; and
3. Moisture condensation; and

(3) Auxiliary ventilation, such as exhaust fans and vents or air conditioning, shall be provided when the ambient temperature is 85 degrees F. or higher.

(c) Indoor housing facilities for dogs or cats shall be illuminated by natural or artificial means, or both, as follows:

(1) Lighting shall provide uniformly distributed illumination of sufficient light intensity to permit routine inspection and cleaning during the entire working period; and

(2) Primary enclosures shall be so placed as to protect the dogs or cats from excessive illumination.

(d) The interior building surfaces of indoor housing facilities shall be constructed and maintained so that they are impervious to moisture and may be readily sanitized.

(e) A method of drainage to rapidly eliminate excess water from indoor housing facilities shall be provided as follows:

(1) If drains are used, they shall be constructed pursuant to plumbing codes and kept in good repair to avoid foul odors therefrom; and

(2) If closed drainage systems are used, they shall be equipped with traps and so installed as to prevent any backup of sewage onto the floor of the room.

Agr 1702.03 Outdoor Facilities.

(a) When sunlight is likely to cause overheating or discomfort, sufficient shade shall be provided to allow all dogs and cats kept outdoors to protect themselves from the direct rays of the sun.

(b) Dogs and cats kept outdoors shall be provided with access to shelter to allow them to remain dry during rain or snow.

(c) The following provisions shall be provided for shelter for dogs and cats from cold weather:

(1) Shelter shall be provided for all dogs and cats kept outdoors when the atmospheric temperature falls below 50 degrees F.; and

(2) Sufficient clean bedding material or other means of protection from the weather elements shall be provided.

Agr 1702.04 Primary Enclosures.

(a) Requirements for primary enclosures for dogs and cats shall be as follows:

(1) Primary enclosures shall be structurally sound and maintained in good repair to:

a. Protect the dogs and cats from injury;

b. Contain them; and

c. Keep other animals out;

(2) Primary enclosures shall be constructed and maintained so as to enable the dogs and cats to remain dry and clean;

(3) Primary enclosures shall be constructed and maintained so that the dogs or cats contained therein have convenient access to clean food and water; and

(4) The floors of the primary enclosures shall be constructed so as to protect the dogs' and cats' feet and legs from injury.

(b) Additional requirements for primary enclosures housing cats shall be that in all enclosures having a solid floor, a receptacle or any reasonable substitute containing sufficient clean litter shall be provided to contain excreta.

(c) Primary enclosures shall be constructed and maintained so as to provide sufficient space to allow each dog and cat to:

(1) Turn about freely; and

(2) Easily stand, sit and lie in a comfortable normal position.

(d) Additional requirements for space for housing dogs shall be as follows:

(1) In addition to the provisions of Agr 1702.04(c), each dog housed in any primary enclosure shall be provided:

a. A minimum square footage of floor space equal to the mathematical square of the sum of the length of the dog in inches, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail plus 6 inches, expressed in square feet, as in the formulas below:

$(\text{length of dog in inches}+6) \times (\text{length of dog in inches}+6) = \text{Required area in square inches}$
Required area in square inches = Required square feet of floor space.

- b. Not more than 4 adult dogs shall be housed in the same primary enclosure.
- (2) If dog houses with chains are used as primary enclosures for dogs kept outdoors, the chains used shall be:
- a. So placed or attached that they cannot become entangled with the chains of other dogs or any other objects;
 - b. Adequate for the size dog involved;
 - c. Attached to the dog by means of a well fitted nonchoking collar;
 - d. At least 3 times the length of the dog as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail; and
 - e. Allow the dog convenient access to the dog house.

Agr 1702.05 Animal Health and Husbandry Standards.

(a) Dogs and cats shall be fed at least once each day except as otherwise might be required to provide adequate nutrition and veterinary care as follows:

- (1) The food shall be:
 - a. Free from contamination;
 - b. Palatable to the individual animal; and
 - c. Of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to meet the normal daily requirements for the condition and size of the dog or cat;
- (2) Food receptacles shall be:
 - a. Accessible to all dogs and cats; and
 - b. Located so as to minimize contamination by excreta;
- (3) Feeding pans shall be durable and kept clean;
- (4) The food receptacles shall be sanitized daily;
- (5) Disposable food receptacles may be used but shall be discarded after each feeding; and
- (6) Self feeders:
 - a. May be used for the feeding of dry food; and
 - b. Shall be sanitized regularly to prevent:
 - 1. Molding;
 - 2. Deterioration; or
 - 3. Caking of feed.

(b) Potable water shall be accessible to the dogs and cats at all times, except as might otherwise be required to provide adequate veterinary care, as follows:

- (1) Watering receptacles shall be kept clean; and
- (2) They shall be sanitized daily.

(c) The following requirements shall be met for sanitation:

(1) The following shall be required for cleaning of primary enclosures:

a. Excreta shall be removed from primary enclosures as often as necessary, but no less than once daily to:

1. Prevent contamination of the dogs or cats contained therein; and
2. Reduce disease hazards and odors; and

b. When a hosing or flushing method is used for cleaning a primary enclosure commonly known as a cage:

1. Any dog contained therein shall be removed from such enclosure during the cleaning process; and
2. Adequate measures shall be taken to protect the animals in other such enclosures from being contaminated with water and other wastes;

(2) Prior to the introduction of dogs or cats into empty primary enclosures previously occupied, such enclosures shall be sanitized as follows:

a. Primary enclosures for dogs or cats shall be sanitized often enough to prevent an accumulation of debris or excreta or a disease hazard;

b. Cages, rooms and hard-surfaced pens or runs shall be sanitized by:

1. Washing them with hot water and soap or detergent as in a mechanical cage washer;
2. Washing all soiled surfaces with a detergent solution followed by a safe and effective disinfectant; or
3. Cleaning all soiled surfaces with live steam; and

c. Pens or runs using gravel, sand or dirt shall be sanitized by removing the soiled gravel, sand or dirt and replacing it as necessary;

(3) The building and grounds shall be kept clean and in good repair in order to protect the animals from injury and to facilitate the prescribed husbandry practices set forth in this subpart. Premises shall remain free of accumulations of trash; and

(4) An effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, and avian and mammalian pests shall be established and maintained.

(d) Animals housed in the same primary enclosure shall be maintained in compatible groups, with the following additional restrictions:

- (1) Females in season, estrus, shall not be housed in the same primary enclosures with males, except for breeding purposes;
- (2) Any dog, cat or any other animal exhibiting a vicious disposition shall be housed individually in a primary enclosure;
- (3) Puppies, kittens or any other infant animal shall not be housed in the same primary enclosure with adult dogs or cats other than their dams, except when permanently maintained in breeding colonies;
- (4) Dogs shall not be housed in the same primary enclosure with cats, nor shall dogs or cats be housed in the same primary enclosure with any other species of animals; and
- (5) Dogs, cats or any other animal under quarantine or treatment for a communicable disease shall be separated from other dogs, cats or any other animal in such a manner as to minimize dissemination of such disease.

(e) Programs of disease control and prevention, euthanasia, and adequate veterinary care shall be established and maintained under the supervision and assistance of a doctor of veterinary medicine as follows:

- (1) Each dog, cat or any other animal shall be observed daily by the animal caretaker in charge, or by someone under his direct supervision, for the purpose of monitoring health, nutrition and well being; and
- (2) Dogs, cats or any other animals shall be provided with veterinary care or euthanized and legally disposed of, if necessary, if they are:
 - a. Sick or diseased;
 - b. Injured;
 - c. Lamé; or
 - d. Blind.

Agr 1702.06 Official Health Certificate.

(a) The official health certificate shall be for an individual animal, and shall contain the address of, and be signed by, a licensed veterinarian.

(b) The signing veterinarian shall certify:

- (1) The date when, and the fact that, a vaccine, approved by the department, has been administered for the purpose of protection against infectious disease; and
- (2) That the animal, at the time of his examination, was free from visual and physical examination evidence of communicable disease, including gastrointestinal parasites.

(c) The official health certificate shall also contain:

- (1) The sex, breed and description of the animal;
- (2) Date and place of its birth;

- (3) The date of its entry into New Hampshire;
- (4) The date of its acceptance by the licensee; and
- (5) A description of the date of and nature of all medication and treatment given by a licensed veterinarian or the licensee subsequent to the veterinarian's initial examination and prior to the sale or transfer.

Agr 1702.07 Notice to Public.

(a) A sign with minimum dimensions, 14 inches by 18 inches and located at a height of between 4 and 6 feet shall be prominently displayed together with the licensee's license in the area where the dogs and cats are displayed.

(b) The sign shall contain the following information:

(1) The words "Buyer's Inspection and Refund" in block letters at least one inch in height; and

(2) In easily readable print the following statements:

"Under state law you have the right to inspect the official health certificate containing a description and medical history of any dog or cat offered for sale and to have a copy of such certificate for any animal you may purchase."

"Under state law, within 14 days of your purchase, you may have the dog or cat examined by a licensed veterinarian of your choice. Unless such exam indicates the animal is free of disease, you may obtain a substitution of a similar animal of equal value or, at your option, a full refund of the purchase price but only if within 2 business days of such examination you return the diseased animal to the store along with a written statement from the veterinarian that the animal was not free from disease."

Agr 1702.08 Written Records.

(a) Each pet store, humane shelter or town pound shall keep a written record of all individual animals entering the facility.

(b) Such records shall include the following information:

(1) Date of purchase or acceptance;

(2) Name and address of seller, consignor or donor; and

(3) Species, age, sex and description of animals.

(c) All persons shall keep a written record of all sales or adoptions of all animals.

(d) Such records shall include the following:

(1) Date of sale or adoption;

(2) Name and address of buyer or adopter; and

(3) Species, age, sex and description of animals.

(e) Records shall be maintained at the facility for a minimum of one year after the date of adoption or sale. Such records shall be available for inspection by the department.

Agr 1702.09 Housing. Animals shall not be allowed to freely roam the facility unless they are immunized for rabies and are free of visual evidence of communicable disease.

Agr 1702.10 Revocation. Upon the conviction, or discovery of a prior conviction of an owner or board member of a facility licensed under New Hampshire RSA 437, on an animal cruelty charge under New Hampshire RSA 644:8, or any law, statute, or rule from any other US state with similar content and intent, the license of the subject facility shall be subject to revocation or suspension per RSA 437.

Please forgive the hand-printed note - my computer is down.

Please support HB 1624.

the rules are only being expanded to include breeders along with shelters & pet shops.

the rules will assist investigators & will help assure the humane treatment of animals.

Thank you,

Linda Rauter

Linda Rauter

51 Canterbury Rd.

Chichester, N.H. 03258

January 12, 2010

Rep. Tara Sad
82 North Rd.
Walpole, N.H. 03608

Dear Representative Sad,

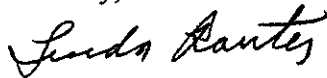
I am writing to ask that you please support HB 1624, which would apply current NH law to breeders, plus adding a few specific requirements for breeders which would make life much better for animals being used for breeding.

Someone more knowledgeable than I has summarized this bill and addressed concerns which may be raised by the state veterinarian's office. I have copied and included this summary for your information.

For the animals' sake, I hope you will see the wisdom in this bill which will lead to the more humane treatment of breeding animals.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and the enclosed information.

Sincerely,



Ms. Linda Rauter
51 Canterbury Rd.
Chichester, N.H. 03258

January 14, 2010

NH Residents view of HB 1624

Dear Representative Sad,

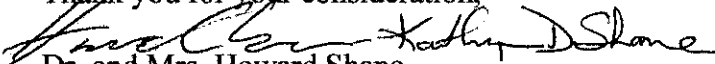
As a follow up to our email, we are writing to ask that you support HB 1624 which will set standards for New Hampshire dog breeders and brokers. As a member of the Environment and Agriculture Committee, we're sure you know that the existing law protects the welfare of animals transferred for use as household pets by any person, corporation or entity through licensure and twice yearly inspections by the Dept of Agriculture. The only exceptions are for people who have group licenses from their towns for multiple dogs.

Unfortunately, these "group" settings, often referred to as puppy mills, offer the cruelest of environments for breeding bitches, studs and puppies and in fact necessitate licensure and DOA inspections more than many of the more public domains such as pet stores where conditions can be viewed repeatedly by the public or humane shelters where people care more for the animal than the dollar. We personally have had many golden retrievers who had lived in such "group" settings as the breeding parents of multiple litters. Their existences were filthy, lonely and cruel. They required behavioral training and lots of love to help them overcome their fears.

We urge you to support HB 1624 which is more fiscally responsible as it protects future owners from buying sickly, fearful animals who are often later given up to shelters because of behavioral or health issues; it better protects communities from having to confiscate sick animals and pursue cruelty cases; and better protects the animals who often live in horrific conditions that could be monitor and improved through twice yearly inspections. I'm sure there are many individuals and animal organizations/shelters in the state who would be willing to help facilitate inspections and animal care instruction.

Gandhi said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Assuring that all animals in New Hampshire who are kept in group settings at least live in healthy, safe and humane conditions seems fundamental for them and basic to our humane compassion.

Thank you for your consideration.


Dr. and Mrs. Howard Shane
276 Governor Wentworth Highway
Mirror Lake, NH 03853

Re: HB 1624

According to current NH law, Chapter 437, Section 1-8, no person, business, corporation or other entity shall transfer living animals used as household pets to the public, with or without a fee unless the premises on which the animals are held are licensed and inspected by the Department of Agriculture. The inspections are to occur twice per year, at reasonable times, and if the the Dept Ag finds that the conditions will not result in inhumane treatment of the animals, a license will be issued. Chapter 437 also gives the Dept Ag the authority to make specific rules regarding the conditions the animals are kept in, which have the force of law.

The Dept has adopted a set of specific rules, called the "1702 rules" regarding caging, sanitation, temperature, food supply, etc which are quite rigorous, but they only apply to pet shops and adopting animal shelters, not to breeders.

Although they are supposed to be licensed and face a \$1000.00 fine if they're not licensed, the inspections are pretty subjective. In reality, breeders are pretty much unregulated, and we have had many, many cases that have eventually turned into cruelty cases in which large numbers of dogs living in deplorable conditions are eventually confiscated and distributed to the various shelters in the state. This puts an enormous financial burden on the shelters, not to mention the towns and the state, if cruelty charges are pursued. I believe Linda D. has a doggie who was rescued from a bad breeder situation in Sanbornton several years ago.

With our new bill, HB 1624, we are trying to make the 1702 rules apply to breeders, and also to add some specific requirements for breeders like adequate rest between breeding cycles, a limit on 50 breeding dogs, and a prohibition on surgical procedures like tail docking, unless performed by a veterinarian.

Our state veterinarian, Dr. Crawford, who works for the Dept Ag, is going to do everything he can to kill this bill. He has attached a fiscal note to the bill that says

that he will have to divert between 377 and 687 hours per year from other activities to meet the provisions of this bill! This, of course, is ridiculous. We are not asking the Department of Agriculture to do anything more than it is already required to do, we are just asking the Dept to apply a specific, objective set of humane standards to breeders, just as it applies these standards to pet shops and animal shelter facilities. Logically, it stands to reason that having an objective set of humane standards would result in a more efficient use of resources, not less so. It will also make Court cases involving breeders much easier to resolve.

There are several additional reasons why this bill will not increase Dr. Crawford's work load:

1. Last year the legislature passed a law, effective 1-1-10, that absolves the state veterinarian from all responsibility of investigating/pursuing animal cruelty complaints. This must all be done at the local level now -- Dr. Crawford has no responsibility to pursue cruelty investigations at all now.

2. Current law, Chapter 437, Section 8, gives the State Vet the authority to appoint an agent of a humane society or SPCA to do local breeder inspections. Our bill is trying to expand that to also allow ACOs to do breeder inspections. Dr. Crawford will argue that this approach is just shifting costs onto the local level, however, as I see it, it's alot cheaper for everyone involved to pay an ACO to do twice yearly breeder inspections than it is to pay for confiscating and caring for dozens of animals that have been living in deplorable conditions.

Dear House Environmental and Agriculture Committee Member,

As a member of the house and agriculture Committee, you are being asked to consider HF 1624 (Dog Breeders Requirements) I am opposed to HB 1624 and hope you will consider my concerns and experience as a Dog Breeder to vote to defeat this bill.

My experience is as follows: I have been breeding collies since 1961. I became a licensed AkC Judge in 1970. I originated the Collie Club of America Health Committee and served as its chairperson for 20 years. I am one of the founding members of the CC of A Health Foundation. I am a member of the American Kennel Club Health Foundation (an organization that played a significant role in developing the Genome of the dog and that works to solve health problems in all dogs not just purebreds.) I am a Director At Large for the Collie Club of America and am a Delegate to the American Kennel Club. I worked with Dr. Leland Carmichael DVM, PHD (Professor of Virology at the Baker Institute For The Diseases Of The Dog at Cornell University) during the first outbreak and identification of the Corona Virus and The Parvo Virus in the Dog.

When I read through this bill, I found several sections that indicated its writers have limited knowledge of animal husbandry and are uninformed about modern veterinary knowledge which negates their premises in this bill.

The idea that there can be a universal housing law for all breeds of dogs is illogical. One does not house a collie with a full winter coat the same way one houses a Chihuahua. All dogs should be crate trained. This is not a punishment. First of all, humane crating insures the "Safety" of dogs when unsupervised in the home. Secondly, like all canines, dogs seek and need dens and lairs. This is where they are comfortable and safe. I leave crate doors open and my dogs walk in at will when they want to nap. Dogs feel safe in them during thunderstorms. They ride in cars relaxed when in their crates and are definitely safer. All recognized organizations and publications dealing with dog training emphasize the importance of crate training. Small dogs do not mind being stacked in crates. It makes them uneasy when people hover over them.

The sentence: "*Adequate rest between breeding cycles*" means "at minimum, ensuring that dogs are not bred during consecutive heat cycles and are not bred before attaining one year of age," has as been disproven and in fact it is detrimental to the health of the mother. The issue of not breeding in consecutive heat cycles was first addressed by Dr. Stewart Harvey during the 1970's. Dr. Robert Hutchison, DVM today is considered to be of the most knowledgeable in the field of canine reproduction. Dr. Hutchison and others feel that dogs "should" be bred at consecutive cycles because of hormonal issues in the canine. They also feel that bitches should not be bred until they are 2 years of age.

The continued use of "4 months of age" as the benchmark for neutering also has been disproven, by studies done at the University of Minnesota Veterinary School. Dogs neutered prior to their full development have more health problems because of the disruption of needed hormones in correct growth. Male dogs neutered prior to 15 months of age have an accelerated and exaggerated growth of their long bones. However the bones are thinner and there is a greater chance of bone cancer. There is also a greater chance of getting Prostatitis. Females spayed before 1 year of age have a greater chance of going incontinent and becoming hypothyroid.

The generalization of the area needed and amount of exercise all dogs should have is incorrect. Just as in housing, the amount, duration and area of exercise of a dog's exercise are dependent upon the breed, age, physical condition and environmental factors contribute to what is adequate for the individual dog. With such diversity in this species, one size does not fit all.

The first two provisions under "Prohibitions" are unnecessary. The existing laws first proposed by DOGS organization and enacted by the Legislature cover them. New Hampshire does not have a dog over population. Our current laws have ensured this. Even in this economy, there are very few puppies born in New Hampshire to be found in our humane and rescue facilities. The only puppies to be found there are dogs and puppies imported by Humane Societies from other states and Puerto Rico, as well as other United States Territories and even foreign countries. These are adopted here for very large fees and usually are not adherent to the laws of required health checks that are all ready mandatory for NH dogs' transfer of ownership. "If it is not broken, why change it." The laws we have are more than sufficient. The problem I would like to see taken care of is the new or unusual diseases that these imported dogs are bringing into New England. This importation seems to be the only way that many of these organizations remain financially viable.

The section of this bill that gives me the most problem is: "Duties of the Commissioner". The section that reads "The commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets and food, or designee, including any duly appointed agent of any humane society, SPCA incorporated in the state of NewHampshire, or animal control officer is hereby authorized on the Commissioner's own initiative or pursuant complaints of other persons to investigate complaints made pursuant to this section."

I find this most disturbing. Most humane society workers are not knowledgeable enough about dogs to understand even the most basic rules of animal husbandry. Because these workers love dogs does not mean that they can discern the physical differences between an aged animal, a dog trained in mushing or in hunting condition vs. one that is abused. This judgment requires years of training. These same volunteers often carry diseases from their shelters to homes of healthy animals. Through various national organizations, such as the National Institute of Animal Industry and The Sportsman Organization, the illegal seizures and disposal of dogs by control officers has been increased through the Animal Rights organizations such as PETA, ALF and their lobbying branch The Humane Society Of the United States. These organizations have gone after Farmers, Hunters, The Circuses, Dog Sledding, and Rodeos. They have even tried to keep Horse events out of the Atlanta Olympics. Dogs are personal property and as such are subject to the laws of Private Property. The Supreme Courts of Pennsylvania and Kentucky have now ruled that seizures by humane societies and SPCA, especially through laws that have been lobbied into existence by the HSUS are illegal. Many of the animals confiscated under these laws had been disposed of illegally by these organization without any court hearings for the owners. The States are now being sued for illegal confiscation and disposal of private property without due process.

HB 1624 is a very faulty bill. It is based upon inappropriate, unnecessary and dangerous requirements. Please vote HB1624 as inexpedient to legislate. Thank you for considering my concerns and feel free to contact me 603-889-7766 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Barbara Schwartz
E mail: impcolly@aol.com

Tara Sad
82 North Rd,
Waipole NH03608

11 January 2010

Dear Representative Sad,

As a member of the House Environment & Agriculture Committee, you will be asked to consider HB 1624 (Dog Breeder Requirements). As one of the top chow chow breeders, and owner of some of the most titled performance chows in the country, I am opposed to HB 1624 and hope you will consider my concerns and vote to defeat the bill.

Reason #1. HB 1624 dictates in statute veterinary medical decision practices and procedures. It is inappropriate to arbitrarily and generally proscribe what medical procedure is appropriate in statute for a wide range of dog breeds, sizes and ages without considering the specific needs of the patient and the decision of the medical provider. The veterinarian practice laws are the oversight for medical practice not the dog breeder laws.

Reason #2. HB 1624 requires that any dog breeder with more than 10 intact dogs over 4 months old comply with the regulations (AGR 1702) that now only apply to pet shops, animal shelters and commercial kennels.

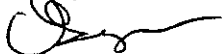
- The number of "sexually intact" dogs that a breeder has in their custody is not an indication of whether or not they intend to breed the dogs. Owners may choose not to castrate their dogs for a variety of reasons including cancer concerns, temperament, etc. Recent research is showing that castration of dogs before they have reached maturity (generally between the ages of 1 and 2 years, depending on breed) can lead to major medical problems later in life. The current cruciate ligament crisis (and subsequent very expensive repair surgery) in pets neutered under the age of 1 year has been medically linked.
- The age of 4 months is arbitrary. Most bitches do not come into season and cannot be bred before 6 months. Many breeders do not begin to sell their puppies until 3 months after doing health testing and completing vaccine protocols. And some breeds only come into season every 12 to 18 months, so prohibiting consecutive breedings essentially is a taking of property by the state for no purpose, since there is no justifiable medical reason for prohibiting same.

Reason #3. Furthermore HB 1624 expands the AGR 1702 regulations by adding adequate caging and exercise requirements that may be inappropriate for some breeds. My 4 lb. Pomeranian, for example, does not need the 3 ft. by 20 ft. proscribed space in the bill, but does need a top for her 6 ft. by 10 ft. run to prevent her from being snatched by owls or hawks. That is an example of an issue that is not addressed in HB 1624, but crucial in some breeds (ie toy breeds).

Reason #4. HB 1624 limits to number of intact dogs in one's custody to fifty. This requirement is a restraint of trade. For example, there are no requirements as to how many cows, goats or sheep one may possess. Current state law and regulation correctly focuses on the quality of premise not the quantity of animals. I am an engineer who has purposefully taken a major cut in pay and benefits so that I could move back to NH and locate myself in an agriculturally zoned area to raise and train my chows so I could pursue my goal of having the best dogs in the country, capable of performing in agility, rally, herding and conformation.

As a breeder, owner, and trainer, I hope you will understand the burdensome, inappropriate and unnecessary requirements that HB 1624 would impose. The vast majority of breeders, owners and trainers are not the problem, yet HB 1624 seeks to punish us. Please vote HB 1624 as inexpedient to legislate. Thank you for considering my concerns and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Camille Gagnon
30 Egan Road
Newport, NH 03773
Cell: 603.545.9481
Work: 603.542.8764 x16
Email: Camille@mankouchows.com
Website: <http://www.makkouchows.com>

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing with regards to concerns about proposed house Bill 1624-FN. As a small hobby/show breeder of Pomeranians residing in New Hampshire, I have concerns about this bill. I will highlight what I consider to be potential problems and the reasons I feel this way below.

437:23 Definitions. In this subdivision

- I. Adequate caging” means caging for dogs who are housed in cages, kennels, stalls, or runs, the structure of which has a solid impermeable floor or a slatted floor with gaps of no more than 1/2 inch between slats, that is not stacked or otherwise placed on top of or below another animal’s enclosure, and is placed no more than 42 inches above the floor. For dogs who are housed in a home with people, “adequate caging” means the animal lives loose in the home amongst people who reside in the home.

In most cases, it is not feasible to place cages or crates singularly on the floor/ground. Crates and kennels for medium to large breed dogs take up a substantial amount of space. Few people have the square footage to accommodate this. If stacked properly, there is no logical reason not to have crates and kennels stacked.

Many pet owners as well as breeders own multiple dogs and dogs of different sizes. To allow dogs to “live loose in the home” could potentially be very dangerous to the dogs. A large breed dog could cause great physical harm to a toy dog if there is no person at home to supervise them. In addition, many dogs are problematic by nature and get into and chew things to the point where there could be major destruction to the home and great injury to the dog. In many cases, it is in the best interest of the dogs to be housed in a crate or exercise pen when the owners are not at home to keep them safe.

- II. “Adequate rest between breeding cycles” means, at minimum, ensuring that dogs are not bred during consecutive heat cycles and are not bred before attaining one year of age.

Someone did not do their research when this proposal was written. Some of the most noted reproductive veterinarians have published and teach at seminars regularly that every time a bitch comes in season there is damage to the uterus whether they are bred or not. The safest way to breed a bitch is to start on or after her second heat and breed her every cycle until such time that

the bitch will not be bread again and then have her spayed. Resting between cycles increases the risk of pyometra and reproductive specific cancers. Dr. Robert Van Hutchison is a leading specialist in these findings.

V. "Regular exercise" means, at minimum, one period during each day for a total of not less than one hour for each dog over the age of 4 months, which shall include removal from the dog's primary enclosure and which shall allow the dog free mobility for the entire period either by leash walking or providing access to a play area at least 3 feet wide and 20 feet long, but shall not include use of a treadmill, jenny mill, slat mill, or similar device, unless prescribed by a doctor of veterinary medicine to address a specific medical condition.

The very nature of this implies that a dog must be outside for a minimum of an hour a day. Not many people have a 3x20 foot area inside their home to provide exercise for their dogs. I breed pomeranians. At 4 months of age, an average Pomeranian weighs about 2 lbs. To put a Pomeranian puppy outside for an hour here in New Hampshire in the middle of the winter or middle of the summer would very likely cause hypothermia, dehydration or increased or decreased body temperatures that could very well result in death. In addition, there are foxes, wild turkeys and several species of large birds of prey that could kill a Pomeranian in seconds even in a fenced in yard.

These are the areas of this bill that specifically affect me personally. There are many other flaws in this bill that affect large breed dogs. In addition are the costs that would be incurred to enforce them when we are already in troubled financial times. I would urge you to think about the potential ill consequences that this bill could cause and vote against it. Thank you for taking the time to read my point of view.

Cheryl Kerr

39 Nashua Rd

Pelham NH 03076

603-365-1873

Ebbs, Heather

From: Mike Maddox [michael@pijac.org]
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2010 6:21 PM
To: Ebbs, Heather
Subject: PIJAC Testimony on HB 1624 Set for Hearing Jan. 21
Attachments: PIJAC Testimony on H 1624.pdf

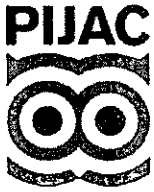
Heather,

As discussed, please find attached brief testimony of the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council on House Bill 1624. PIJAC supports appropriate standards of care for dog breeders, but has some concerns about this legislation as currently crafted. We would be pleased to provide further information, or otherwise assist the committee, as desired. Thank you for passing this on to committee members in advance of the hearing. We appreciate your kind assistance.

Michael

Michael Maddox
Vice President of Governmental Affairs and General Counsel
Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
1220 19th St.
Washington, DC 20036
800-553-7387

1/21/2010



**TESTIMONY OF PET INDUSTRY JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL
BEFORE ENVIRONMENT & AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
HOUSE BILL 1624**

January 21, 2010

Position: Qualified Opposition

As the world's largest pet trade association, the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) appreciates the opportunity to offer this esteemed committee our views on House Bill 1624. Representing the interests of all segments of the pet industry throughout the United States, PIJAC counts among its thousands of members various associations, organizations, corporations and individuals involved in the commercial pet trade. More specifically, we represent pet breeders, pet product manufacturers, distributors and retailers throughout New Hampshire who would be significantly impacted by the legislation before you today.

Let me emphasize that nobody cares more about humane breeding and rearing standards than does PIJAC. We have, for many years, provided a highly respected animal care certification program intended to ensure that employees are well trained in the care of the animals they sell; a program that is widely utilized not only by persons in the commercial pet trade but also shelters and humane societies throughout the country, and one that has even been adopted as a statutory standard. PIJAC has worked closely with the USDA on effective implementation of the Animal Welfare Act for pets since its inception over three decades ago, and has joined hands with state and local agencies to ensure adoption and enforcement of appropriate regulatory standards. Similarly, PIJAC has worked with a number of states that have designed kennel and/or pet store licensure programs. Our association has long been recognized as the voice for a responsible pet trade, and routinely advocates for new statutory standards that are in the best interests of companion animals and the pet-owning public. We also continually seek to advance the voluntary implementation of superior standards in the care, handling and transport of companion animals.

Thus we emphasize again that we support appropriate humane care standards. Certain provisions of this bill, however, would actually vitiate against the goal of humane treatment and healthy animals. For that reason, PIJAC opposes the bill as currently crafted, but would be pleased to work with this committee in amending the bill to more effectively achieve its purpose.

**PET INDUSTRY JOINT
ADVISORY COUNCIL**
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Washington, DC 20036
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CEO
Marshall Meyers

As the committee is aware, commercial breeders of dogs for the pet industry are already subject to licensing and inspection pursuant to the Federal Animal Welfare Act. Regulations promulgated under that act provide extensive standards for the breeding, housing, transport and general care of pet animals.

We believe that care should be taken when considering establishment of a dual licensing system for commercial breeders. Only a minority of states has taken this route at all and, when doing so, such states endeavor to fashion a system that will not create conflicting standards between the federal and state licensing schemes. We suggest that the committee should consider whether there is a sufficient basis for directing scarce resources to the state regulation of breeders that are already licensed under federal law.

Regardless of the answer to this question, however, we are compelled to alert the committee that there are certain restrictions in this bill which are onerous and not in the best interest of pet animals or the public at large. Notably, the prohibition against having custody of more than 50 intact dogs serves no valid interest of any kind.

It is important to note that there is no correlation between the number of animals in a facility and the quality of care those animals receive or the quality of the puppies offered to the public as pets! Some of the largest commercial breeding operators in this country employ state-of-the-art facilities, exceptional and frequent veterinary care, and the highest standards for breeding and raising their animals (typically exceeding what is required by law). **Furthermore, a prohibition such as this limits the ability of dog breeders to maintain sufficiently diverse blood lines – This will result in an increase in adverse hereditary conditions, to the detriment of the dogs, pet owners and the business itself. Indeed, there is NO ONE that benefits from this provision!** We urge the committee to inquire of any qualified expert as to the likelihood of increased recessive traits when breeding with limited blood lines!

Any statute promoting humane and healthy breeding of dogs should focus on establishing, and providing appropriate enforcement authority for, standards that will ensure dogs are receiving quality care, nutritional sustenance, appropriate veterinary care, adequate exercise opportunities and sound, safe transport. This is what is already done through the Animal Welfare Act. And it is a demonstrable fact that pet animals can and are provided humane care in abundance at countless breeding facilities of all sizes. By the same token, there are some breeders who do not comply with appropriate standards; but that has absolutely nothing to do with the number of animals in the facility.

If there is a need for New Hampshire to adopt state standards (in addition to, and notwithstanding, existing federal law), that need would be based on the existence of breeders within the state who do not already meet appropriate care standards. Any legislation should be targeting such breeders based on the need to ensure humane care. Placing a limit on the number of dogs a facility may maintain does nothing to further this goal. Worse, though, it compromises the goal. If the state drives out quality breeders who maintain high standards it will only create a void that may be filled by unscrupulous persons who care neither about legal requirements nor the humane care of the animals they raise.

Notwithstanding the hysteria and hyperbole disseminated by some, professionalism in the pet trade has steadily and consistently increased over the past several years, and the quality of care provided pet animals has improved and continues to do so. Most in the commercial dog trade do a good job. PIJAC is proud of its part in making this happen. At the same time, there is always room for continued improvement, and we recognize there are still those who fail to meet acceptable standards. PIJAC

routinely works with legislators and regulators to close this gap, and we would be pleased to provide whatever assistance we might to this committee in furthering that objective. House Bill 1624, however, is NOT the answer. It would constitute poor public policy that compromises this effort. We respectfully urge the committee not to adopt this legislation as currently crafted.

Thank you greatly for your consideration of our concerns!

Respectfully submitted
Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
By: Michael P. Maddox, Esq.

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R , sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for breeders and brokers) .

PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

TOWN

Alison Siwacki

Alison Siwacki

Swanzey NH

Jean Slepian

Jean Slepian

Stoddard

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, appearing as a series of connected loops and strokes.

54

Signatures

!!
~

Please sign both sheets.

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R , sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

TOWN

Deborah Robichaud

Deborah Robichaud

CTR TUFTONBORO

John Robichaud

John Robichaud

CTR Tuftonboro

Keith Trevor

Keith Trevor

Center Harbor

Trina Bell

Trina Bell

Center Ossipee

Hans Kleczek

Hans Kleczek

Tamworth

Please Sign Both Sheets

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-~~5~~, sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

TOWN

DEBORAH WILSON Deborah Wilson NORTH SANDWICH

Frank Wilson Frank Wilson North Sandwich

Virginia Heard Virginia Heard E. Sandwich

Ronald M. Lamb RONALD G. LAWLER Cata Sandwich

Margaret Merritt MARGARET MERRITT Center Sandwich

Bill BERNSEN Bill Bernsen ASHLAND, NH

Margaret Halacy Margaret Halacy Concord NH

William Halacy William Halacy CONCORD NH

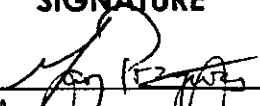
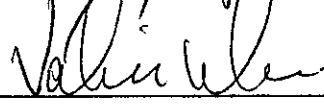

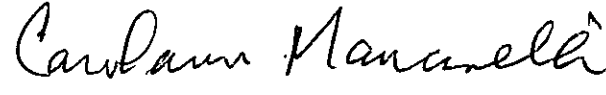
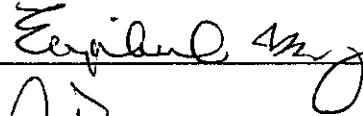

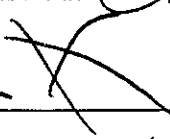
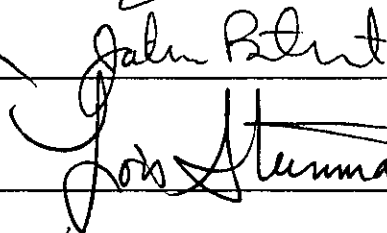
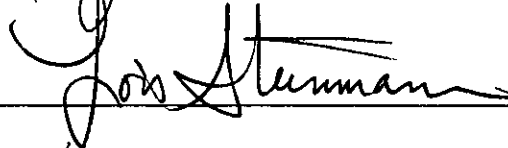
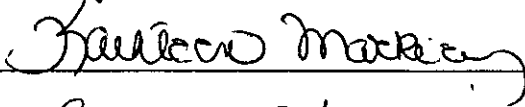
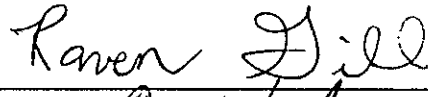
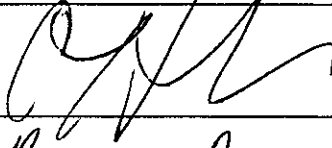


We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R, sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Darlene Pike	Darlene Pike	Rindge
David J. McCusker	David J. McCusker	Rindge NH
Branne Gaudet	Branne Gaudet	Rindge
Lisa Aster	Lisa Aster	Mason
Jacqueline Coll Jacquelin Coll		Jaffrey
Daryl Diamond-Kynch	Daryl Diamond-Kynch	New Ipswich
Michelle H Michelle Hamman	Michelle Hamman	New Ipswich
John Haley	John Haley	Greenfield
Stephanie McCusker	Stephanie McCusker	Canaan
David McCusker	David J. McCusker	Canaan

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PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Lacey Kay	mercure	
Sara Mackenzie	Sara Mackenzie	Marlow
Joe Nordlund	Joe Nordlund	Keene
Elena Nardozi	Elena Nardozi	Keene
Wendy Suss	Wendy Suss	Winchester
Jessica Woods	Jessica Woods	Swansey NH
Amanda Morse	Amanda Morse	Chesterfield, NH
Sarah Frenette	Sarah Frenette	Swansey, N.H
Jennifer Heald	Jennifer Heald	Swansey, NH
Patrick McManey	Patrick McManey	Keene NH
Stephanie Riding	Stephanie Riding	Keene NH
ALICE SEARS	Alice Sears	Yildsum NH
Beth Newhardt	Beth Newhardt	Keene NH

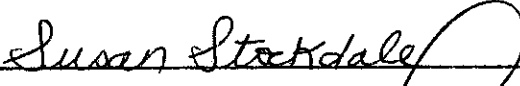
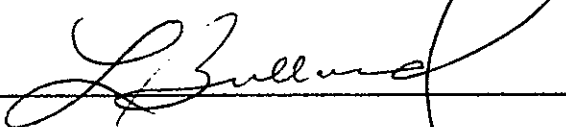
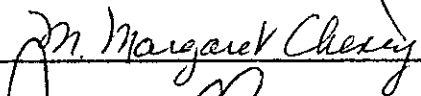
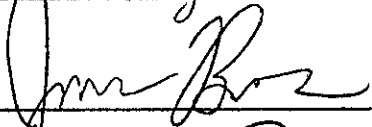
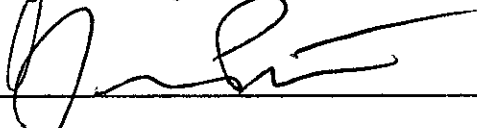
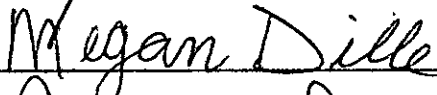
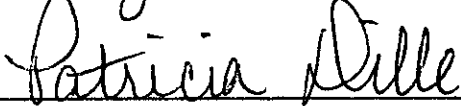
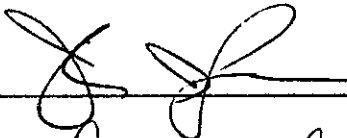
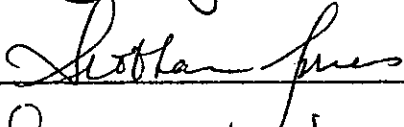
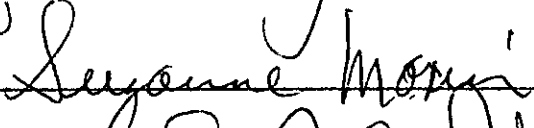
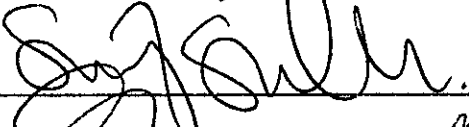
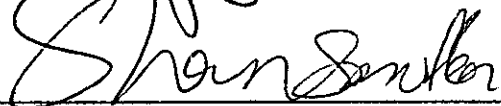
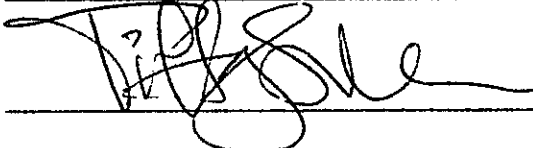
We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R , sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for breeders and brokers) .

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Mary Przywara		Keene, NH
Valerie Washer		Keene, NH
Tracey Clason		Keene, NH
Carolann Manicelli		Keene, NH
Elizabeth Barry		Keene, NH
Christopher Barry		Keene, NH
John Blunt		Keene, NH
John Blunt		Keene, NH
Lois Steinmann		Rindge, NH
Kathy Markiewicz		Walpole, NH
Raven Dill		Fitzwilliam, NH
Carroll Boczar		New Ipswich
Bonnie Parkhurst		Swanzey, NH
Chelsea Whalen		Keene, NH

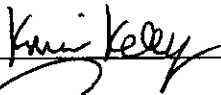
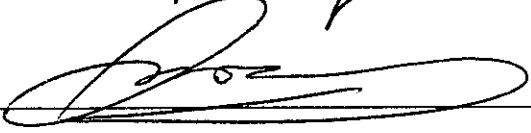
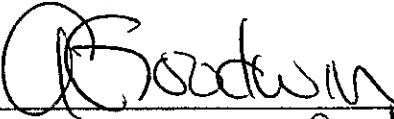


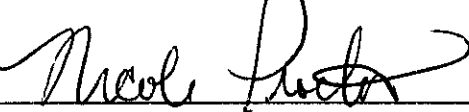
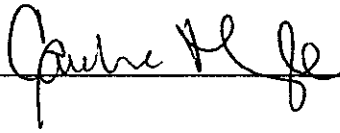
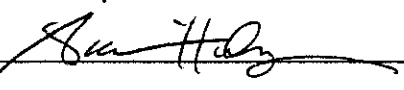
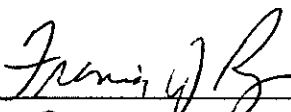
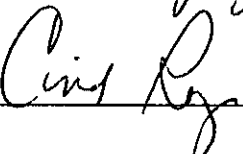
We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R , sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for breeders and brokers) .

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
CAROLE ANGUS	Carole Angus	Peterborough
Nancy Pollard	Nancy Pollard	Keene NH
Jenn Masterson	Jenn Masterson	Keene, NH
Cindy Nutting	Cindy Nutting	Keene NH
Janet Luong	Janet Luong	Peterborough
Bonnie M. Martins	Bonnie M. Martins	Swanzey
Michelle ^{Green} Gun	Michelle Gun	Keene
Vicki Forcier	Vicki Forcier	Keene
Sarah Canape	Sarah Canape	Keene
Kate Wallace	Kate Wallace	Nelson, NH
Karen Cingari	Karen Cingari	Keene
Kayla Gendreau	Kayla Gendreau	Keene, NH
Taylor Roussele	Taylor Roussele	Keene, NH

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PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Susan Stockdale		Mason, NH
Louis Bullard		Wilton, NH
M. Margaret Cheney		Keene, NH
JASON BEVIZ		Sunny, NH
Jessica Putnam		Alstead, NH
Megan Dille		Westmoreland, NH
Patricia Dille		Westmoreland, NH
John D Jones		Rindge, NH
Stobhan Jones		Rindge, NH
Suzanne MORIN Suzanne Morin		Keene
Sammy Smullen		Keene
Shana Smullen		Keene
	Tiffany Smullen	Keene

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PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Karin Kelly		Keene
Jonathan Cooper		Keene, NH
Marianne Brown	Marianne Brown	Winchester NH
Athene Goodwin		Keene NH
Rocky Goodwin		Keene NH
Diane Proctor		MARLBOROUGH, NH
Nicole Proctor		SULLIVAN, NH
Ruben Hernandez	Ruben Hernandez	Andover NH
Caroline Doyle		Andover NH.
Tina Hulsizer		Keene, NH
Airika White	AIRIKA WHITE	SPOFFORD, NH
Francis Roy		Keene NH
Cindy Roy		Keene, NH

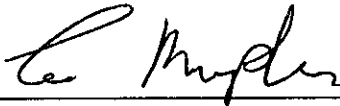
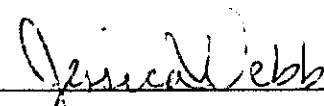
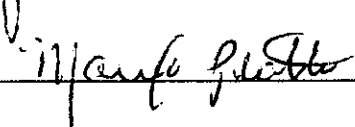
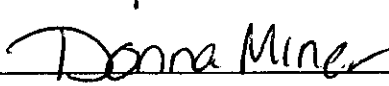

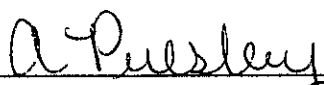

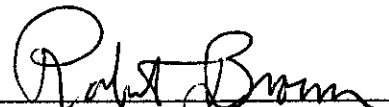
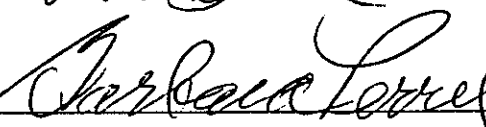
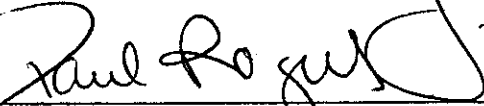
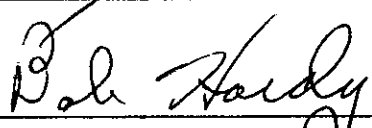


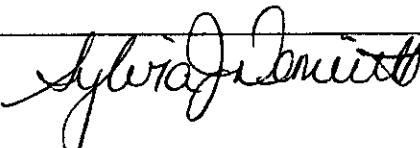
LSR-2010H-2201-R (breeding) ^{lethargic}

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2377, sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

Print	Sign	Town
Martha A.F. Hussey Martha A.F. Hussey	Martha A.F. Hussey	Pittsfield
SYED SAQLAIN	Syed M Saqlain	Pittsfield
Paul Metcalf	Paul Metcalf	Pittsfield
KATH Ordway	Kath Ordway	Pittsfield
Charles Murphy	Charles Murphy	EPSOM
JEN-POND GURRICA	Jean Pond Gurrica	EPSOM
Tom Chayer	Tom Chayer	Pittsfield
Mary Chayer	Mary Chayer	Pittsfield, NH
Keith Grigas	Keith Grigas	Pittsfield, NH
Lucia Metcalf	Lucia Metcalf	Pittsfield, NH
Paula Inguille	Paula Inguille	Pittsfield
Stacy Osborne	Stacy Osborne	EPSOM, NH
Richard Davis	Richard Davis	EPSOM
Lawrence Konopka	Lawrence Konopka	Pittsfield, NH

LSR 2010-H-2379-L (breeding)

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2379-L sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the tethering of dogs (setting humane standards for the tethering of dogs).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Lisa Murphy		Belmont
Jessica Webb		Barnstead
Maxine Pratte		Barnstead
Donna Miner		Barnstead
ERIN WEBBER		Pittsfield
Alicia Presbrey		Pittsfield
pretahn Crk		Barnstead
Robert Brown		Pittsfield
Barbara Torrey		Pittsfield
Paul ROGERS		Pittsfield
Bob Handy		Pittsfield
PATRICK BYERS		Chichester
ROBERT O. MOULTON		Pittsfield, NH
Sylvia J. Demeritt		Epsom N.H.

(breed. reg)
LSR 2010-H-2379-L (Hethering)

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R, sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Lathy O'Connor	Cathy O'Connor	Belmont
Diane Carr	Diane Carr	Northwood
Jason Carter	Jason Carter	Epsom
Shirley Mattison	Shirley Mattison	Colebrook
Ronald Foster	Ronald Foster	Pittsfield
CHRIS BERRY	Chris Berry	BIRMINGHAM
Peggy Brooks	Peggy Brooks	Pittsfield
Peter Dine	Peter Dine	Pittsfield
Ruben Leavitt	Ruben Leavitt	Pittsfield
Margaret Wetherbee	Margaret Wetherbee	Pittsfield
Fred Okrent	F. Okrent	Pittsfield
Heather Brown	Heather Brown	Pittsfield
Ed Cantara	Ed Cantara	Pittsfield

LSR 2010-H-2379-L

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R, sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Anne Taylor	Anne Taylor	Epsom
John Webber	John Webber	Bow
Debra Gauthier	Debra Gauthier	Pittsfield
JAY DARRAH	Jay Darrah	Pittsfield
Clint Cassavough	Clint Cassavough	Concord
Meggin Dail	Meggin Dail	Epsom
Jeff Cain	Jeff Cain	Concord
Lee Digiovanni	Lee Digiovanni	Worcester
Heidi Fisher	Heidi Fisher	Pittsfield
Tracey Dickey	Tracey Dickey	Epsom
Jennifer Reckmeyer	Jen Reckmeyer	Rochester
John Reckmeyer	John Reckmeyer	Rochester
Rob Wentworth	R. Wentworth	Epsom

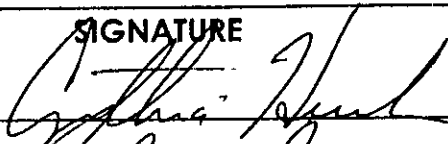
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PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

TOWN

Cyndi Hersh



Auburn

Robert A Macella



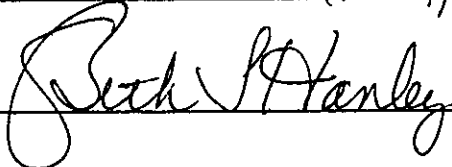
Hamilton

Sharon McCarthy

Sharon McCarthy

Exeter

BETH T. HANLEY



Londonberry

Charles Bragg

CHARLES BRAGG

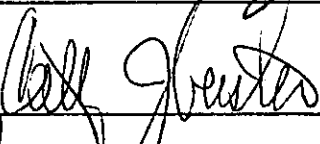
Kingston

DONNA BRADY

Donna Brady

Pelham NH

Cathy J. Geisler



Pelham NH

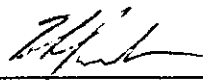
David M Fodder



Derry NH

MARIE JACOBSON

Marie Jacobson



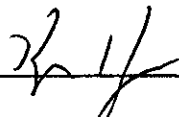
Auburn NH

Patricia Jacobson

PATRICIA JACOBSON

Auburn NH

Ken Keefe Sr



Windham

KRISTIN PAQUETTE

Kristin M. Paquette

Hudson

Christine Lemieux



Pelham

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R , sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Marianne Page	Marianne Page	Derry, NH
Karin Sowa	Karin Sowa	Manchester NH
Pciige Anderson	Pciige Anderson	milford, NH
Marylee Guertin	Marylee Guertin	Bristol, NH
Mark Landry	Mark Landry	Concord, NH
Laura Ingram	Laura Ingram	Concord NH
ARTELIA ELLIS	Artemis Ellis	Concord NH
Linda Wilson	Linda Ray Wilson	South Danbury NH
Catherine Bouene	Catherine A. Bouene	Liford, NH
Linda Heath	Linda L. Heath	London, NH
Maggie Radzinski	Maggie Radzinski	Washburn, NH
RAMONA FLYNN	Ramona Flynn	WASHBURN, NH

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PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Sheila Holmes	Sheila Holmes	Windham, NH
Carolyn Roy	Carolyn Roy	Boscawen, NH
Jane DeMarco	Jane DeMarco	Salem, NH
Matthew Szopa	Matthew Szopa	Merrimack, N.H.
Jelly Robinson	Jelly Robinson	Manchester, N.H.
Ellen Romanowski Ellen Romanowski	Ellen Romanowski	Londonberry, NH
MARCIA MANSEAU	Marcia Manseau	Bedford, N.H.
Patricia Herr	Patricia Herr	Manchester, NH
Paula Chessin	Paula Chessin	Manchester, NH
David Spahn	David Spahn	Manchester, NH
Brandon Stumpf	Brandon Stumpf	Manchester, NH
Marna Ducharme	Marna Ducharme	Manchester, NH
Karen A. Turcotte	Karen A. Turcotte	Manchester, NH

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PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Sandra Camire	Sandra Camire	E. Kingston N.H.
Sheree Thyne	SHEREE Thyne	Pelham NH
Denise Duff	DENISE Duff	PELHAM NH
Karen Naimo	Karen Naimo	Derry, NH
Julie Gallagher	Julie Gallagher	Pelham, NH
HENRY, W. CAMIRANO	Henry W. Camirano	DERRY, NH.
Ellen Schofield	Ellen Schofield	Pelham NH
Rebecca Barlow	Rebecca Barlow	Kingston NH
Tanya Barlow	Tanya Barlow	Kingston, NH
melissa Lyons	Melissa Lyons	Kingston, NH
AVA O'DWYER	Ava O'Dwyer	Pelham NH
KEVIN FEDENICO	Kevin Federico	MILFORD NH.
Joanne Magnan	Joanne Magnan	Derry, N.H.

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PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Brenda Robinson	Brenda Robinson	New Boston, NH
Rachael Robinson	Rachael Robinson	New Boston, NH
Lee Durling	Lee Durling	Manchester, Pitt.
Henry Smith	Henry Smith	Manchester, N.H.
Stephanie Gagne	Stephanie Gagne	Derry, NH
Guyaine Harris	Guyaine Harris	Derry NH
Janice Plarde	Janice Plarde	Pembroke NH
Melissa Smith	Melissa Smith	Pembroke NH
Karen Seymour	Karen Seymour	Merr NH
Kathleen Pease	Kathleen Pease	Auburn, NH
Thomas Pease	Thomas Pease	Auburn, NH
Ginny Smith	Virginia M. Smith	Manchester, NH
SUSAN THOMPSON	Susan Thompson	MANCHESTER, NH

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R, sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
David Murphy	D. Murphy	Atkinson NH
ELYN MURPHY	E. Murphy	Atkinson NH
DIANE PARKS	Diane Parks	Derry, NH
Linda Snow	Linda Snow	Derry, NH
Christa van der Surssen	Christa van der Surssen	Danville, NH
Denise Bernier	Denise Bernier	Raymond NH
PAMELA A. GAGNON	Pamela A. Gagnon	Manchester
FRANCES L. JOHNSON	Frances L. Johnson	Merrimack, N.H.
Jillien Klok	Jillien Klok	Manchester, NH
Marsha Neubert	Marsha Neubert	Manchester, NH
FLORENCE LEMARIER	Florence Le Marier	Manchester, N.H.
Aan Henckley	Aan Henckley	Manchester NH
Mary Lou Hyvonen	Mary Lou Hyvonen	Auburn N.H.

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PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Bess Smith	Bess Smith	Manchester
Sue HAFEMAN	Sue HAFEMAN	Manchester
Jill Pelletier	Jill Pelletier	Concord, NH
Gloria St. Pierre	Gloria St. Pierre	Manchester, N.H.
Deborah Curtier	Deborah A Curtier	Londonderry NH
Debbie Watkins	Debbie Watkins	Manchester, NH
MARIE INGALLS	Marie Ingalls	Hooksett, N.H.
SUE HAFEMAN	Sue Hafeman	Manchester, NH
Aline Cote	Aline Cote	Hooksett, N.H.
Lori Miles	Lorraine Miles	Auburn, N.H.
Lynne Howard	Lynne Howard	Auburn NH

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PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

TOWN

Mary Gichosky

Mary Gichosky

Concord, NH

Wendy Burke

Wendy Burke

Loudon, NH

Richard Spear

Richard Spear

New Hampton, NH

Diana A. Raymond

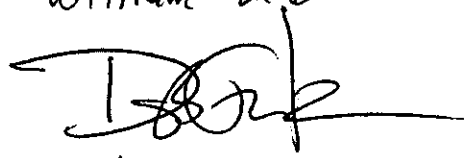
Diana Raymond

Conterbury, NH

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R, sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
SANJA POLIC CHAMBERS	SANJA POLIC CHAMBERS	N. SANDWICH
DONALD MCD. CHAMBERS	[Signature]	NORTH SANDWICH
Ken Hall	Ken Hall	center Sandwich
David Guleserian	DAVID GULESERIAN	" "
CHRIS BUERK	[Signature]	WEST OSSIFEE
ASHLEY BULLARD	[Signature]	NORTH SANDWICH
Betty V. Webster	BETTY V WEBSTER	Sandwich
Susan Sorlien	Susan Sorlien	N. Sandwich
Roger Sorlien	[Signature]	N. Sandwich
Katie O'Connell	Kathleen O'Connell	N. Sandwich
^{DECLAN O'CONNOR} Declan O'Connell	[Signature]	N. SANDWICH
RICHARD A. BLEED JR.	[Signature]	North Sandwich NH.
Christine Leachman-Yee	[Signature]	North Sandwich, NH
Lois Carmody	Lois Carmody	N. Sandwich NH
Tracee Hammond	Tracee M. Hammond	Tamworth NH.

William L. Dunn
Douglas F. WYMAN, JR.
Joyce L. LENAS
Island, Me

William L. Dunn

Thomas
Freemery, Me

N. Sandwich ME
MOULTONBOROUGH
N. SANDWICH NH
N. Sandwich, NH

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R , sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

TOWN

Rodney DeGreenia Rodney DeGreenia Gorham

Leo Carrier Leo Carrier Gorham

David Donato David Donato Berlin

Steven Gagnon Steven Gagnon Milan

Robert Sakschajin Robert Sakschajin Berlin

Steve Mooney Steve Mooney Milan

Emile Buteau Emile Buteau Berlin

ARMAND DUPONT Armand Dupont Berlin

GARY LAROCHE Gary Laroché Berlin

PAUL DUBOIS Paul Dubois Berlin

Norman Luss Norman Luss Gorham

Gary A Vaillancourt Gary A Vaillancourt Berlin

Richard Dube Steve E Dube Gorham, N.H.


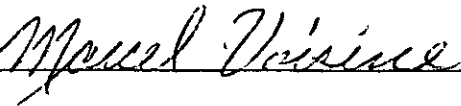
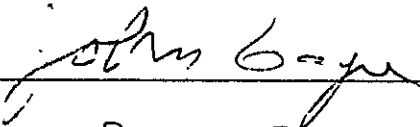
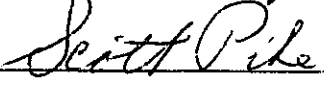
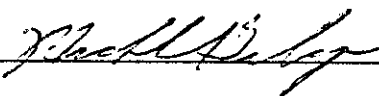

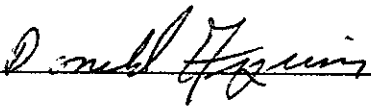

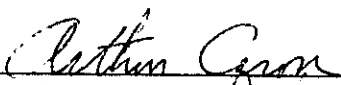
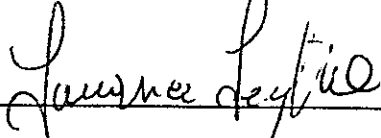
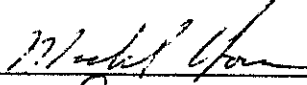

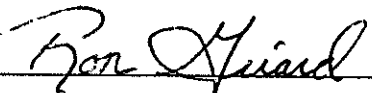
NH Representative Susan Kepner of Hampton has introduced legislation for 2010 to set humane standards for dog tethering (LSR 2010-H-2379-L) and humane standards for breeders (LSR 2010-H-2201-R). Right now these bills are being printed at the state printer, then they will be assigned a bill number, then they will be sent to one of the standing Committees in the NH House of Representatives for a public hearing. This is the first critical step in the legislative process.

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R , sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
David Alonzo	David Alonzo	Berlin NH
LARRY BOUCHER	Larry Boucher	Berlin N.H.
Robert Petres	Rob Pet	Berlin NH
Alan Judson	Alan Judson	Berlin N.H.
Michael Tardiff	Michael Tardiff	Berlin N.H.
Kimberly Tardiff	Kimberly Tardiff	Berlin N.H.
Dennis Bilodeau	Dennis Bilodeau	Berlin, N.H.
Leo FONTAINE	Leo Fontaine	Berlin N.H.
Robert Coulombe	Robert Coulombe	Berlin N.H.
Robert Anselotti	Rob Anselotti	Berlin N.H.

NH Representative Susan Kepner of Hampton has introduced legislation for 2010 to set humane standards for dog tethering (LSR 2010-H-2379-L) and humane standards for breeders (LSR 2010-H-2201-R). Right now these bills are being printed at the state printer, then they will be assigned a bill number, then they will be sent to one of the standing Committees in the NH House of Representatives for a public hearing. This is the first critical step in the legislative process.

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PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
RICHARD GIRARD		Berlin
MARIE VOISINE		Milare
JOHN CAGNE		BERLIN
SCOTT PIKE		Gorham
MICHAEL BELANGER		BERLIN
Alex Kluchnick		Gorham N.H.
DONALD ARGUIN		RANDOLPH N.H.
Robert Theriault		MILAN N.H.
Arthur Caron		Milan N.H.
LAWRENCE LEMAY		Gorham, N.H.
Michael Horne		Berlin N.H.
STEWART WHITE		BERLIN N.H.
RON GIRARD		Milam, N.H.

NH Representative Susan Kepner of Hampton has introduced legislation for 2010 to set humane standards for dog tethering (LSR 2010-H-2379-L) and humane standards for breeders (LSR 2010-H-2201-R). Right now these bills are being printed at the state printer, then they will be assigned a bill number, then they will be sent to one of the standing Committees in the NH House of Representatives for a public hearing. This is the first critical step in the legislative process.

House Environment & Agriculture Committee
January 21, 2010

RE: HB 1624: Breeder Restrictions

Submitted by Yvonne Nanasi, Legislative Consultant, Dog Owners of the Granite State

Dog Owners of the Granite State (DOGS) is an American Kennel Club affiliate that advocates for dog breeders, owners, trainers, dog training clubs, kennel owners and kennel clubs in New Hampshire.

HB 1624 presents numerous problems for those who responsibly breed and own dogs in New Hampshire. Moreover, it presents the potential for litigation and violation of Fourth Amendment rights if enacted.

Several courts have agreed that limit laws are unjust. In 1994 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania struck down an ordinance enacted by the Borough of Carnegie that limited residents to five cats or dogs per household (*Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Creighton, 1994*). Similarly, a two-dog limit in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota was challenged and ruled unconstitutional (*Holt v. City of Sauk Rapids, 1997*)

In *Commonwealth v. Creighton, PA. Cmwlth.*, 639 A.2d 1296 (1994), the Court found there was no proof of a rational relationship between the number of animals per household and the government objective of controlling nuisances. This is the second court decision striking down pet limit laws. The first took place in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and removed an ordinance that limited residents to five pets. In resolving that case, the judge quoted from *Kadash vs City of Williamsport, 1975*: “What is not an infringement upon public safety and is not a nuisance cannot be made one by legislative fiat and then prohibited. Even legitimate legislative goals cannot be pursued by means which stifle fundamental personal liberty when the goals can otherwise be more reasonably achieved.”

Furthermore, the US District Court of Western Kentucky in *Louisville Kennel Club v. LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (Case 3:07-cv-00230-CRS-J, 10/2/09)* stated in the memorandum opinion, “The Court will take the defense at its word. There being no apparent reason why the owners of unaltered dogs should be treated differently than the owners of their neutered counterparts, the written approval requirement lacks a rational basis and is unconstitutional.”

DOGS supports responsible ownership and breeding practices of all breeds of dogs. Laws are already in place that address many of the problems that would be identified by proper enforcement. The problems that HB 1624 seeks to resolve can be addressed with the current NH laws and regulations by the proper officials without taking away the rights of responsible citizens.

Dear Representative Palmer:

I would appreciate it if you would take a moment to read my concerns about this bill. I am a long time resident of NH and with my husband own, show, compete with, hunt and plan to breed Irish Setters. I am an active, working member of the Irish Setter Club of America, the Irish Setter Club of New England, Souhegan Kennel Club and the Irish Setter rescue coordinator for NH and I am a regular voter.

The restriction to not stack crates does not guarantee dogs are well cared for. Many people, particularly with smaller dogs, stack crates. If the crates have a solid metal or plastic pan in the floor of the crate there is no harm to either dog. At dog shows it is required that crates are stacked to allow for adequate room for all participants. Certainly no one at a show wants their dogs subject to urine or fecal material dripped upon them.

In addition, the requirement that dogs living in homes must "live loose" is of concern. My first thought is let me take a 1 or 2yo Irish Setter to the home of whoever suggested that and leave them loose for the day. My dogs (I currently have 2) are crate trained as pups. This helps to house train them more easily. A pup should not be loose in the house unless supervised any more than a 2yo child should be loose in the house without supervision. This protects the child or pup and the house. My dogs are never crated for excessive periods without potty breaks and are only crated when I'm not home. They spend most of their time loose with me or traveling with me but I do use crates. They get regular exercise of their choice via doggy door. My older bitch does not want 1 hour of exercise at one time. She naps on the couch a lot.

Limiting the number of dogs of any age limits my rights. There are already laws on the books requiring animals be well care for. If my female has 10 or 12 pups, I could easily end up with more than 10 dogs for a while until I find the right homes for them. "Rest between breeding cycles" flies in the face of the latest the latest Obstetrical Veterinary recommendations regarding the best care of the breeding bitch where breeding in subsequent cycles is recommended. (Hutchinson, DVM, Ohio) I would be happy to provide copies of this if you like. There is now considerable serious medical concerns about the early spay/neutering of dogs. (dysplasia, cancer, etc.) I would love to show some of that to you as well. That should be a medical or owner preference, not directed by law. I have owned dogs for 40 yrs. and never had an accidental breeding.

I have many more thoughts but this is getting lengthy. I will be at the hearing on 1/21/10 and others if these issues continue to come up. Feel free to contact me to discuss my thoughts. I'm very involved in rescue, health issues, training and showing of dogs and care as strongly for their welfare as anyone. This bill is mis-directed. Please reject it.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Carol Levesque
21 Upper Pratt Pond Rd.
New Ipswich, NH 03071
878-2923

Carol Levesque
Glendine Irish

Testimony re HB 1624 January 21, 2010 , before the Environment and Agriculture Committee by

James F Powers, Portsmouth, NH jimandeva@comcast.net

Madam Chair, members of the distinguished E & A Committee:

My name is Jim Powers, and I live in Portsmouth. I will be brief. I do not breed dogs commercially, nor do I buy from those who do, since adopting from shelters works for me. So whether this bill passes or not, my life will not change. But the lives of some the dogs involved will change if the bill becomes law. And since they can't speak for themselves, I will try to speak for them.

This bill seems quite simple to me. It provides for some basic things, like ensuring that dogs who are part of a business made up of 10 or more breeding dogs get an hour a day outside their cages to exercise, interact with people, and maybe even socialize with other dogs. It requires that if they need surgery, it be done with anesthesia by someone trained to do the procedure. None of this sounds outrageous to me.

You will hear that regulation is not needed, because breeders take good care of their animals, since the business depends on the welfare of their property. (Interestingly enough, this argument was used for many years in justification of slavery. But that's neither here nor there.) But regulations are not designed to limit business people who do the right thing, but to inhibit those who might not. We've seen an example of that recently. Most bankers are thoughtful, responsible citizens of great integrity. One of my sons is a banker. But, in the absence of regulation, some bankers were able to make bad decisions, which almost wrecked the world economy. Dog breeders are small businesses, and NH's economy is greatly dependent on small business. And yet, we do make regulations for the protection, safety and welfare of the employees in small businesses. And keep in mind, the dogs who would be protected by this bill are ones who produce the product. Their owners cannot make puppies on their own.

You may in your wisdom find some aspects of this bill which could be changed. Based on my four years of observation, I know that there are people on this committee who are very good and taking a bill which has merit and making it even better. So I am sure that you will take this bill very seriously, and do your usual great work.

Thank you for hearing me. I have written copies of my testimony.

Respectfully submitted to Members of the Environment and Agriculture Committee

For the passage of HB 1624-FN

My name is Wendy Van de Poll. I reside in Sandwich, NH. I am a licensed massage therapist in the State of NH and I am certified in canine and equine massage. I also hold a MS degree in Environmental Biology. I have done field research on both wolves and coyotes and taught graduate level courses on wolf behavior.

I have owned dogs for over 30 years. I am presently active in training and showing in obedience trials. I have owned both purebred and pound puppies. I would consider myself an educated, conscientious, and dedicated dog person. I have never bred dogs and do not plan on it.

In regards to the humane treatment of dogs in our state my opinion is something needs to be done about improving the laws that are currently in place. They are currently insufficient. We need to provide humane treatment laws that are current, responsible, ethical, fair and appropriate.

Although I agree that a bill is needed to promote the humane treatment of dogs HB 1624-FN is insufficient in the manner in which it spells out these safeguards. For example: caging, exercise and breeding specifications.

NH is a proud and innovative state. If we don't pass a bill to improve the humane treatment of dogs and we still follow the out-dated version currently in place what does that say to others about how we value our pets?

Thank you

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Van de Poll, MS, LMT

Lakes Region Massage Therapy for Human, Horse and Hound, LLC

603-284-6400

wildk9@gmail.com

HB 1624

House Environment And Agriculture Committee

Bob Jean
712 First NH Tpk.
Northwood, NH 03261
603-513-1859

Bob Jean's Testimony in Favor of HB1624 If Amended

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee I testify here today in support of HZB1624 if it is amended to include out of state breeders and brokers, and opposed if it does not.

In it's current form HB1624 is not an anti-puppy mill legislation, it's an anti-in-state puppy mill legislation. It is in fact a pro-out of state puppy mill bill because it holds in-state breeders to a different standard than out of state breeders.

That is a mistake, because in-state-breeders are currently within NH's jurisdiction and we can inspect those breeders. But out of state breeders and brokers who breed and sell hundreds and thousands of puppies each week to pet store all across the country and also here in NH will be immune from these reasonable standards.

This legislation should be amended to at least include the following considerations:

- First breeders AND brokers who's puppies are exported here to be sold in NH before 9 months of age should be licensed by the State of New Hampshire just like in-state breeders, and required to adhere to these same reasonable standards, and the State of NH should have the right for all inspections at the breeders' and brokers' expense no matter where they are located.
- Pet stores and other merchants who sell those puppies should have the burden to not sell any puppy that does not qualify within these

reasonable standards, particularly they should be required to only sell puppies from bitches that have NOT been bred in consecutive heat cycles.

- Paragraph IV should be amended to state: “Debarking, tail docking, surgical birth, *and spaying and neutering* shall be prohibited unless performed under general anesthesia by a licensed *NH* veterinarian. *Under no circumstances shall any of these procedures be performed by any non-veterinarian licensed personnel.* (Currently puppies are sold in NH that have been spayed and neutered by the breeder and broker exporting them into NH.)
- All puppies sold in pet stores should have the whole chain of ownership and transfers, with all contact information, listed in the most distinguished text on all health certificates and sales contracts so that consumers are clearly aware of the whole sales chain. In no case should any puppy seller be allowed to obscure this information.
- Fiscal Impact: All licensing fees should be calculated in a way that makes this bill revenue neutral. The Department of Agriculture should be required to utilize non-profit humane and S.P.C.A. organizations for inspection purposes of all breeders, brokers, and pet stores as a means to minimize the budgetary impact. (The Department already has this authority as it relates to pet stores, but has not utilized it in a practical, feasible, and systemic way. They should.)

I can be reached at 603-513-1859 to participate in the constructive formation of this legislation.

Comments Regarding HB 1624
Hearing on Jan 21, 2010

Please support HB 1624. Its purpose is to address the suffering of dogs being bred in horrible conditions (crates with wire bottoms being stacked on top of each other, dogs seldom, or never, being let out or socialized, etc.). One of my dogs was rescued from just such conditions here in NH - she survived four years of confinement and constant breeding - presumably for the pet store and internet market. On arrival, she was malnourished, pregnant, and terrified of people in general.

Responsible breeders have nothing to fear from this bill; in fact they should welcome it as an opportunity to weed out unscrupulous situations which tarnish the reputation of breeding in general. Nor should this bill result in increased demands of the Dept of Agriculture. Current law already requires them to inspect, twice a year, facilities that transfer household pets - with, or without, a fee. HB 1624 would merely specify some objective standards, rather than relying on the term "inhumane". This could help improve efficiency, as well as hopefully prevent conditions from reaching the point where dogs need to be confiscated - filling already overwhelmed shelters and rescue groups, and using resources for care and prosecution.

Several years ago, I spent four years working at the Monadnock Humane Society - a job making me painfully aware of the scope of neglect and abuse in NH, and the lack of regulations to assist those who must investigate these cases. So often there was little our investigator could do. Passage of this bill should not require that investigators spend increased time looking for these cases, but will support them when they do have to respond to complaints.

On behalf of Penny, and all animals still suffering, I ask for your support of HB 1624. Today she is healthy and happy, but I cringe at what she endured for those four years.

Thank you for reading these comments.

Nancy Pollard, 209 Pako Ave, Keene, NH 03431 pollardnancy@Yahoo.com



"we're more than a shelter"
January 21st, 2010

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

545 Route 101 • Bedford, NH 03110
603-472-3647 (DOGS) • Fax 603-471-9036
Website: www.rescueleague.org

My name is Maureen Prendergast and I am the Animal Cruelty Investigator/Outreach Coordinator for the Animal Rescue League of NH. I am also on the Governors Commission for the Humane Treatment of Animals. Although I do not represent the Governors Commission for this bill. I am however representing the Animal Rescue League of NH who is in support of HB 1624 an act relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

I would first like to say that the Animal Rescue League of NH does not wish to alienate itself against the many reputable breeders and dog owners in our state who do work hard to promote the best of their breed, and who promote responsible pet ownership. That being said, we do not feel this legislation is anti-breeder but rather it would be a useful tool in protecting against and potentially preventing any mass dog breeding practices. Commonly referred to as puppy mills. While there is some disagreement amongst even those in this room here today, that we actually have puppy mills in NH, for the purpose of this testimony I am considering this under the definition that puppy mills are large-scale breeding operations that produce a large number of puppies for profit. Given this definition, I have first hand professional experience that there are and have been puppy mills in NH.

It is not my goal to repeat testimony you have already heard and might still hear today, in favor of HB 1624. I do however welcome any follow up questions that you may have in the following days or weeks. You will find my contact information on the copies I will leave for you today. I will also be passing around some photos taken from the specific cases I will be referring to.

What I will testify about is an example of a puppy mill situation that I dealt with, that I was unable to effectively prosecute with the local police authorities I was working with and that went on for many years beyond what it should have taken. Specifically because I didn't have the backing of the law, as outlined in HB 1624, concerning more than 10 intact dogs, a lack of adequate caging, rest between breeding cycles, regular exercise, and tail docking.

There was a Rottweiler breeder that I spent many years trying to monitor, and taking complaints on, who at the time of the last litter I knew of, would kick and hit the nursing mother dog when she failed to produce milk. The same breeder who when this litter of pups were 3 weeks old (HB 1624 would prevent tail docking over 5 days hold and require it be done under general anesthesia and by a licensed veterinarian), held them down on a kitchen table as my witness watched her not only removed their dewclaws with a pair of

pliers, but as she tied elastic bands around their tails to ensure a docked tail. The witness described to me the screams and cries from the puppies as they struggled on the table. The one puppy that I was able to keep track of after they were all sold for profit, suffered a severe infection from the tail docking practice and who has since had difficulty sitting straight, due to the trauma sustained. Possibly this litter if not future litters, would have benefited from a bill like HB 1624.

These Rottweilers, often with their litters of pups, were kept stacked in wire cages inside the home. Rarely benefiting from regular exercise due to the large number of animals, as well as the fact they were all intact.

Just another example is the Chinese Shar-pei breeder who I was called in along with representatives from several other shelter's in NH, to remove 110 dogs from this mans home. These dogs were stacked in cages inside the home. Certainly there were many more than just 10 intact animals in the home. Why this operation was allowed to grow to 110 dogs before there was intervention by law enforcement is part of the reason that additional laws such as HB 1624 is necessary.

As I mentioned I am trying to limit my testimony today due to the consideration of time. Please do not take this as an indicator that HB 1624 is anything less than an incredibly important tool to assist police, animal control and humane investigators with protecting the dogs, puppies and consumers in NH and beyond. Please support HB 1624.

Sincerely,


Maureen Prendergast
Animal Cruelty Investigator/Community Outreach
Maureen@rescueleague.org
603-471-0888



January 21, 2010

TO: Chairman Sad, and Members of the NH HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE, Legislative Office Building Rm. 308 LOB, Concord, NH 03301

FROM: Paul Mirski, Chair, Legislative Committee, NH Wildlife Federation

RE: **HB1624-FN AN ACT relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.**

Chairman Sad, and members of the Committee,

NH Wildlife Federation (NHWF), which represents more than 7,000 sportsmen and women in New Hampshire, wishes to take this opportunity to voice our displeasure with **HB 1624-FN** and to respectfully request that the E&A Committee kill the bill.

HB1624-FN is onerous in so many ways for specialty breeders that it's difficult to know where to begin.

The bill appears to address commercial puppy mills and not relatively small volume specialty breeders who are interested in producing high quality sporting dogs and/or competitive field trial dogs. Such breeders are primarily interested in improving the field performance characteristics of the various sporting breeds..

High quality field trial dogs are expensive to purchase initially. Once proven in competitive trials, their value often increases dramatically and it's not unusual for champions to command prices in the multiple tens of thousands of dollars. It's important to point out that all the incentive, regardless of some breeders' eccentricities, is for better rather than poorer care of such high quality animals.

The bill requires small volume specialty breeders to unnecessarily invest in the same sort of facilities required of commercial breeders and pet shops as described in AG 1702

Some high quality specialty breeders are able to perform certain veterinary procedures like tail docking. When so experienced, such breeders should not be required to have to pay for the services of a vet.

Because its provisions are aimed at commercial high volume operations the bill fails to recognize many unique aspects of specialty breeding of competitive dogs. Consequently, many low volume specialty breeders could easily run afoul of various detailed provisions of the bill having to do with caging, adequate rest, regular exercise and tail docking despite specialty breeders being, on average, much more conscientious than commercial breeders and pet shops.

For the reasons outlined above, please know that at its annual meeting on January 9, 2010, the Board of Directors and Delegates of the New Hampshire Wildlife Federation voted to **OPPOSE passage of HB1624-FN**. Therefore, the NHWF requests that the House Environment and Agriculture Committee find **HB 1624-FN INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE (ITL)**.

Respectfully,

Paul Mirski, Chair, NHWF Legislative Committee

NH Wildlife Federation, 54 Portsmouth Street, Concord, NH 03301
Telephone 603-224-5953
WWW.NHWF.ORG

Comments supporting HB 1624; Hearing Date January 21, 2010

By Eva A. Powers, 3 Currier's Cove, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Contact info: evapow1@comcast.net or 603 436-7896

My name is Eva Powers and I live in Portsmouth NH

I would like to highlight why I support this bill.

The key is creating humane standards of care for breeding dogs in NH. It is not about standards for food that we eat. It is not about standards for a furniture factory or a car manufacturer. It is about standards for creating "man's best friend". It is about setting the key beginning stage for living beings that breeders implicitly promise can be trusted with your children, in your home, perhaps hopefully even in your bed. And by the way this bill only applies to breeders with 10 or more breeding dogs, not to the family pet.

In order to create "man's best friend" certain conditions must exist to socialize this trusted creature. This requires handling and kindly interaction at a very early age.

This bill sets a limit of 50 breeding dogs in a facility. It sets standards for surgery, standards for exercise, and standards to limit non-stop years of breeding.

Consider the context of this bill. It is a bill for breeding dogs in NH and how animals are treated here. Its goals are not to make the business maximally profitable. If breeders need to spend money on a small run for the animals to exercise, if they need to build comfortable cages, if they need to have staff to exercise the dogs for one out of 24 hours in a day so be it. Breeders have made a choice not to go into manufacturing things where you can have an assembly line twenty-four/seven. They hopefully make a choice to set the conditions to create beings that are invited into a home to be a trusted companion to everyone in a human family. They are creating a miracle not an asset.

Thank you for your time

Good Afternoon Mr. or Madame Chairperson / Committee Members.

My name is Sherry Bezanson. I'm a Londonderry resident. Professionally I'm a realtor with Prudential Verani Realty and interior designer.

I love my work but my true passion in life is animals. I've spent much of my life assisting homeless and abused animals. I've volunteered at shelters here in NH, GA and FLA. I've volunteered at countless spay/neuter clinics at my veterinarian, Dr. Taylor's clinic in Franklin.

I'm a member of the HSUS and NHARL.

I'm also a member and volunteer for Shih Tzu Furbaby Rescue. They are a national dog rescue organization dedicated to the welfare and rehoming of homeless and abused animals. This organization works tirelessly day in and day out placing 1000's of homeless animals each year. I assist transporting dogs to their new homes as well as fostering dogs in my home.

I want to voice my STRONG support for this bill. I have first hand experience with "puppy mills" and "puppy mill type puppies", and breeders who are more interested in how much money they can make from their dogs than in the dog's general health or welfare. I've seen and dealt with many defective and sick dogs from pet stores, who purchase their dogs almost exclusively from puppy mill breeders - mostly from the Midwest, many of which I done a tremendous amount of research on as well.

I've also seen the likes of local unscrupulous breeders here in NH that have treated their animals the same way.

There's a big difference between a qualified, compassionate, educated breeder, and the "factory farm" or puppy mill type breeder. Honestly, having read this bill, I don't see why any of these regulations would be objected to by a reputable breeder.

I'm particularly pleased to see the regulation regarding consecutive or subsequent heat breeding. NO DOG should be forced to produce a litter twice a year. After carrying puppies for 9 weeks, and then nursing them for an additional 2 months, these dogs are tired, both mentally and physically, they need to skip at least one heat cycle to regain their strength, muscle and uterine tone, and healthy immune systems. Studies have shown that this type of back to back breeding is not healthy for a dog.

I've spoken extensively with my veterinarian and several other vets about this topic. In fact, my vet would have been here to testify except he's away at a national conference that was unfortunately scheduled the same time as this hearing. He did submit written testimony though and has agreed to answer any questions the committee members may have.

In closing, I believe this bill is critical to the well being of NH breeding dogs that are kept for the sole purpose producing puppies living in cages most if not, their entire lives. They deserve to be treated humanely and breeders need to be held accountable for the care of these dogs. They don't have a voice. We are their voice. I ask that you please support HB1624.

Please feel free to contact with any questions.

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www.PuppyMillDogsVoice.org

January 21, 2010

To: Chair Person Tara Sad and members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee.

RE: HB 1624 Relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state (Puppy Mill bill)

Passage of HB 1624 would place or inflict onerous requirements upon owners of Foxhound Kennels and sportsmen alike. In the Granite State.

HB 1624 is completely unnecessary based on RSA 437 which adequately regulates the breeding and husbandry of dogs within the state of NH. Rather than trying to further limit the rights of responsible breeders and owners, the State should concentrate on ensuring the resources needed to enforce the existing legislation are available so there is no increase burden on the state financially in terms of oversight and enforcement.

Furthermore, there is no documentation of there being an exorbitant number of puppy mills in New Hampshire, and HB 1624 will do nothing to prevent puppy mills from entering the state. If the State has documented cases of puppy mills, they should be concentrating on eradicating and prosecuting those individuals through the enforcement of the current legislation, not imposing new widespread regulations which will have no effect on the irreputable breeders HB 1624 is claiming to target.

HB 1624 is designed to open the door to HSUS's agenda of further legislation to limit responsible breeders' rights to continue their businesses, to increase HSUS's power to seize animals without evidence of wrongdoing, and to strip breeders of their rights to maintain intact breeding animals as is appropriate to their breeding program.

Foxhound kennels across the state provide abundant care of their dogs. As avid outdoorsmen and hunters, significant time and money is spent on every dog. Future breedings are carefully considered, selecting only the best bloodlines. However, that selection can take years to formulate. Thus we need to keep intact dogs past the four month threshold set in this bill. Many of us are already regulated by the Masters of Foxhounds of America, who have strict standards and regulations for hound care, kennel construction and veterinary record keeping. Each one of our hounds are an extension of our family. Each hound is loved, cared for and respected. We emphatically abhor animal cruelty and neglect. We do not sell puppies to the general public, but we may trade them amongst ourselves.

Some specific opposition to HB1624:

1. The bill uses a random number to define how many dogs can be adequately cared for by an individual or breeder.

This will force any Foxhound kennel with more than 10 intact dogs to comply with regulations (AGR 1702) currently reserved for pet stores, animal shelters, and commercial kennels (ie. puppy mills), even should such breeder not be a hobby breeder.

2. The bill limits the number of dogs a person can own. Theoretically defining the quality of an animal's care by simply limiting the number of animals an individual can own. The state puts no limit on the number of cows, goats, pigs, or sheep an individual may own.

3. The bill regulates the number of intact animal as of 4 months old which will force Foxhound kennels and individuals to sterilize animals at an absurdly young age to abide by the arbitrary 10 dog limit. This is an indication of how the State will define sexual maturity in possible future mandatory spay/neuter legislation.

4. By using an age of 4 months to define maturity, this bill reduces the quality of care and quality of life for dogs. The age of 4 months is widely accepted as too young for sterilization, and may result in a wide range of subsequent health problems including an increase in the risk of certain cancers and other serious health issues as well as reduced life expectancy. It is the right of the individual and the individuals' veterinarian to make medical decisions in regard to the sterilization of their animals based on their own animal's needs.

5. The bill defines 4 months age as maturity while at the same time defining the responsible age for breeding at 1 year. A responsible Foxhound owner waits until their dogs are 2 years of age before breeding (for health screening and sexual maturity of the animal). This bill would force a Foxhound owner to make drastic decisions about their breeding stock by 4 months of age in order to stay under the total "dog quantity limit" as many Foxhound kennels retain all the puppies from a breeding. Thus, resulting in irresponsible breeding practices that would not normally exist.

6. The bill defines adequate caging and exercise requirements without regard to the breed of dog, size of dog, health of dog or the needs of the individual animal. As a result, this bill requires a toy breed with cancer to meet the same requirements as a Wolfhound with a thyroid condition and a Border Collie with a heart condition; along with all the healthy dogs in the state. And while the bill does not state that the dog must be outside, most breeders do not have an indoor climate controlled "play area" in which to make the exercise requirement feasible, thus dictating the best interest of a Chihuahua is to be outside for "not less than an hour" each day regardless of winter with wind chill in the negatives and the best interest of a double-coated Alaskan Malamute to be outside for not less than an hour each day during summer in temperatures over 90 degrees with high humidity.

7) The most egregious component of this bill relates to "The commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets, and food, or designee, including any duly appointed agent of any humane society, S.P.C.A. incorporated in the state of New Hampshire, or animal control officer, is hereby authorized on the commissioner's own initiative or pursuant to complaints of other persons to investigate complaints made pursuant to this section." No Humane Society, SPCA or duly appointed agent should have the authority to violate a person's right to come on their property and inspect a kennel without due process. The HSUS, SPCA or other organizations are not law enforcement officials and deputizing them would result in the loss of pets all across the state as well as forcing the owner into unnecessary legal proceedings. HSUS has tried, in several different pieces of legislation to get this provision passed. This is just another attempt to push their agenda upon pet owners.

I have spoken to all the Foxhound kennels across the state. That encompasses more than 100 hounds. We are all opposed to the passage of HB 1624. We ask that members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee **find**

HB1624 INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE (ITL).

Respectfully,

Gregory J. Kittredge
Master of Foxhounds
Guilford Hounds
Alstead, NH 03602
603 762-3190

To the Members of the Department of Environment and Agriculture Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to speak to HB 1624.

My name is Christine Leachman-Yee and I reside in North Sandwich. I am a dog owner and very active in dog rescue as well. I have also volunteered at my local shelter. I have had some concerns regarding some breeding practices that I have witnessed, that I feel are not humane. I'm hoping that this committee will see to it this is addressed.

I would like to focus my testimony today on the "exercise" component of HB 1624. I have looked at several guidelines for breeds in regards to this, from Maltese (needs a daily walk or fenced exercise) to Brittanys (need a brisk walk) to Newfoundlands (does well with a long walk each day)-- each of these stating that a dog needs appropriate exercise. Yet I have observed a breeder situation where this is not the case. Dogs are kenneled outside, 24/7, in all types of weather...snow, rain, temperatures of below zero to those above 90. Yes, they have rudimentary shelter and water, and since that is the minimum requirement in this state, it is within the current state of the law. Yet, these animals never get out of their enclosure, never have the opportunity to stretch their legs, never enjoy a good run or even a walk on leash.

One of the questions in our rescue for applicants is "how will you exercise the dog?", since that is an important part of a dog's well-being, so it is beyond me that a breeder can keep a breed that he or she loves, completely cooped up for its life. In the shelters that I am familiar with in this state, I have seen exercise areas, and I have personally walked dogs as part of my volunteer activity. It would then appear that shelters view exercise as a necessary part of a dog's well-being. How is it then, that some breeders do not?

While we might need to take into consideration the breed and size of a dog in terms of the amount of exercise, the consensus is that all dogs need appropriate amounts of exercise. Dr, Susan Nelson of Kansas State University said dogs, like people, reap many benefits from exercise.

* In general, larger and working dogs have higher energy needs, and smaller/toy breeds need less exercise.

* Ideally, dogs should get out twice daily for exercise. Times may vary from 15-60 minutes, depending on your individual pet.

In conclusion, the evidence does indicate that exercise is an important part of a dog's life, and that is why I have spoken to this particular component of HB 1624. I ask for your support.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Leachman-Yee
North Sandwich, New Hampshire



International Canine Semen Bank, Inc.

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1/15/10

To Whom It May Concern,

The progesterone post ovulation is not influenced by pregnancy/
non-pregnancy. Therefore, the uterus is not benefited by skipping
an estrous cycle as one sees in other species. The uterus ages and
moves towards cystic endometrial hyperplasia and pyometritis due
to lifetime progesterone exposure which is not influenced by
breeding history.

Sincerely,

Robert Hutchison, D.V.M.

RH/mr

BASICS

DEFINITION

Cystic endometrial hyperplasia is a hormonally mediated, progressive pathologic change in the uterine lining. Pyometra develops secondary to cystic endometrial hyperplasia when bacterial invasion of the abnormal endometrium leads to intraluminal accumulation of purulent exudate.

Pathophysiology

Normal cycling bitches experience a 2-month diestrus, with ovarian secretion of progesterone after every estrus. Repeated exposure of the endometrium to high concentrations of estrogen followed by high concentrations of progesterone in the absence of pregnancy leads to cystic endometrial hyperplasia. Secretions formed are an excellent medium for growth of bacteria ascending from the vagina through the partially open cervix during proestrus and estrus. Bacteria involved are those of the normal vaginal flora; *Escherichia coli* is the most common isolate.

Systems Affected

- Reproductive
- Renal/Urologic
- Hemic/ Lymphatic/Immune
- Hepatobiliary

Genetics

No genetic predisposition known

from vet connect

Studies Find Ovarian Advantage for Longevity

It is well-documented that women live longer than men—and two recent studies reveal that the same applies for female dogs.

The advantage is ovaries: The studies prove that women who still have their ovaries live longer than those who had hysterectomies, and intact bitches live longer than those who are spayed.

"Like women, female dogs in our study had a distinct survival advantage over males. But taking away ovaries during the first four years of life completely erased the female survival advantage," says David J. Waters, doctor of veterinary medicine and executive director of the Gerald R. Murphy Cancer Foundation. "We found that female Rottweilers that kept their ovaries for at least six years were four times more likely to reach exceptional longevity compared to females who had the shortest lifetime ovary exposure."

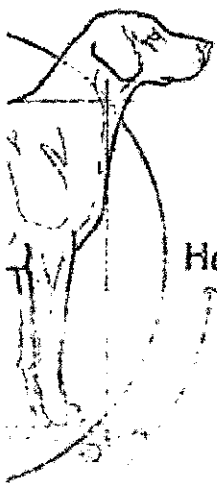
Waters's team analyzed the medical histories and causes of death for more than 100 Rottweilers who lived 13 years, then compared this information to a group of Rottweilers with average life spans.

The research coincides with a study conducted by Dr. William Parker, of the John Wayne Cancer Institute. Parker's team discovered that though a hysterectomy does protect against ovarian, uterine, and breast cancer, it shortens longevity.

"What we have here is a compelling convergence," Waters says. "The data from women and dogs, together with reported longevity benefits from ovary transplants in mice, are pointing in the same direction—the notion that a network of processes regulating longevity is under ovarian control." ♦

The Provet chart gives (the range of) maturation rates of various joints
> in the legs of dogs. And, that rate will vary by breed. We have these
> growth plates in our feet, legs, skull.
>
> Bones are tipped with cartilage at the joint, and that tip is soft and
> flexible in immature mammals. This cartilage connection is the growth
> plate. As the bones grow, the cartilage will lengthen and finally
> solidify with physical/sexual maturity. Hormones play a key role in this
> process.
>
> (Folks who train their dogs in agility and other physically demanding
> sports will be very careful not to overwork a young dog until those tender
> growth plates have matured. They don't want to damage the growth plates in
> the joints of a young dog.)
>

Articles & Excerpts



Home Early Spay-Neuter Considerations

for the Canine Athlete

One Veterinarian's Opinion

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articles & excerpts

books

Diagrams of dog skeletons

supporting literature

links



Those of us with responsibility for the health of canine athletes need to continually read and evaluate new scientific studies to ensure that we are taking the most appropriate care of our performance dogs. This article provides evidence through a number of recent studies to suggest that veterinarians and owners working with canine athletes should revisit the standard protocol in which all dogs that are not intended for breeding are spayed and neutered at or before 6 months of age.

Orthopedic Considerations

A study by Salmeri *et al* in 1991 found that bitches spayed at 7 weeks grew significantly taller than those spayed at 7 months, who were taller than those not spayed (or presumably spayed after the growth plates had closed). (1) A study of 1444 Golden Retrievers performed in 1998 and 1999 also found bitches and dogs spayed and neutered at less than a year of age were significantly taller than those spayed or neutered at more than a year of age. (2) The sex hormones, by communicating with a number of other growth-related hormones, promote the closure of the growth plates at puberty (3), so the bones of dogs or bitches neutered or spayed before puberty continue to grow. Dogs that have been spayed or neutered well before puberty can frequently be identified by their longer limbs, lighter bone structure, narrow chests and narrow skulls. This abnormal growth frequently results in significant alterations in body proportions and particularly the lengths (and therefore weights) of certain bones

relative to others. For example, if the femur has achieved its genetically determined normal length at 8 months when a dog gets spayed or neutered, but the tibia, which normally stops growing at 12 to 14 months of age continues to grow, then an abnormal angle may develop at the stifle. In addition, with the extra growth, the lower leg below the stifle likely becomes heavier (because it is longer), and may cause increased stresses on the cranial cruciate ligament. In addition, sex hormones are critical for achieving peak bone density.(4) These structural and physiological alterations may be the reason why at least one recent study showed that spayed and neutered dogs had a higher incidence of CCL rupture.(5) Another recent study showed that dogs spayed or neutered before 5 1/2 months had a significantly higher incidence of hip dysplasia than those spayed or neutered after 5 1/2 months of age, although it should be noted that in this study there were no standard criteria for the diagnosis of hip dysplasia.(6) Nonetheless, breeders of purebred dogs should be cognizant of these studies and should consider whether or not pups they bred were spayed or neutered when considering breeding decisions.

Cancer Considerations

A retrospective study of cardiac tumors in dogs showed that there was a 5 times greater risk of hemangiosarcoma, one of the three most common cancers in dogs, in spayed bitches than intact bitches and a 2.4 times greater risk of hemangiosarcoma in neutered dogs as compared to intact males.(7) A study of 3218 dogs demonstrated that dogs that were neutered before a year of age had a significantly increased chance of developing bone cancer.(8) A separate study showed that neutered dogs had a two-fold higher risk of developing bone cancer.(9) Despite the common belief that neutering dogs helps prevent prostate cancer, at least one study suggests that neutering provides no benefit.(10) There certainly is evidence of a slightly increased risk of mammary cancer in female dogs after one heat cycle, and for increased risk with each subsequent heat. While about 30 % of mammary cancers are malignant, as in humans, when caught and surgically removed early the prognosis is very good.(12) Luckily, canine athletes are handled frequently and generally receive prompt veterinary care.

Behavioral Considerations

The study that identified a higher incidence of cranial cruciate ligament rupture in spayed or neutered dogs also identified an increased incidence of sexual behaviors in males and females that were neutered early.(5) Further, the study that identified a higher incidence of hip dysplasia in dogs neutered or spayed before 5 1/2 months also showed that early age gonadectomy was associated with an increased incidence of noise phobias and undesirable sexual

behaviors.(6) A recent report of the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation reported significantly more behavioral problems in spayed and neutered bitches and dogs. The most commonly observed behavioral problem in spayed females was fearful behavior and the most common problem in males was aggression.(12)

Other Health Considerations

A number of studies have shown that there is an increase in the incidence of female urinary incontinence in dogs spayed early (13), although this finding has not been universal. Certainly there is evidence that ovarian hormones are critical for maintenance of genital tissue structure and contractility.(14, 15) Neutering also has been associated with an increased likelihood of urethral sphincter incontinence in males.(16) This problem is an inconvenience, and not usually life-threatening, but nonetheless one that requires the dog to be medicated for life. A health survey of several thousand Golden Retrievers showed that spayed or neutered dogs were more likely to develop hypothyroidism.(2) This study is consistent with the results of another study in which neutering and spaying was determined to be the most significant gender-associated risk factor for development of hypothyroidism.(17) Infectious diseases were more common in dogs that were spayed or neutered at 24 weeks or less as opposed to those undergoing gonadectomy at more than 24 weeks.(18) Finally, the AKC-CHF report demonstrated a higher incidence of adverse reactions to vaccines in neutered dogs as compared to intact.(12)



I have gathered these studies to show that our practice of routinely spaying or neutering every dog at or before the age of 6 months is not a black-and-white issue. Clearly more studies need to be done to evaluate the effects of prepubertal spaying and neutering, particularly in canine athletes.

Currently, I have significant concerns with spaying or neutering canine athletes before puberty. But of course, there is the pet overpopulation problem. How can we prevent the production of unwanted dogs while still leaving the gonads to produce the hormones that are so important to canine growth and development? One answer would be to perform vasectomies in males and tubal ligation in females, to be followed after maturity by ovariectomy in females to prevent mammary cancer and pyometra. One possible disadvantage is that vasectomy

does not prevent some unwanted behaviors associated with males such as marking and humping. On the other hand, females and neutered males frequently participate in these behaviors too. Really, training is the best solution for these issues. Another possible disadvantage is finding a veterinarian who is experienced in performing these procedures. Nonetheless, some do, and if the procedures were in greater demand, more veterinarians would learn them.

I believe it is important that we assess each situation individually. For canine athletes, I currently recommend that dogs and bitches be spayed or neutered after 14 months of age.

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Elin Phinizy
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January 21, 2010

House Environment and Agriculture Committee

Re: Opposition to HB 1624

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Elin Phinizy. I'm from Acworth, NH and my husband and I have raised Scottish Deerhounds for 40 years and I'm not a puppy mill. I am a former member of the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals; a former president, board member and show chairman of the Cheshire Kennel Club of Keene, N.H.; and a former board member and specialty chairman of the Scottish Deerhound Club of America. I founded the S.D.C.A. Rescue and Placement Committee in the 1980s. My husband is a former Board Member of the American Kennel Club and an AKC Delegate for over 25 years. Over the last 40 years, we have owned anywhere from 5 to 12 intact adult dogs at a time. We do not spay or neuter our dogs which turns out may be lucky for both the dogs and us as the Gerald P. Murphy Cancer Foundation as recently found that female dogs who kept their ovaries for at least six years were *"four times more likely to reach exceptional longevity compared to females who had the shortest lifetime ovary exposure."*

In the 1980's, my husband and I shut down a true "puppy mill" in Nebraska. This was a woman who was breeding many different breeds and selling the puppies, including Scottish Deerhounds, to pet stores. We lodged complaints with the USDA, provided testimony to the Nebraska legislature, and followed up to make sure our complaints were addressed.

Some of you may have received emails and phone calls generated by an alert from the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). They even provided a script calling HB 1624 "meaningful legislation to crack down on puppy mills." And adding "USDA standards are not enough to address the problem." **There are NO USDA licensed dog breeders in New Hampshire.** You should also be aware, that HSUS operates no dog shelters and, in 2008, spent almost \$20 million on "campaigns, legislation, and litigation." Imagine if that amount of money were actually spent on concrete help for animals – low-cost spay and neuter programs, for example.

NH does have approximately 5 people who hold commercial kennel, as defined by this committee, licenses from the state. They are required to meet standards set by the State Veterinarian and are inspected twice yearly. Any dogs or puppies they sell have to have a health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian.

There is not a problem with the over-breeding of dogs in New Hampshire. The American Veterinary Medical Association pet population calculator estimates that New Hampshire residents own approximately 332,000 dogs. Yet there is such a shortage of unwanted dogs, that the shelters are importing dogs from other parts of the country and overseas. Perhaps you remember the news stories in December about the 25 Chihuahuas that were flown in from California?

Frankly, I'm tired of HSUS and the Animal Rights fanatics equating breeders to puppy mills. Puppy mill is a derogatory term that has no legal meaning. Without breeders, there would be no Guide Dogs, no Service Dogs, No Livestock dogs, no Search and Rescue dogs, no Police K-9s, no hunting dogs and no sled dogs. The advantage to purebred dogs is their predictability and their predictable temperament, exercise, and grooming needs.

The ironic thing is that it is a small-scale breeder's responsible practices that make this bill apply to them. In my breed, for example, we don't begin to even sell our puppies until they are three months old, after doing testing for various possible diseases, and because of the large size of our litters (our first litter was 15 puppies), the rarity of our breed (less than 200 are born a year in the US), and the difficulty in finding appropriate homes, we easily could reach the threshold with just one litter. Because we are a small-scale dog breeder, the Internal Revenue Service says we can't deduct any expenses over income. In fact, the IRS considers dog breeding a hobby similar to stamp collecting or photography.

If we do reach the threshold, then here are some of the problems we would run into if this bill were to pass. I take my dogs for off leash walks in the woods, but that would not meet the criteria for regular exercise which requires that a dog be walked on lead. We have both dogs and cats that live together quite happily. Although this bill does allow our dogs to live in our house (making our house their "primary enclosure"), AGR 1702.05 (d) (4) says "*Dogs shall not be housed in the same primary enclosure with cats,*"

Additionally **it mandates a specific medical treatment by requiring that a veterinarian administer general anesthesia when performing a surgical birth, debarking operation, or tail docking.** The decision of what, if any, anesthesia a veterinarian administers during any procedure should be made by a trained medical professional, in consultation with the dog's owner not by the legislature or the people who proposed this bill. This is the case with human medicine. General anesthesia is not mandated when a woman has a caesarian and, in fact, is not the norm.

Requiring that a surgical birth or debarking be performed by a veterinarian is unnecessary as the N.H. Veterinary Practice Act, RSA 332-b, already prohibits the practice veterinary medicine without a license.

When commercial kennels were first licensed in 2004, dog owners were told by the same people who are bringing you this bill today that there was no intent to limit breeding and here we are six years later talking about limits on the number of dogs a person can own when there's not a problem with "so-called puppy mills" in our state. In two years, will they be back again with even more limitations? If someone who has 50 intact dogs is a "puppy mill", then is someone who has 50 dairy cows or 50 chickens a "factory farm?" I don't think so and I hope neither does this committee.


Finally, there is no compelling need for this bill. There have been very few cruelty cases involving breeders in New Hampshire over the last six years. Of course there has been an occasional one but there have also been cases involving cats, horses, and even a parakeet and an emu. In fact, the most recent cruelty case in the newspapers involved a person who was rescuing dogs from down South - not a breeder.

When these cases occur, the animals are taken care of voluntarily by animal shelters that are private, non-profit, non-governmental agencies whose mission is to care for animals. They are not required by law to take in the animals. They are not even required to have any training in animal husbandry. They receive monies through contracts with the towns and through contributions by the public. In 2007, the shelter that provided most of the information for the

report to the Governor by the Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals, received almost \$750,000 in direct community support. To put this in perspective, in the same year, the Nashua Children's Home received less than \$250,000.

I have included copies of the testimony that I gave last year when this committee considered a bill to regulate breeders, as well as the testimony I submitted in 2008 in opposition to yet another "puppy mill" bill, SB 504, that was killed by the Senate. Please read them - many of the points are still valid. I am going to end by paraphrasing what I said to you last year: "...rather than discouraging breeders, New Hampshire should encourage local breeders. When buying a puppy or kitten from a local breeder, the new owner is able to meet the dam of litter and to have a resource for any questions or concerns that might develop over the life of the dog. Without them, a N.H. resident interested in purchasing a purebred puppy or kitten will have no recourse but to go to a pet store or to out-of-state breeders that may not take as good care of their dogs"

Please vote HB 1624 Inexpedient to legislate.



Elin C.M. Phinizy



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the Search!*

FEATURED SEARCH TEAM: JIM BOGGERI & RECON

by SDF Volunteer Judy Friedman - Los Angeles, CA

October, 2001-it was matchmaking time at Sundowners. Three firefighters had just completed SDF's training course and were eager to be paired up with their new canine partners, go back to their stations, and begin their new lives as Canine Search Specialists. Marin County Fire Captain Jim Boggeri waited along with the other new handlers to find out which dog would become his canine partner and life-long companion.

For many years Jim had tried to get his Chief to authorize a canine team for their department. The Chief remained unconvinced that there was truly a need...until September 11th. No sooner had the dust settled over Ground Zero than Jim got the go-ahead to enter SDF's training program. His dream was about to come true.

Once training was complete, it was decision time. Which dog would be his match? SDF Lead Trainer Pluis Davern has an uncanny ability to partner the right dog and handler, and SDF believes it's in the best interests of the dog and handler to let Pluis decide. But Jim had his eyes on Recon, a beautiful yellow lab. "As the dogs were brought out to meet us, Recon came bounding over at 60 miles per hour. I took one look and knew: we're made for each other! Our personalities just jibed," remembers Jim. Happily, Pluis agreed.



Jim Boggeri & Recon

Jim and Recon have been deployed to several disasters, including Hurricane Katrina. In May of 2006 Jim and Recon were deployed to a Mill Valley, CA mudslide.

"It was treacherous for the residents. The working conditions were very different from what we train in, but the dogs never quit. As rescue workers removed mud and debris, we would bring the dogs back in and re-work the area. They searched in very confined spaces below the house and in voids behind the walls. We were evacuated from the structure several times due to recurring mudslides. Recon's understanding of the search in such an adverse environment was amazing."

Jim and Recon's primary assignment is with the Marin County USAR Team (Regional Task Force 1), but they also participate with Oakland Task Force 4. In June of 2005, they became an Advanced Certified FEMA disaster search team. Jim was appointed SDF Bay Area Training Group Leader, overseeing the weekly training sessions of all SDF teams in the region.

Recon's name has a special story behind it. Shortly after 9/11, Wilma received a phone call from Stephen Doyle, a firefighter and key player with the FDNY hockey team. His hockey teammate and best friend Timmy McSweeney had died in the line of duty at the World Trade Center. To honor Timmy's memory, Stephen asked that an SDF trained disaster search dog be named after Timmy's FDNY ladder company, "Recon." A recently recruited dog formerly known as Ice became Recon.

Jim and his wife Kimberly, an Emergency Room Technician, traveled to New York to meet with Stephen Doyle and Timmy's family. "It was one of the most influential, moving moments in my life, knowing that my fate could have been the same as Tim's. I vowed then and there to honor Timmy's legacy through steadfast commitment to work and family."

Jim continues: "On the job, Recon is totally committed, dedicated and driven to succeed. He loves the search. Off the job, he's just a goofy lab with incredible spirit. Every day is a good day in the life of a lab. Having a crazy, enthusiastic, over-the-top, but lovable dog can put a strain on the family from time to time, and I couldn't have done this job without their unending support. My three children are all dog-lovers who happily embrace both Recon and our new bull mastiff, Cazzo."

Recon is significant to another family, too. In April of 2005, Police Officer Steven Zourkis of the Niles Police Department near Chicago was killed in the line of duty. To honor Steven's memory, the Niles community and the Department contributed \$10,000 to a Memorial Fund. Steven's wife, Ivy, decided that sponsoring a Search Dog would be a fitting tribute to her husband, a former Fire Department paramedic. Ivy and her two children chose Recon. "I wanted something meaningful to carry on Steven's legacy - he was always so committed to helping others. When I learned about the Search Dog Foundation, I instantly knew I had found it."

Recently SDF Founder Wilma Melville asked Jim to become SDF's newest Board member. "I never thought of myself as a 'Board' type of guy. But Wilma can be very persuasive, and convinced me that the Board needs a handler's point of view, especially when it comes to the planning of a new National Training Center. I'm now wholeheartedly committed to my work on the Board. I'm proud to be part of this outstanding group of people."

Jim is living his life's dream and wants to inspire others to follow along this same path. His advice: "Understand the nature of the job and the commitment needed. Enjoy the successes, understanding that the highs and lows are extremes that will test your limits. Failure is simply not an option. I would like my legacy to be my commitment to fire service, and my respect and allegiance to my canine partner and the Search Dog Foundation."



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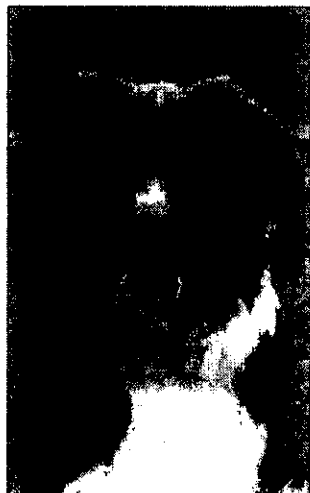
View Cart

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SDF Home

Handler Forum

*Thank You for
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the Search!*



Name: Hunter
Handler: Bill Monahan
Breed: Border Collie
Sex: Male
Born: October 28, 2002
Donated by: Patti Baldwin,
Capitola, CA
Prep Home: Kellee Matthews,
Sylmar, CA
Level: DHS/FEMA Certified
Training Group: L.A./Northnet

Hunter is a bundle of energy who can't wait to get to work every day with his handler Bill Monahan, a Captain on the Los Angeles County Fire Department....
[READ ENTIRE STORY >>](#)



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Meet the Search Dogs

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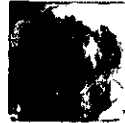
- The Search Dogs
- The Search Teams
- Deployments
- FAQS
- How You Can Help
- Corporate Club
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Handler Forum

*Thank You for
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the Search!*



Abby



Ace



Andy



Annie



Aspen



Baxter



Bella



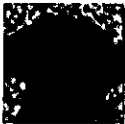
Bonnie



Brutus



Cadillac



Callie



Cappy



Cody



Comet



Dawson



Doc



Ellie



Elvis



Fletch



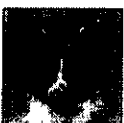
Gabby



Giuli



Glacier



Gypsy



Hero



Huck



Hunter



Icon



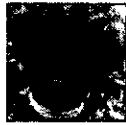
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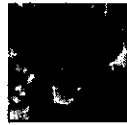
Jakers



Jazz



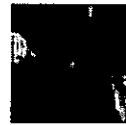
Jeb



Jerry



Jester



Jezzie



Joe



Krissy



Kura



Lani



Lilly-Belle



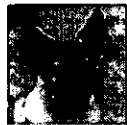
Lola



Marsi



Martini



Maverick



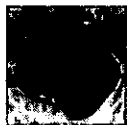
Mocha



Nelson



Nino



Pearl



Ranger



Recon



Rex



Rico



Riley



Rosa



Salsa



Sandi



Sandy



Sky



Speaker



Splash



Spuds



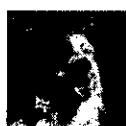
Stella



Tag



Taz



Tinker



Trapper



Trevor



Val



Wylie



Zoey

Elin C.M. Phinizy
P.O. Box 175
Acworth, NH 03601

February 10, 2009

N.H. House Environment and Agriculture Committee
Rep. Tara Sad, Chair

RE: HB337 0 AN ACT permitting the issue of temporary licenses for certain sellers of animals.

Madam Chair and members of the Committee,

By way of introduction, I have been a pet owner for my entire life. My husband and I have raised and occasionally bred Scottish Deerhounds for 39 years. I am a former member of the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals; a former president, board member and show chairman of the Cheshire Kennel Club of Keene, N.H.; and a former board member and specialty chairman of the Scottish Deerhound Club of America. I founded the S.D.C.A. Rescue and Placement Committee in the 1980s.

HB337 is a bad bill for a lot of reasons, most of which will be covered by other people. But, for the record, here are some my objections:

1. There's no point to this bill. The only thing this bill accomplishes is to create a new tax on dog and cat owners. A temporary license is not required to sell a horse, a goat, a cow or even a motorcycle or a car. Dog owners, through their dog licenses, already fund animal control, the NH Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, and the N.H. low-cost spay neuter fund.
2. If this law were to pass, if a friend or relative were to die leaving behind pets, people would be required to pay to get a license to find homes for those pets. That's hardly fair and would likely end up with the pets being taken to a shelter. The same would be true if someone lost their job and could no longer afford to keep their pets. Will the state veterinarian be required to inspect their home before a temporary license can be issued?
3. What happens to a dog or cat if a new home isn't found within 60 days? The owners are no longer allowed to find a home?

What I don't understand is why this bill is even being offered. At the present time, the State Veterinarian is notified of every dog or cat transferred within New Hampshire when his office receives a copy of the mandated health certificate. Surely, that should be adequate to deal with any enforcement problems.

I have seen it referred to as the "puppy mill bill." It doesn't affect puppy mills; it affects responsible breeders - New Hampshire dog and cat breeders - people who love

their animals. New Hampshire dog owners have been so responsible that shelters are importing dogs from all over the country just so they can have dogs available for adoption. The vets in my area report that 95% of the dogs and cats in their practice are neutered.

People who raise dogs and cats are not the "bad guys." That pet dog you love and who gives you unconditional love, had a breeder. The Labrador that makes the residents of the nursing home in Winchester happy had a breeder. The Search and Rescue dog that is called in when children or hikers go missing is the product of a breeder.

There's an old saying – "Good news doesn't sell papers." That's why Oprah does a story on "puppy mills" but she doesn't do a story on the 23 veterinary student scholarships the AKC gives out annually or the 107 research projects presently funded with grants from the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation. These research projects range from extended medical surveillance on the dogs deployed to the World Trade Center and the Pentagon after 9/11 to treatments for renal failure to diagnostic tests for more accurate and earlier detection of diseases such as cancer, heart defects, and infectious diseases. This research will help the health of all dogs and cats, not just purebreds.

Nor do we ever see stories about the Mississippi State University mobile vet clinic that was purchased with a grant from the American Kennel Club's Companion Animal Recovery Canine Support and Relief Fund. This van helped get veterinary care to the animal victims of Hurricane Gustav.

People who raise purebred dogs and cats attend shows put on by local New Hampshire clubs. These clubs use the income from their shows, their obedience classes, and their rabies and microchip clinics to support good causes. The Laconia Fire Department has pet oxygen masks thanks to the donations of the Lakes Region Kennel Club and a local school. The Souhegan Kennel Club donated to help the search dogs serving in Iraq. The Cheshire Kennel Club in Keene donates to the Keene Parks and Recreation Department and the Peggy Bell Scholarship Fund for local kids interested in going into veterinary medicine. The New Hampshire cat clubs donate to the N.H. Spay/Neuter Fund, local shelters and for health research.

Finally, I would think that rather than discouraging breeders, New Hampshire would want to encourage local breeders if you really want to do something about the so-called "puppy mills." When buying a puppy or kitten from a local breeder, the new owner is able to meet the dam of litter and to have a resource for any questions or concerns that might develop over the life of the dog or cat. Without them, a N.H. resident interested in purchasing a purebred puppy or kitten will have no recourse but to go to a pet store or to out-of-state breeders.

Please vote HB337 inexpedient to legislate. It is unnecessary and needlessly targets responsible dog and cat breeders.

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Elin Phinizy, and I'm a dog owner. When I first read SB504 to a friend who doesn't breed dogs, her reaction was: "They can't do this! That's like telling Fred's Hot Dog stand that they can only sell 100 hot dogs." Well, it's not quite the same, but it is the same as telling the dairy farmer that they can only raise 100 cows or the chicken farmers that they can only sell 200 chickens a year. The same people who call large scale breeders "puppy mills" characterize farms of this size as "factory farms."

First, there is no need for SB 504. I'm not sure New Hampshire even has any commercial kennels of the scale that this bill would like to outlaw. To the best of my knowledge, only humane societies, animal shelters, and pet stores sell these numbers of dogs in state.

Secondly, protections for the dogs are already available in present law. If a kennel this size were to move into New Hampshire, it would be required to obtain a commercial kennel license from the Department of Agriculture after first obtaining zoning approval in its town. Once licensed, it would be required by law to be inspected semi-annually by the State Veterinarian. If there were complaints about the condition of the dogs in between inspections, these complaints would be investigated by the State Veterinarian. If the Department's care and condition requirements are not met or the cruelty laws, RSA 644:8a, are violated, the Department has the ability to close the kennel down.

Moreover, all dogs, regardless of the size of the operation or where they are purchased, are required by law to be accompanied by a Health Certificate, which is issued by a licensed veterinarian. This guarantees the health of the dogs transferred. If a large scale commercial kennel were to move into New Hampshire and not comply with local and state requirements above and the animals were in poor condition, it could easily be shut down and the dogs and cats confiscated.

An arbitrary cap on the number of animals will not discourage those who will break the law or try to circumvent artificial requirements.

I am not so sure but that this bill may be in conflict with federal law. The USDA regulates large-scale breeding under the Animal Welfare Act. If a USDA licensed breeder were to move into New Hampshire, does New Hampshire law trump federal law? Not all large-scale breeders or sellers of dogs are so-called puppy mills. There are very respectable large volume kennels which breed for hunting, as guide dogs or service dogs.

What this bill does is create state sanctioned restraint of commerce and, by exempting animal shelters and "*any person or animal care center providing care for an abandoned animal*", it gives an unfair advantage to one sector within a group of people who sell dogs.

Ironically, due to a lack dogs available for adoption instate, New Hampshire's animal shelters and "rescues" are importing dogs from the South, the Mid-West, and even

the Caribbean. An alarming side effect of this massive importation is the introduction of a host of diseases, which New Hampshire's dog owners never had to contend with before. Frankly, it would be better to have New Hampshire residents rely on a local source for dogs rather than import these medical problems.

In 2007, four of New Hampshire's animal shelters alone imported over 600 dogs from just one shelter in Alabama. These dogs were loaded into vans and driven 23 hours to New Hampshire. The shelter in Alabama pays for the transport, and the shelters in New Hampshire "adopt"(sell) the dogs, usually within a week of transport. A for profit business that did the same thing would be called a pet store and, according to tax returns available at Guidestar, these participating New Hampshire shelters are making a profit.

SB504 addresses a problem that does not exist and establishes artificial numerical limitations. Are 21 litters so much worse than 18 litters? Twenty litters of Yorkies would only be twenty dogs or the same as two litters of Golden Retrievers.

When commercial kennels were first licensed in 2004, dog owners were told that there was no intent to limit breeding and here we are four years later with talking about limits on litters when there's not a problem with "so-called puppy mills" in our state. In two years, will the limits be reduced even further? Will it become difficult for New Hampshire residents to buy a purebred dog locally, where the buyers can meet the parents of the dogs being sold and see the conditions where the dogs are raised? Will New Hampshire residents who want a specific breed of dog have to search the internet, buying a dog from another state or foreign country that may not have animal protection laws as good as New Hampshire's and without any of the guarantees available if locally?



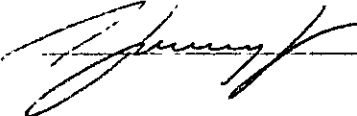
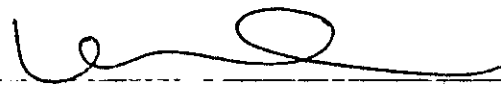
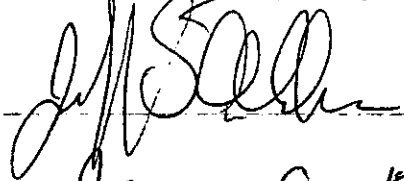
Dog breeders and dog sellers are the most regulated of all animal breeders in New Hampshire. Commercial kennels, besides being subject to the almost seventy pages of laws relating to dogs, have to abide by the Department of Agriculture's rules which cover everything from food, to sanitation, to the size and construction of pens, to vaccine schedules and to the disposal of hazardous waste. There is no pressing need for this bill.

I ask that you vote SB 504 inexpedient to legislate.

Thank you.

Elin Phinizy
Po Box 175
Acworth, NH 03601
603.835.2852
ecmp@sover.net

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R, sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	TOWN
Laurie Methven	Laurie Methven	Bradford, NH
Elliott DAFOE		FRANKLIN, NH
Chris Jordan		Franklin N.H.
Kimberly K. Hughes	Kimberly K. Hughes	Newton Jct, NH
RICHARD E GARNSEY JR		STRATHAM NH
Patricia Moneyperny	Patricia Moneyperny	Tamworth, NH
CHERYL MCINTIRE	Cheryl McIntire	Horsesh, NH
Russell Draper	Russell Draper	Franklin, N.H.
Lena Carpe		Warner NH
LISA MORRIS	LISA MORRIS	BON, NH
JEFF ALLEN		Manchester
Jayne Curtis	Jayne Curtis	Franklin
Lin Rannells	Lin Rannells	Franklin

We, the undersigned New Hampshire residents, support LSR 2010-H-2201-R , sponsored by Representative Susan Kepner, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders (setting humane standards for dog breeders and brokers).

PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

TOWN

Kristine Zielinski




BRADFORD, NH

David D. Melcher



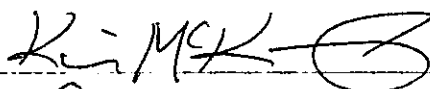
Manchester, N.H.

Eva Hanson



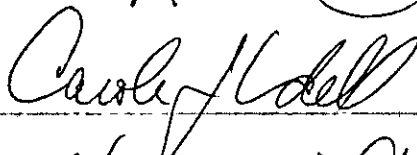
Warner, NH

KEVIN MCKENNEY



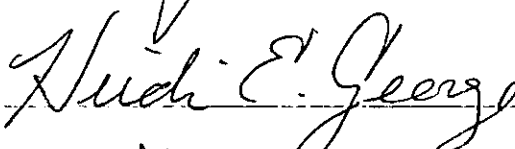
MANCHESTER, NH

CAROLE LUNDELL



FRANKLIN NH

Heidi George



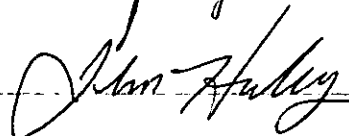
Tilton NH

Shannon Ferguson



Merrimack, NH

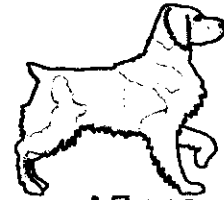
John Healey



Hudson, NH

Mattha Williams

Franklin, NH



PAWS N' EFFECT LLC

330 Paquette Ave
Manchester, NH03104-1755
January 15, 2010

Members of the NH House Environment and Agriculture Committee

Re: House Bill 1624-FN

Dear Honorable Representatives:

I am a Certified Dog Trainer/Canine Behavioral Consultant, with prior experience in the breeding and field handling of Dogs. I am a graduate of the Animal Behavior College with Honors, a member of HSUS, a guardian with the ASPCA, and a Benefactor with the American Brittany Rescue League. I am also an active Member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT) and the International Association of Canine Professionals (IACP). My interest in supporting HB 1624-FN is, ironically, a reflection of the almost prolific growth in my Behavioral Consulting Business. I am increasingly concerned about the growth over the past several years in levels of Anxiety, Fear, and Aggression issues I'm finding in many young Dogs. The overwhelming common denominator in most of these Puppies is having been bred in Puppy Mills or by "backyard breeders", and sold to the unsuspecting public through Pet Stores or over the Internet.

A mantra we half-jokingly used years ago when I was involved in breeding/handling was, "If you want your breed to be safe, keep them cheap". Make no mistake about it, the escalating growth in poor breeding and distribution to the public is all about MONEY and GREED – it is in its finest definition, supply, demand, and price. When breeds become overly popular or chic, Puppy Mills will "mass breed" these poor animals to meet the need. I think that if the average person knew how large the "mark-up" is on Puppy Mill dogs sold in Pet Stores or over the Internet, they would be shocked. As percentages, they are usually in the high-three to low four numbers!! There are no assurances, at the same time, as to the veracity of the Puppy's pedigree, its health, or its genetic composition. Caveat Emptor. Clearly my major concern is for the Safety, Health, and Happiness of these poor Dogs. But if the Animal Rights abuses aren't enough to encourage effective Legislation (I would ask all Legislators at sometime to personally visit any of the wonderful shelters/rescue leagues in NH and look at the conditions, fear, and hopelessness many of these Dogs face through no fault of theirs), they need to carefully consider the impact this has on the Owners. In most cases, these people bought their Puppies for the right reasons and with the expectation of a long life with a healthy, well-

adjusted Dog. In most cases they also paid too much for the Pup. They get the Pup home to discover that the Puppy is unsocialized, fearful/anxious, extremely hard to house-train, and "mouthy" both with barking and lack of bite inhibition. So many of the Dogs given up by owners to shelters bought them from Puppy Mills, and quickly discovered that the Behavioral Issues that came along with the Dog are due to complete lack of Socialization during their most formative years with the Dam and its siblings, too close in-breeding, and health/genetic problems, making their hopes a nightmare. They discover how severe these problems can be, and how expensive it is to deal with the related Health and Behavioral problems. I have had to stare into the eyes of far too many innocent owners who are devastated by the the emotional and financial trauma of deciding whether they should take the risk (and expense) of addressing these issues, or if they have to deal with "the guilt" of surrendering the Puppy. These people usually did nothing wrong, but now are faced with a heart-breaking (and wallet-breaking) crisis. Certainly, there are "human rights" issues also.

Remember, this is about economics, and we are talking real money for disreputable breeders/dealers. A dam is of no value if she is not constantly producing litters; effective health care is of no importance if the dam will be destroyed when she cannot produce; puppies have no retail value if they are sitting in a whelping box for "too long". As good as most Trainers are, there is no substitute for "Mother Nature". Think about the devastation that occurs with non-stop pregnancies for the Dam, destroying her ability and willingness to properly nurture her pups. Her immune system will eventually break down, and she will not be able to help her pups fight off illness. Often, the mother's vaccinations have lapsed also (why spend the money). When the mother is physically and emotionally spent, and she is not producing large enough or healthy enough litters, she will be destroyed. The most formative period of a puppy's development (it's imprint period) is the first ten weeks it spends with its mother who teaches it impeccably to control it's mouth (critical lessons for bite inhibition), hygiene, and proper social interaction with its siblings (critical for potential dog to dog aggression). When litters are separated from their mothers as early as happens with all Puppy Mills, these formative lessons are LOST! The Puppy doesn't know how to act, because it was denied the opportunity to learn. As a trainer, I am then faced with the need to help owners become "surrogates" to fill these gaps, a hard task a best. Dogs that don't receive this type of training will continue to show an inability to be social in a world that is expecting it. No one likes non-stop barking, jumping, fear (which often leads to aggression), nipping or worse, biting. I have had Puppy Mill clients that had such hard times adjusting to their new and "un-socialized" lives that they have severe separation anxiety issues (often leading to self-injury and property destruction), inability to house-train (I had a Puppy client who would only relieve herself in her crate because she didn't know anything different from the Pet Store – relieving themselves any where near where they eat or sleep is totally unnatural for Dogs), and another client's Puppy that was in consummate fear of almost everything (including gusts of wind) to the point where he would not urinate, often for days. I finally figured a way to help this poor Dog, but it took days to figure out a solution. I did much of the training pro bono, because the owners couldn't afford all of the Dog's needs, and it would have wound up in a Shelter with still no resolution. Puppy Mill Dog!

I am grateful for and respect all the wonderful, caring, professional breeders that there are! I can tell a Puppy Mill Dog from a properly bred and nurtured Dog almost immediately, it can be that severe. Reputable breeders are caring and professional, and they treat their breeding dogs with love and respect. Good breeders are concerned about making sure their dams are healthy, not expected to over-produce, and are always in safe, non-traumatic environments, especially during gestation. They know how important that relationship is for the pups with the mother, even during pregnancy. They know how important it is to let the mother teach her litters what only Nature can do properly. They learn from her how to use their mouths (remember, they don't have hands!), their "voices", cleanliness, etc. Litter mates teach each other (quickly and effectively) how to interact with each other, and what is acceptable behavior and what is not. Reputable breeders are very concerned about proper genetics and proper health and nutrition. These Dogs are their greatest "assets", and they will not do anything to damage their value. The best "advertisement" for a reputable breeder is when people own and enjoy healthy, well-adjusted, social puppies. Reputable breeders usually carefully screen owners to insure the off-spring of their wonderful Dogs are in proper hands. All of the things that are so important to proper breeding are of absolutely no value to Puppy Mills, most Pet Stores, and Internet Dealers. To them, it's all about volume and profit, with no regard for quality or safety.


If I was still in the breeding business, I would welcome well-thought out, and monitored Legislation to help keep integrity in the wonderful world of Dog Ownership. Believe it or not, I would welcome the day when my Behavioral Consulting Cases were few and far between. I'd much rather teach Dogs to Sit, than have to help a Dog overcome fear or biting. Let's give the Dogs and their Owners a chance!!

Lastly, Dr. Ian Dunbar (renowned Trainer/Behaviorist) recently printed the following in his newsletter – we should all pay it heed!!

“He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion.”

- Unknown-

Very truly yours,



Bill Weiler
Paws N' Effect LLC

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Testimony by: Joanne Bourbeau

In Support of: HB 1624

Committee: House Environment and Agriculture Committee

Date: January 21, 2010

My name is Joanne Bourbeau, and I am a Senior State Director for Vermont and New Hampshire for The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). I am also a board member of the New Hampshire Federation of Humane Organizations and a member of the New Hampshire Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals. On behalf of The HSUS and our more than 74,000 members and supporters in the state of New Hampshire, I would like to submit this written testimony in support HB 1624, "An Act relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state."

Legislative attempts to regulate the breeding of animals always garner strong feelings on both sides of the issue. No one wants the government to regulate their every activity, however when that activity rises to the level of a business that generates profit and involves the raising of dozens of live animals in a home setting, we believe that the government has a *responsibility* to regulate that activity.

HB 1624 is a modest measure that would simply require that breeders with 10 or more intact animals kept for breeding purposes abide by the same animal care standards applied to other animal establishments in the state, including animal shelters, commercial kennels, and pet shops. As in past legislative attempts, hobby breeders are not the "target" of this bill, nor would their practices be affected if they housed less than 10 intact animals over the age of 4 months.

Puppy mills are large-scale commercial dog breeding operations that mass-produce puppies for retail sale directly to the public, in pet stores and over the internet. Focused solely on making a profit, these facilities keep dogs in crowded, filthy conditions where they receive little or no socialization, affection, or exercise. Puppies are removed from their mothers at a very young age, when they are still physically and behaviorally vulnerable. Puppy mills produce untold numbers of puppies that end up being sold to "impulse buyers," who ultimately surrender them to animal shelters, where they are often euthanized.

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The father and mother dogs at puppy mills – called “breeding stock” by the operators – endure a lifetime of suffering. They must live in small crates or cages, where they churn out litter after litter of puppies. They receive little or no socialization and often exhibit severe behavioral and genetic abnormalities. When they no longer produce a profit, they are simply discarded or killed.

Puppy mills come in all sizes. While New Hampshire is not typically home to operations housing hundreds of animals in one location, the suffering that dogs endure in mid-sized backyard operations is no less. Breeders are free to raise animals under any conditions they wish, free from any oversight or minimal animal welfare standards. Because buyers are often directed to “meet” puppies off premises from where they’re bred, consumers unwittingly support this cruel industry by purchasing these animals.

We can point to many cases right here in the Granite State that show that the current licensing and inspection system that only covers commercial kennels is *not* working to prevent animal suffering in these smaller operations. (see attached articles). What distinguishes these cases from animal hoarding cases is the fact that the owners were *selling* these animals. Animal hoarders do everything in their power to keep the animals they have accumulated, and they would never consider selling or giving away their animals.

June, 2007: 19 miniature greyhounds were removed from the home of an Epping breeder after an anonymous tip to police. The dogs were kept in crates (some 2-3 in a crate) in a hot upstairs bedroom. According to investigators her website claimed she was selling the dogs in New Hampshire.

March, 2005: 30 dachshunds were removed from the home of a Kingston breeder, who was selling the dogs on the Internet for \$700 a piece. According to authorities, the dogs were not getting enough water and were sitting in their own waste in small pens.

October, 2003: 50 dogs were removed from the trailer of an Allenstown breeder. Investigators said the animals were kept in wall-to-wall cages stacked on top of each other.

June, 2003: 30 English and French bulldogs were removed from the home of a Bedford breeder, who had been selling the dogs

on line. The dogs were in the basement, garage and attic of the house.

July, 1999: 110 Shar-peis were removed from the home of a Hooksett breeder. The dogs—many with skin and eye infections-- were stacked in cages, one on top of another, with urine and feces dripping to the bottom cages. The owner was also charged with practicing veterinary medicine without a license for stapling a prolapsed rectum 12 times.

Because there is no oversight for these operations, we don't hear about the atrocities inside until they rise to the level of a criminal animal cruelty investigation, which shouldn't be the case.

New Hampshire already has licensing requirements for the sale and transfer of animals through pet shops, commercial kennels and humane societies, and the legislature has acknowledged the need to regulate this industry. However breeders are specifically exempted from the regulatory system in place. We understand that the occasional hobby breeder should not be subject to the same requirements as those who are intentionally keeping and breeding large numbers of animals in their homes and backyards, and this bill would put a regulatory system in place accordingly. Requiring adequate caging, flooring, exercise and rest between breeding cycles are not over-the-top mandates, but rather modest measures to ensure that animals who will spend the majority of their lives confined in cages are receiving minimum standards of care. Legislation capping the number of breeding dogs at puppy mills would prevent massive breeding and curb overpopulation.

In reference to the fiscal note on HB 1624, current law allows the Department of Agriculture to designate an agent from any humane society or SPCA to investigate complaints related to this section of law, but to our knowledge this transfer of authority has never been exercised. This could relieve a huge burden on the Department, which admittedly has many other responsibilities. Adding animal control officers (ACOs) as authorized agents would only serve to decrease that burden even further.

Attached to my testimony you will find a compilation of laws and regulations related to pet breeding across the country. NH is one of 26 states that has some sort of regulation mechanisms for breeders, and it's time we *improved* this system to capture a population that contributes to both animal cruelty and overpopulation in New Hampshire.

We urge your favorable support of this important animal welfare measure.

Joanne Bourbeau
The Humane Society of the United States
Email: jboubeau@hsus.org
Phone: 802-368-2790

ANIMAL ABUSE CASE DETAILS

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Backyard breeder - 19 dogs kept in crates Epping, NH (US)

Incident Date: Saturday, Jun 23, 2007
County: Rockingham

Charges: Misdemeanor
Disposition: Alleged

Alleged: Wanda Wallace

Case Snapshot

Case ID: 11670

Classification: Neglect / Abandonment

Animal: dog (non pit-bull)

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BOOKMARK

An Epping woman faces nearly three dozen charges of animal cruelty over allegations she kept 19 dogs crowded in crates in a hot upstairs bedroom.

An anonymous call to police sent authorities to the home of 50-year-old Wanda Wallace last week.

Steve Sprowl, animal cruelty investigator for the New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said Wallace was keeping the miniature greyhounds in a hot bedroom, some two or three to a crate. Wallace faces 34 charges.

Sprowl said Wallace was watching the dogs for her sister, a breeder who sells the dogs in the Internet.

"The sister was trying to tell us these were just family pets, but then we found the Web site that stated she was selling them up here in New Hampshire," Sprowl said.

The dogs, about the size of toy poodles, were seized by police and examined by a veterinarian, who found them to be underweight.

"Their ribs and hip bones were sticking out. There were just too many for the size of the room, and she wasn't taking good care of them," Sprowl said.

A few dogs living in an outside kennel were not seized.

Authorities said they would like to see Wallace surrender custody of the dogs.

"We're hoping she'll see the light of day and surrender them to the SPCA so we can get them to good homes," Sprowl said.

References

- Nashua Telegraph - June 28, 2007

Note: Classifications and other fields should not be used to determine what specific charges the suspect is facing or was convicted of - they are for research and statistical purposes only. The case report and subsequent updates outline the specific charges. Charges referenced in the original case report may be modified throughout the course of the investigation or trial, so case updates, when available, should always be considered the most accurate reflection of charges.

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ANIMAL ABUSE CASE DETAILS

Puppy Mill - 30 dachshunds and other animals Kingston, NH (US)

Incident Date: Wednesday, Mar 9, 2005
County: Rockingham

Disposition: Dismissed

Person of Interest: Danya Dufour

Case Updates: 11 update(s) available

The police are investigating an animal cruelty case involving more than 30 dachshunds and several other animals. Firefighters responding to a report of a possible oil burner fire earlier this month found the dachshunds, four cats, an iguana and a parrot living in unhealthy conditions.

Steve Sprowl, an investigator with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said the residents were running a puppy mill, selling the dogs on the Internet for more than \$700 apiece.

The dogs were getting enough food but were not getting enough water and were sitting in their own waste in small pens.

Sprowl said he had to take one dog into protective custody because of a bite on its tail, and he later found bites all over its body. The dogs were fighting for dominance in the cramped space, he said.

To contact the prosecutor:
Jill Cook, Assistant County Attorney
Office of the Rockingham County Attorney
P.O. Box 1209
Kingston, NH 03848

Case Updates

Dufour and Jackson Rivera Cruz, 29, were arrested Sept 15 by Groveland police after authorities found 29 dogs covered in excrement and urine in their 103 Main St. home.

Judge Stephen Abany released Dufour on personal recognizance and ordered her not to have any pets in her care until the case against her is resolved.

Dufour was charged with cruelty to 29 dogs, two cats, one ferret and one iguana. She also was charged with possession of class D and E substances, possession of hypodermic syringes and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Cruz faces the same animal cruelty and drug charges, as well as possession of a dangerous weapon (a double-edged knife), giving a false name and false address to police, and operating a motor vehicle without a license.

To follow this new case against Dufour, click here.

Source: Eagle Tribune - Sept 19, 2006
Update posted on Oct 2, 2006 - 11:16AM

Nearly a year after her arrest in April 2005, 13 charges of cruelty to animals against Danya Dufour of Kingston were dismissed on March 23. Last April, Dufour turned herself into police after a warrant was issued for her arrest. Authorities began investigating when firefighters responded to her Granite Road home for an oil-burner malfunction. There they found 30 dachshunds, allegedly given little water, sharing cages and standing in their own feces and urine.

Dufour was allegedly selling dachshunds on her Web site, www.dufoursdachshunds.com, for approximately \$700 each.

After her arrest, The Rockingham News received a stream of angry e-mails and phone calls from animal lovers and breeders around the country decrying the conditions in which the puppies were allegedly kept.

Dufour posted \$2,500 bail and her trial had been repeatedly delayed until March 23 this year.

According to Plaistow District Court records, all 13 charges of cruelty to animals against her were dismissed. She was found guilty of two counts of failure to license dogs, and one count of criminal mischief, which carries a fine of \$500 or 10 days' imprisonment, or both.

Dufour's sentence on the criminal mischief charge was suspended because of good behavior for a year and a year of no dog ownership in New Hampshire, the court said.

Case Snapshot

Case ID: 4116

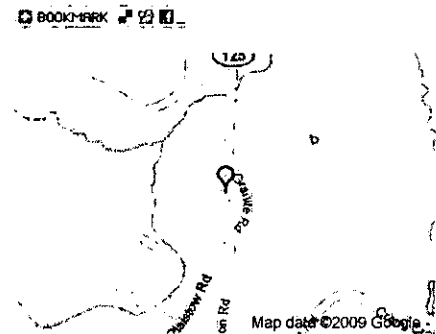
Classification: Neglect / Abandonment

Animal: cat, dog (non pit-bull), reptile

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For more information about the Interactive Animal Cruelty Maps, see the map notes.

Search Results

Source: SeaCoast Online - April 14, 2006

Update posted on Apr 17, 2006 - 6:51PM

After almost a year of postponed hearings, the trial of a local woman who allegedly ran an illegal puppy mill from her home was continued again. The trial was scheduled for Dec. 30, 2005 in Plaistow District Court, but was continued for the seventh time since she was arrested last March 2005.

The trial is now scheduled for Feb. 23, 2006 in Plaistow.

Source: Seacoast Online - January 6, 2006

Update posted on Jan 6, 2006 - 10:56PM

The trial was continued for the fifth time and a new date has not been scheduled as of deadline.

One of the conditions of the \$2,500 personal recognizance bail was that she not sell animals from her home, according to Kingston Police Chief Donald Briggs, but she is allowed to continue operating her business elsewhere.

Source: Rockingham News - Oct 28, 2005

Update posted on Oct 31, 2005 - 12:19PM

The trial for the woman charged with running an illegal puppy mill was continued for the fourth time and is now scheduled to take place on Oct. 20 at Plaistow District Court.

Danya Dufour, 32, of 4 Granite Road, was arrested in March on more than a dozen animal cruelty charges after firefighters responding to an oil-burner malfunction at her home discovered the alleged substandard living conditions of the animals.

The trial was originally scheduled for May, but was continued. It was subsequently continued in June, August and again on Sept. 22.

Dufour was charged with 13 counts of cruelty to animals, one count of failure to apply for a group-dog kennel license to operate her business, one count of failure to vaccinate the dogs and one count of failure to license the dogs.

Dufour was released on \$2,500 personal recognizance bail, with the condition she has no more than four dogs in her home without obtaining a kennel license.

State law classifies cruelty to animals in the first offense to be a misdemeanor and a second offense as a class B felony.

The dogs are being kept in a Massachusetts kennel and are being monitored by the state Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Source: Sea Coast Online - Sept 23, 2005

Update posted on Sep 23, 2005 - 2:56PM

The trial for Danya Dufour, 32, of Kingston, was set for Thursday morning at Plaistow District Court, but Assistant County Attorney Jill Cook said the trial was continued to a later date.

Source: Rockingham News - Aug 5, 2005

Update posted on Aug 7, 2005 - 2:48AM

Dufour's trial is to take place next Thursday at 8 a.m. at Plaistow District Court.

Source: Rockingham News - July 29, 2005

Update posted on Jul 29, 2005 - 1:47PM

Dufour's May 9 hearing was continued and is scheduled for 8 a.m. on June 23 at Plaistow District Court.

Danya Dufour, 32, of 4 Granite Road, was charged in March with 13 counts of cruelty to animals, one count of failure to apply for a group-dog kennel license to operate her business, one count of failure to vaccinate the dogs and one count of failure to license the dogs.

She was released on \$2,500 personal-recognizance bail. Condition of bail includes not having more than four dogs on the premises without obtaining a kennel license, and each dog in her care must be properly licensed and vaccinated.

State law classifies cruelty to animals in the first offense to be a misdemeanor and a second offense as a class B felony.

Police began investigating Dufour in March after firefighters responded to the Granite Road home for an oil-burner malfunction and discovered the alleged condition of the animals. There were 30 dachshunds, four cats, an iguana and a parrot living in the home. The dogs were allegedly given little water, sharing small cages and standing in their own feces and urine.

New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' cruelty investigator Steve Sprowl said Dufour was running a "puppy mill," which is defined as a breeding kennel that raises dogs in cramped, crude and filthy conditions.

Source: seacoastonline.com - May 13, 2005

Update posted on May 13, 2005 - 5:10PM

Besides animal cruelty, Dufour is also accused of operating a kennel without a license, failing to vaccinate 26 dogs and failing to register her dogs with the town. Dufour has been released on bail but she couldn't be reached for comment on Friday. Authorities have shut down her business and quarantined her house.

Update posted on Apr 16, 2005 - 5:51AM

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Police arrested a local woman on charges of allegedly running a 'puppy mill' out of her rented Granite Road home this week. More than a dozen charges were filed Wednesday, including 13 counts of cruelty to animals.

Danya Dufour, 32, of 4 Granite Road turned herself in to police Wednesday morning after police issued a warrant for her arrest. Dufour was selling dachshunds on the Internet for about \$700 each.

She was charged with 13 counts of cruelty to animals, one count of failure to apply for a group-dog kennel license to operate her business, one count of failure to vaccinate the dogs and one count of failure to license the dogs.

She was released on \$2,500 personal recognizance bail. Condition of bail includes not having more than four dogs on the premises without obtaining a kennel license, and each dog in her care must be properly licensed and vaccinated.

State law classifies cruelty to animals in the first offense to be a misdemeanor and a second offense as a class B felony.

Police began investigating Dufour last month after firefighters responded to the Granite Road home for an oil-burner malfunction and discovered the condition of the animals. There were 30 dachshunds, four cats, an iguana and a parrot living in the home. The dogs were allegedly given little water, sharing small cages and standing in their own feces and urine.

New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals cruelty investigator Steve Sprowl said Dufour was running a "puppy mill," which is defined as a breeding kennel that raises dogs in cramped, crude and filthy conditions.

Sprowl said firefighters reported dogs were sharing small pens with straw on the cellar floor.

On March 9 when authorities were called to the home for an animal cruelty investigation, Sprowl said he placed one dog into protective custody. The dog was bleeding from a bite mark on its tail, and Sprowl said he later found the dog had bite marks all over its body.

"I see incidents like this at least once a week in this state," Sprowl said last month. "At first glance you'd think this woman is taking care of the dogs by the looks of her Web site, but when we saw this place we couldn't believe it."

The breeder called the business Dufour's Dachshunds and operated using an Internet site at www.dufoursdachshunds.com. The site had photographs of the dogs for sale and a Web page dedicated to fighting puppy mills.

Jill Diorio of Worcester, Mass., said she bought her dachshund, Bailey, from Dufour and she said she is shocked at the condition the dogs were living in. Diorio said Bailey is a healthy dog and she remembers Dufour being adamant about accepting cash only.

The remaining dogs are being cared for at a Massachusetts kennel.

Sprowl said the Massachusetts SPCA had problems with this resident when she was living in that state.

She is scheduled to appear in Plaistow District Court on May 9 at 8 a.m. to face the charges against her.

Source: Sea Coast Online - April 8, 2005

Update posted on Apr 8, 2005 - 3:52PM

A woman who was selling dachshund puppies over the Internet from feces-filled cages is banned from selling the dogs for now, and could face local and federal charges, officials said.

Police have called in the Rockingham County attorney's office as they consider local charges against the woman, who had about 30 dachshunds in the home.

Authorities say the woman, who has not been named, is likely to face local charges, but investigators are about a week away from wrapping up the case.

"I can tell you our health officer, building inspector, electrical inspector and fire inspector are all looking at different issues regarding the house," said Police Chief Donald Briggs.

Health and animal cruelty investigators who were called to the home on March 9 said they found it filled with dog cages and pens that were filled with feces and urine.

Briggs said the business can't operate now, and the dogs have been taken to a kennel.

People who recently bought puppies from the woman should have nothing to worry about, Briggs said. Investigators have mostly been focusing on the condition of the property.

Assistant Rockingham County Attorney Jerome Blanchard said the woman could face misdemeanor charges. He said officials mentioned that the woman also acknowledged she has been selling puppies for the past eight years, but has not filed the profits on her taxes.

Blanchard said his office would not address that issue, and it would likely be referred to the U.S. attorney's office or the Internal Revenue Service.

Source: Sea Coast Online - March 30, 2005

Update posted on Mar 30, 2005 - 10:33PM

References

- Search Results
- Telegraph - March 20, 2005
 - Sea Coast Online - March 18, 2005
 - The Concord Monitor - March 20, 2005
 - The WMUR Channel - April 15, 2005
 - PETA Media Center - May 6, 2005

Note: Classifications and other fields should not be used to determine what specific charges the suspect is facing or was convicted of - they are for research and statistical purposes only. The case report and subsequent updates outline the specific charges. Charges referenced in the original case report may be modified throughout the course of the investigation or trial, so case updates, when available, should always be considered the most accurate reflection of charges.

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ANIMAL ABUSE CASE DETAILS

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Puppy Mill - approximately 50 dogs, 20 birds, 9 cats Allenstown, NH (US)

Incident Date: Wednesday, Oct 1, 2003
County: Merrimack

Disposition: Alleged

Alleged:

- » Mary Gail Malloy
- » Jeanne Nolte

Officials removed dogs, cats, guinea pigs, iguanas and birds from the Allenstown trailer of Mary Gail Malloy, 55, and Jeanne Nolte, 51 on October 1, 2003.

The women were previously charged with lying to authorities about several puppies that were found mutilated in a Concord garbage can. Police said they believe those puppies may have been injured by their mother, a chow chow in the women's care.

Workers from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said they believe the women were planning to sell the animals in the trailer.

"They're not socialized. They're in crates most of the time," said Kim Adams, of the Concord-Merrimack SPCA. "Neighbors told us they certainly haven't seen the animals."

Investigators said the animals were kept in wall-to-wall cages stacked on top of each other. Malloy said the animals were only temporarily housed there while she sought help for them, but officials said the animals were not treated well.

"The conditions in this house are not conditions for a human to be in," investigator Ric Sioveira said. "There were a total of 50-some dogs in here, all in kennels and cages on top of each other. About 20 birds, nine cats. They don't see daylight."

The animals have been taken away for medical care. Officials said the women will both be charged with one count of animal cruelty for each animal.

Anyone who wants to help with the care of the animals removed from the house can call the Concord-Merrimack SPCA at 753-6751

References

- TheWMURChannel

Note: Classifications and other fields should not be used to determine what specific charges the suspect is facing or was convicted of - they are for research and statistical purposes only. The case report and subsequent updates outline the specific charges. Charges referenced in the original case report may be modified throughout the course of the investigation or trial, so case updates, when available, should always be considered the most accurate reflection of charges.

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Case Snapshot

Case ID: 1759

Classification: Neglect / Abandonment

Animal: dog (non pit-bull)

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For more information about the Interactive Animal Cruelty Maps, see the map notes.

ANIMAL ABUSE CASE DETAILS

Puppy Mill - 30 dogs, 14 cats - 2 dogs found dead Bedford, NH (US)

Incident Date: Thursday, Jun 12, 2003
County: Hillsborough

Disposition: Alleged
Case Images: 3 files available

Alleged:
» Edmond Cammarota
» Tatiana Holmes

Case Updates: 4 update(s) available

A man was arrested on several counts of animal cruelty after police searched his house on Grey Rock Road yesterday and found two dead dogs, as well as scores of dogs and cats, some in poor health.

Bedford Police Capt. Paul Roy said 30 dogs and 14 cats were removed from the residence of Ed Cammarota, 56, who had been selling the dogs on line. Cammarota's children were taken into custody by the state and charges may be pending against his wife, Roy said. The case is still under investigation.

The number of charges Cammarota will face is still undetermined, but they are misdemeanors, with a penalty of up to a \$1,000 fine and a year in jail, Roy said. The number and the severity of animal cruelty charges hinge on the condition of the animals taken from the house, Roy said. Also under investigation is whether Cammarota had approval from the proper authorities to sell the animals.

A few of the animals taken from the house required medical attention, Roy said. He said they were malnourished. A horse trailer was used to remove the animals.

The conditions in the house were such that Wayne Richardson, the code official for the town's building/health department, posted a notice to vacate on the front door until the house is cleaned and disinfected.

The dogs were in the basement, garage and attic of the house, and while some were in crates or kennels, others were allowed to move freely through the house, Roy said.

Richardson said feces and urine from the animals was allowed to accumulate for days before being cleaned.

While the waste was generally contained in certain parts of the house, microscopic particles could seep into the building materials. The particles could contain worms or parasites, and the presence of two small children in the house created a health concern, Richardson said.

"Children are extremely susceptible," he said. "That's why I got involved."

Roy said police began investigating Cammarota in late April after someone who went to the house to buy an animal complained about the conditions. After another complaint last week and an investigation, police decided to move in, Roy said.

"We felt we had enough to approach the judge for a search warrant," Roy said.

Bedford Police coordinated their efforts with the New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the state veterinarian and Bedford Animal Hospital.

"We wanted to be able to house any number of animals we would have found," Roy said, noting that most were taken to the SPCA in Stratham.

Cammarota was selling English and French bulldogs under the name Bulldogs4you, which displayed photos of the puppies at <http://community.webshots.com/user/bulldogs4you>. (Note: the website has been shutdown) In one online posting, Cammarota wrote, "We have a new litter, 8 weeks old, males and females. Puppies come with first shots and deworming, VER Certificate, written health guarantee. We will pay for half the cost of shipping if needed."

"I've never seen this before," Richardson said of the conditions.

Case Updates

Cammarato, now living in Londonderry NH was taken into custody following a report from the Merrimack Police Department in reference to an outstanding arrest warrant for theft by unauthorized taking on October 24, 2003. Cammarota was booked and released on bail.

Case Snapshot

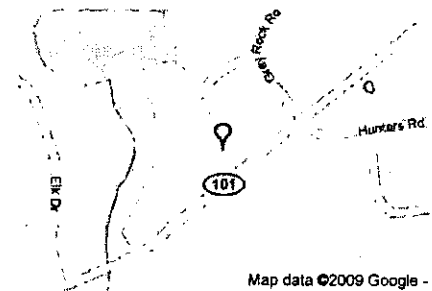
Case ID: 1540
Classification: Hoarding
Animal: cat, dog (non pit-bull)
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Images for this Case



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Update posted on May 13, 2004 - 8:41AM

Both Cammarota and Holmes were charged with 47 counts of animal cruelty. Holmes was also charged with 2 counts of child endangerment. The 7-year-old boy was placed in the custody of his biological father and the 3-year-old daughter of Cammarato and Holmes was taken in by the state.

Clifford McGinnis, the NH state veterinarian, had been tracking Cammarota's operation since January 2003 after receiving complaints when Cammarota was doing business in Nashua.

In March 2003, a cease and desist order was given for being unlicensed. Cammarota told officials he had stopped but Cammarota tried to sell a puppy to McGinnis' secretary, who was working undercover.

Cammarota would sell the dogs - bulldogs, Mastiffs and Sharpeis - for \$1,900 each. He claimed to own a farm in Russia where the dogs were born. McGinnis said some of the dogs had "fishy" papers "because some of them (supposedly) had rabies shots a few days before they were born".

Update posted on Aug 1, 2003 - 12:22PM

The necropsy of the two pups that died showed they died from an E coli virus. The virus was treatable.

Update posted on Jun 23, 2003 - 4:18PM

Cammarota and Holmes, both of 7 Grey Rock Road, were arraigned in Merrimack District Court yesterday.

Cammarota faces 47 counts of misdemeanor cruelty to animals, while Holmes faces 47 counts of criminal liability to cruelty to animals. Both face two counts each of child endangerment.

A trial date was set for June 23. On each count, Cammarota and Holmes face up to a year in prison and up to a \$1,000 fine.

Bail was reduced from \$100,000 cash to \$50,000 cash each, and Cammarota and Holmes were held at Valley Street Jail. Police arrested Cammarota Thursday at his home, and removed 30 dogs and 14 cats. Two dogs were found dead. Cammarota was selling the dogs online, and visitors to the house told police of the conditions.

Read More: Union Leader June 14, 2003

Update posted on Jun 14, 2003 - 4:06PM

References

- Manchester Union Leader
- The WMUR Channel
- The Nashua Telegraph
- The Boston Herald
- The Exeter News
- The Portsmouth Herald
- The Boston Channel

Note: Classifications and other fields should not be used to determine what specific charges the suspect is facing or was convicted of - they are for research and statistical purposes only. The case report and subsequent updates outline the specific charges. Charges referenced in the original case report may be modified throughout the course of the investigation or trial, so case updates, when available, should always be considered the most accurate reflection of charges.

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ANIMAL ABUSE CASE DETAILS

Puppy mill - 110 sharpei dogs Hooksett, NH (US)

Incident Date: Friday, Jul 9, 1999
County: Merrimack

Disposition: Convicted
Case Images: 8 files available

Defendant/Suspect: Edward Yee

On July 9, 1999 The Humane Society for Greater Nashua, The New Hampshire Federation of Humane Organizations, The Humane Society of the United States, Cochecho Valley Humane Society, The Animal Rescue League and Animal Shelters in Concord, Manchester, Bedford, Dover, and Enfield as well as Massachusetts and Maine, all participated in the rescue of 110 Sharpei dogs from a puppy mill/breeder in Hooksett, NH.

The dogs were seized because they were in unsanitary conditions and unhealthy confinement. The cages/crates were stacked floor to ceiling and covered in feces.

More than 100 of the dogs were in cages in the breeder's home. Some of them were found in closets and even living in cages in cars. The rest were left to run free in the home.

The puppy mill home was condemned because of health code violations and the 3 residents evicted. The puppy mill's owner, Edward Yee was charged with animal cruelty and illegal dispensing of medications.

Edward Yee age 48, of 1631 Hooksett Road, plea-bargained his case in Hooksett Court on October 27, 1999. He will be allowed to continue to own dogs but under several court restrictions and will serve no jail time for the offenses.

When the dogs were removed from Yee's house, the building was condemned. Yee has made renovations and cleaned up the house but the building inspector's state that as of October 20th, 1999 little has changed to correct the problems in the home.

The animal rescue agencies involved feel Edward Yee received little more than a slap on the hand for his cruelty and neglect with the sentence handed down by Judge Robert LaPointe.

Yee pleaded guilty in Hooksett District Court to one charge of animal cruelty, one charge of illegal possessing prescriptions drugs and one charge of practicing veterinary medicine without a license, but will be allowed to keep nine dogs. He was also charged with practicing veterinary medicine without a license for stapling a prolapsed rectum 12 times. Further Yee pleaded guilty to charges of illegal possession of veterinary prescription drugs. Yee agreed to reimburse the town of Hooksett for the \$10,000 to \$15,000 spent to care for the dogs in the shelters, and he promised not to breed dogs for six years. In exchange, his \$6,000 fine was suspended.

Also under the terms of the plea agreement, Yee must neuter or spay all the remaining dogs. Yee's home must be "suitable" for the dogs and open to spot inspections. After 6 years, Yee can own as many dogs as he wants.

"There will be an aggressive follow-up to make sure compliance with this order is maintained," said Hooksett Animal Control Officer Frank Gray.

References

- The Boston Globe
- The Concord Monitor Newspaper
- The Nashua Telegraph
- The Manchester Union Leader
- WMUR Channel 9 TV - 10/27/99
- Hooksett, NH Court Records

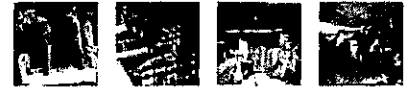
Note: Classifications and other fields should not be used to determine what specific charges the suspect is facing or was convicted of - they are for research and statistical purposes only. The case report and subsequent updates outline the specific charges. Charges referenced in the original case report may be modified throughout the course of the investigation or trial, so case updates, when available, should always be considered the most accurate reflection of charges.

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Case Snapshot

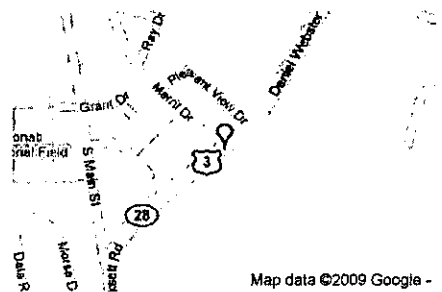
Case ID: 51
Classification: Neglect / Abandonment
Animal: dog (non pit-bull)
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CONVICTED: Was justice served?


Please vote on whether or not you feel the sentence in this case was appropriate for the crime. (Be sure to read the entire case and sentencing before voting.)


weak sentence = one star
strong sentence = 5 stars


Show more information on voting


Case #51 Rating: 4.0 out of 5

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ANIMAL ABUSE CASE DETAILS

Puppy mill - 24 dogs seized Belmont, NH (US)

Incident Date: Monday, Jan 6, 2003
County: Belknap

Disposition: Alleged

Alleged:

» Arthur Scott
» Frances Scott

The police took the dogs from Arthur and Frances Scott, of 335 Depot St., on Jan. 6, citing inhumane living conditions. The state veterinarian, Clifford McGinnis, Belmont Animal Control Officer Tom Carroll and representatives from the shelter found the dogs living in an unheated basement. According to court documents, the pens were made out of chicken wire and wood. There were no mats or blankets to sleep on, and there were inches of urine and feces on the floor. Some of the animals had urine burns on their feet.

Three Scottish terriers, five cocker spaniels, two West Highland white terriers and four Cairn terriers were taken. Authorities left a Cairn terrier puppy, a pregnant West Highland white terrier (which has since given birth to five puppies) and two cats at the house because they were living upstairs, where it was clean and dry.

The New Hampshire Humane Society has been caring for the other 10 adult dogs and four puppies since then. All of the them had already received their state-required rabies shots. And McGinnis said the animals were healthy and well-fed when he examined them Jan. 6.

On Monday, McGinnis returned to re-inspect the home and said the area was heated and cleaned. The indoor kennels had blankets, and the outdoor pens had dog houses. Based on McGinnis's report, which was released Tuesday, the police have asked the humane society to return the dogs. After that, the town animal control officer will inspect the house every month to ensure it's kept clean, the police said.

But according to the humane society, that's not enough. Claudia Abidinor, executive director, said she fears the clean conditions won't last because Arthur Scott is elderly and may not be able to maintain the kennel. "It could be the Taj Mahal and it's not happening," she said. "We're fighting on their behalf so they don't have to return to that dungeon of a cellar."

The police have charged Scott with one count of animal cruelty, a misdemeanor, for a female Cairn terrier that had urine burns. The charge was placed on file without a finding, which means Scott will still be allowed to own animals. But if the problem persists, the police will have recourse, according to Nielsen.

"We'll call the shelter to come back and get (the dogs) if we find a mess again," he said.

McGinnis said the Scotts have done what the police asked them to, and he has determined the environment is "livable." He said all of the conditions set out by the police, including cleanliness and heat, have been met. But he declined to speculate whether the dogs should be returned.

But how this issue is decided could be of statewide significance, according to James Phinizy, a state representative from Acworth, and Russell Pope, a legislative liaison who works for a state dog owners rights group.

Phinizy is also a member of the State House Environment and Agriculture Committee and former board member of the American Kennel Club, and the Pet Overpopulation Committee and has sponsored many bills on dog legislation. He said the local authority is the police department, not the humane society.

"If the town has found those people have satisfied the conditions and the dogs should be returned, then they should be returned," he said. "This is clearly a property issue. You have to realize that shelters are at best a non-government entity. They have to comply with state law. They are attempting to usurp town control and that's just plain wrong."

Pope is also a former investigator for Monadnock Humane Society in Swanzey. He said it amounts to a violation of the Scotts' constitutional rights.

"This is a pretty clear-cut case," he said. "They are withholding property, and they have no legal authority to do that. This is not something (the humane society) would normally do. So it would be trying to set a precedent."

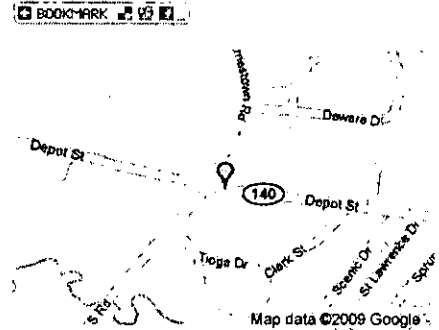
The humane society has said it is not trying to take all of the Scotts' animals. But it would like to limit the number of dogs they have because the society worries they cannot care for all of them.

Jeff Philpot, the attorney for the humane society, said the issue is larger than cleanliness. The humane society has said the Scotts are puppy millers based on the number of dogs they produce a year to sell for profit.

Arthur Scott told a reporter that he breeds each of his five females at least once a year. This is the second litter this year for the Westie at his

Case Snapshot

Case ID: 715
Classification: Neglect / Abandonment
Animal: dog (non pit-bull)
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judging by the size of that litter - five - he breeds anywhere from 25 to 50 puppies a year.

Scott, 72, lives in a 900-square-foot home. He said these dogs are his pets.

In warm weather, puppies can be seen outside in a 4-by-4-foot pen in the front yard - about five feet from busy Route 140.

"The issue is, should he be in business in the first place?" Philpot said. "If he wants a few pets, we're willing to talk with him about that. But we don't think he should have 20 dogs. We believe he's crossed that threshold, and a compromise should be how many animals can he take care of in that small space."

Nielsen said it's an ethical question that he can't answer. Meanwhile, Arthur Scott said he wants his dogs back, and he's considering suing the shelter. And Abdinoor said it's a battle she's willing to finish.

"We've got the animals, but this is not the end," she said. "We'll go to court and fight the Scotts."

Meanwhile, Phinizy and Pope wondered why the case should get that far. (Phinizy said he's considering forming an oversight committee to regulate shelters in the state.)

References

- Concord Monitor

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THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

State Puppy Mill Laws

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
Alabama	No			No		
Alaska	No			No		
Arizona § 11-1009	Yes	\$75	Kennel – enclosed, controlled area, inaccessible to other animals, in which a person keeps, harbors or maintains five or more dogs under controlled conditions	Yes, mandatory for kennels with 20 dogs or more; allowed for kennels with less than 20 dogs	Board of Supervisors of the County in which the kennel is located	
Arkansas	No			No		
California Health and Safety Code §122045 to 122110	No		Breeder – a person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other association that has sold, transferred, or given all or part of three or more litters or 20 or more dogs during the preceding 12 months that were bred and reared on the premises of the person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other association.	No		Sanitation, nutrition, space, socialization, exercise, veterinary care
Colorado § 35-80-101 to 35-80-117	Yes	Up to \$350	Pet animal facility – any place or premise used for the keeping of pet animals for the purpose of adoption, breeding, boarding, grooming, handling, selling, sheltering, trading, or otherwise transferring such animals. "Pet animal facility" also includes any individual animals kept by such a facility as breeding stock. Exemptions: A veterinary hospital which boards pet animals for the purpose of veterinary medical care only; a research facility, circus, or publicly or privately owned zoological park or petting zoo licensed or registered	Risk-based inspections Low – every 3 years Medium – every 18 months High – every 6 months	State Agricultural Commission	Sanitation, ventilation, temperature, humidity, space, nutrition, humane care, veterinary care

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
			under the provisions of the federal Animal Welfare Act; hobby breeder facility; any kennel operated for the breeding or sale or racing of greyhounds that are not intended to be companion pets.			
Connecticut § 22-342 and §22-344	Yes	Kennel: \$50 – up to 10 dogs, \$100 – more than 10 dogs Commercial kennel, grooming facility, training facility – \$100 Pet shop – \$200	Kennel, commercial kennel, pet shop, training facility, grooming facility Annual license required for any kennel owner who breeds more than 2 litters of dogs annually. Kennel owners/keepers who breed less than two litters annually may apply for license.	No regular kennel inspections are required.	Town clerk for breeding kennels; Commissioner of Agriculture for all others	Sanitation, disease, humane treatment, protection of the public safety
Delaware § 1701 to 1704	Yes	Fee based on number of dogs: Up to 12 – \$21 13 to 25 – \$31 26 to 50 – \$51 51+ – \$101	Retail dog dealers – any person who owns or operates a premises where dogs are sold. Kennels – where dogs are kept for show, trial, sale, breeding or other purposes Kennel licenses -- any person who maintains a kennel wherein dogs are kept for show, trial, sale, breeding or other purposes may apply to the Department or its duly authorized agents on a form prescribed by the Department for a kennel license in lieu of a license for each dog. Kennel licenses shall be valid through December 31, and shall not be valid for more than 1 calendar year.	Inspections may be conducted.	Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control	Structurally sound facilities, proper storage of food and supplies, waste disposal, temperature, ventilation, lighting, shelter from the elements, space
Florida	No			No		
Georgia § 4-11-1 to 4-11-10	Yes	\$25 to \$200	Kennel – any establishment, other than an animal shelter, where dogs or cats are maintained for boarding, holding, training, or similar purposes for a fee or compensation. Pet dealer – any person who sells, offers to sell, exchanges, or offers for adoption dogs, cats, birds, fish, reptiles, or other animals customarily obtained as pets in this state. Exemption: A person who sells only animals that he or she has produced and raised, not to exceed 30 animals	Yes, including for new facilities	Commissioner of Agriculture	Facilities in good state of repair, sanitation, ventilation, humane care, disease.

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
			a year, shall not be considered a pet dealer under this article unless such person is licensed for a business by a local government or has a Georgia sales tax number.			
Hawaii	No			No		
Idaho	No			No		
Illinois § 225 ILCS 605/1 to 605/22	Yes	\$25	<p>Pet shop, dog dealer, kennel, cattery, guard dog service, an animal control facility or animal shelter</p> <p>"Kennel operator" means any person who operates an establishment, other than an animal control facility, veterinary hospital, or animal shelter, where dogs or dogs and cats are maintained for boarding, training or similar purposes for a fee or compensation; or who sells, offers to sell, exchange, or offers for adoption with or without charge dogs or dogs and cats which he has produced and raised. Excludes a person who owns, has possession of, or harbors 5 or less females capable of reproduction.</p> <p>No person shall engage in business as a pet shop operator, dog dealer, kennel operator, cattery operator, or operate a guard dog service, an animal control facility or animal shelter or any combination thereof without a license.</p>	Yes, including for new facilities	Illinois Department of Agriculture	Sanitation, ventilation, nutrition, humane care
Indiana IC 15-21	Yes	<p>Commercial dog breeders: \$75 for 50 breeding female dogs or less \$200 for 50-100 breeding females \$300 for 100-150 breeding females \$400 for 150-250 breeding females \$ 500 for more than 250 breeding females</p> <p>Commercial dog</p>	<p>"Commercial dog breeder" means a person who maintains more than twenty (20) unaltered female dogs that are at least twelve (12) months of age.</p> <p>"Commercial dog broker" means a person: (1) who is a Class "B" licensee under 9 CFR 1.1; and (2) who sells at least five hundred (500) dogs in a calendar year.</p> <p>Does not apply to: (1) an animal shelter; (2) a humane society; (3) an animal rescue operation; (4) a hobby breeder;</p>	No		Wire flooring, exercise

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
		brokers: \$1,000	(5) a person who breeds at least seventy-five (75%) of the person's dogs as sport dogs for hunting purposes; or (6) a person who breeds at least seventy-five (75%) of the person's dogs as service dogs or as dogs for use by the police or the armed forces.			
Iowa § 162.1 to 162.18	Yes	Pet shop – \$50 Commercial kennel, public auction, commercial breeder – \$40 Dealer – \$100 Boarding kennel – \$30	Pet shop, commercial kennel, public auction, dealer, commercial breeder, boarding kennel Exemption: Federally-licensed facilities need only apply for a certificate of registration (\$20 fee) and are not subject to any other rules "Commercial breeder" means a person, engaged in the business of breeding dogs or cats, who sells, exchanges, or leases dogs or cats in return for consideration, or who offers to do so, whether or not the animals are raised, trained, groomed, or boarded by the person. Does not include a person who owns or harbors three or less breeding males or females. However, a person who breeds or harbors more than three breeding male or female greyhounds for the purposes of using them for pari-mutuel racing shall be considered a commercial breeder irrespective of whether the person sells, leases, or exchanges the greyhounds for consideration or offers to do so.	Yes, for new facilities and annually upon renewal (\$162.12)	Iowa Department of Agriculture, Animal Welfare Bureau	Feeding, watering, cleaning, and housing practices
Kansas § 47-1701 to 47-1737	Yes	Hobby breeder or kennel operator – up to \$75 Federally-licensed facility – \$200 Others – \$405	Animal distributor, pet shop, pound or animal shelter, hobby breeder, research facility, kennel operator, animal breeder, retail breeder Exemption: Federally-licensed facilities need only follow USDA rules on animal care. "Retail breeder premises" means any premises where all or part of six or more litters or 30 or more dogs or cats, or both, are sold, or offered or maintained for sale, primarily at retail and not for resale to another.	Yes, including new facilities	Kansas Animal Health Department	Administrative Regulations §9-25-1 to 9-25-14 Housing facilities, feeding, watering, sanitation, exercise, minimum age of animal, compatible grouping

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
			<p>"Animal breeder premises" means any premises where all or part of six or more litters of dogs or cats, or both, or 30 or more dogs or cats, or both, are sold, or offered or maintained for sale, primarily at wholesale for resale to another.</p> <p>"Hobby breeder premises" means any premises where all or part of 3, 4 or 5 litters of dogs or cats, or both, are produced for sale or sold, offered or maintained for sale. Applies only if the total number of dogs or cats, or both, sold, offered or maintained for sale is less than 30 individual animals.</p>			
Kentucky	No			No		
Louisiana §3:2772	Yes Limits the number of breeding dogs a facility can maintain (75)	5 dogs or less - \$15 6 -10 dogs - \$25 10+ dogs - \$30	<p>Any individual or business with five or more dogs and who breeds and sells dogs retail, wholesale, or to the public is required to procure a kennel license and pay a kennel license fee in lieu of the individual dog licenses and license fees provided for herein. The governing body of each municipality or parish may, by ordinance, fix the sum to be paid annually for the kennel license fee, which sum shall be dedicated solely for animal impoundment facilities.</p> <p>No individual or business that breeds, buys, or sells dogs retail, wholesale, or to the public shall maintain more than seventy-five dogs over the age of one year at any time for breeding purposes.</p>	No	Governing body of municipality	
Maine § 3907 to 3944	Yes	<p>Kennels – \$75 for Category 1 breeding kennel \$100 for Category 2 breeding kennel \$150 for Category 3 breeding kennel</p> <p>Boarding kennels – \$75</p> <p>Breeding kennels –</p>	<p>Pet shop, animal shelter</p> <p>Kennels – 5 or more dogs or wolf hybrids kept in a single location under one ownership for breeding, hunting, show, training, field trials and exhibition purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category 1 – 5-10 breeding females • Category 2 – 11-20 breeding females • Category 3 – 21 or more breeding females <p>Boarding kennel – any place in or on which 3 or more privately owned dogs or other pets, or both, are kept at any one time for their owners in return for a fee.</p>	Inspections to be conducted (Chapters 723 & 735)	Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources	Sanitation, temperature, food, lighting, ventilation, housing, noise, minimum age of animal

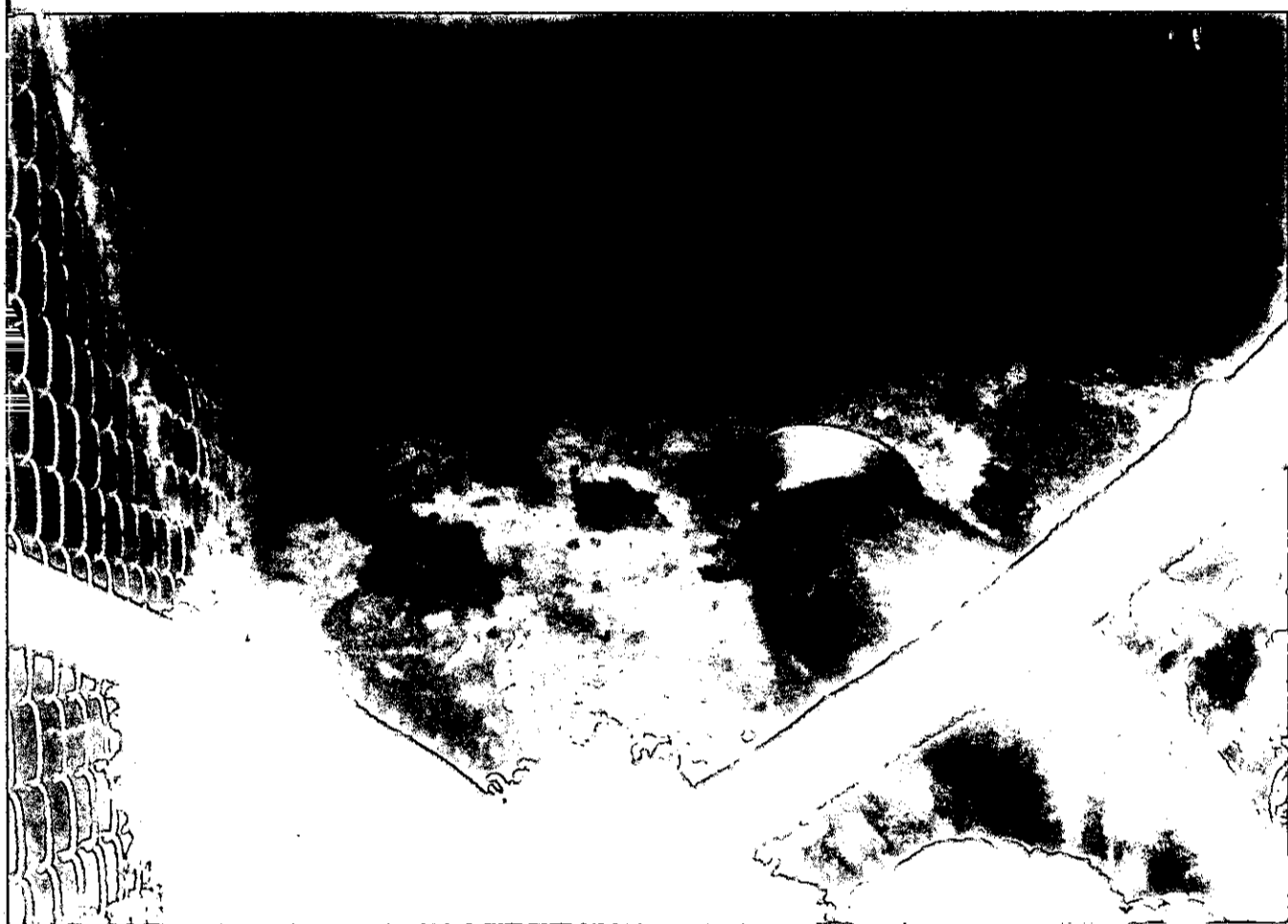
State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
		\$75	Breeding kennel – a location where 5 or more adult dogs, wolf hybrids or cats capable of breeding are kept and some or all of the offspring are offered for sale, sold or exchanged for value.			
Maryland § 10-616	No		A premises where a person is engaged in the business of buying, selling, trading, or breeding dogs; or a kennel where 25 or more dogs are kept Exemption: premises where dogs are kept or bred solely for medical research or laboratory tests; places operated by a licensed and regularly practicing veterinarian; or where hunting dogs are housed, if the buying, selling, trading, or breeding is incidental to the main purposes of housing, keeping, and using dogs.	Announced inspections for investigation of inhumane treatment of dogs by an authorized director of a humane society, accompanied by a sheriff or deputy sheriff.	Local enforcement	inhumane treatment of dogs
Massachusetts § 136A to 147B	Yes	No more than 4 dogs – \$10 5 to 10 dogs – \$25 More than 10 dogs – \$50	Kennel – one pack or collection of dogs on a single premises, whether maintained for breeding, boarding, sale, training, hunting or other purposes and including any shop where dogs are on sale, and also including every pack or collection of more than three dogs three months old or over, owned or kept by a person on a single premises irrespective of the purpose for which they are maintained.	Inspections may be conducted	Police Commissioner of Boston or clerk of other towns	330CMR 12:00 Sanitation, humane maintenance, housing, compatible groups
Michigan § 287.270 to 287.286b §287.331 to 287.335	Kennel license may be obtained in lieu of individual licenses	Kennels: 10 or less dogs – \$10 11+ dogs – \$25 Pet shops – \$200 initial and \$100 renewal	Kennel – establishment wherein or whereon 3 or more dogs are confined and kept for sale, boarding, breeding or training purposes Pet shops – place where animals are sold or offered for sale, exchange or transfer	Inspection of new facilities	Local authorities (County Animal Control, Sheriff's Dept.) has authority in the name of Michigan Department of Agriculture	Sanitation, nutrition, shelter, temperature
Minnesota	No			No		
Mississippi	No			No		

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
Missouri § 273.325 to 273.357	Yes	\$100 to \$500 animal shelters and pounds exempt from fee	Dealers or commercial breeders, animal shelter, pound or dog pound, boarding kennel, commercial kennel, contract kennel, pet shop, or exhibition facility, other than a limited show or exhibit Exemption: Persons engaged in breeding dogs and cats who harbor three or less intact females or a hobby or show breeder.	Yes, for new facilities and once per year	Animal Welfare Official/State Veterinarian	Rules of the Department of Agriculture Division 30, Chapter 9 Sanitation, ventilation, nutrition, shelter, exercise
Montana	No			No		
Nebraska § 54-625 to 54-641	Yes	Initial license - \$125 Annual fees: 10 dogs or less - \$150 11 to 50 dogs - \$200 More than 50 dogs - \$250	Commercial breeder, dealer, boarding kennel, animal control facility, animal shelter, pet shop Exemptions: A person who owns or harbors three or less unaltered dogs or cats for breeding purposes; a person who sells, exchanges, or leases thirty or less dogs or cats in a twelve-month period if all such dogs or cats are sold, exchanged, or leased to a final owner rather than for later retail sale or brokered trading; a person who purchases, sells, exchanges, or leases thirty or less dogs or cats in a twelve-month period	Yes, for new facilities and once in a 24 month period	State Veterinarian of Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture	Humane handling, care, treatment and transportation of dogs and cats, sanitation, shelter from weather, temperature, shade, nutrition, space, socialization, exercise, veterinary care
Nevada §574.210 to 574.440	No		Kennel, cattery or commercial establishment in business of selling animals, or animal shelter	No		Shelter from elements, light, temperature, ventilation, shade, space, nutrition, sanitation
New Hampshire § 437:1 to 437:13a	Yes	\$200	Pet shop, commercial kennel or animal shelter	Yes, new facilities and at least every 6 months	Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food	
New Jersey § 4:19-15.1 to 4:19-15.19	Yes - Licenses issued by municipality where kennel is located	Kennels with 10 or less dogs - \$10 Kennels with more than 10 dogs - \$25 Pet shop - \$10 Shelter or pound - No fee	Kennel, pet shop, shelter or pound	Inspections may be conducted	State Department of Health & Senior Services or local board of health	Sanitation, food and water
New Mexico	No			No		

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
New York § 400 to 407	Yes – pet dealers only	\$100 \$25 – less than 25 animal sold per year	Pet dealer: any person, firm, partnership, association, municipality, or other legal entity which engages in the sale of more than 9 animals per year for profit to the public. Exemption: A breeder who sells directly to the consumer fewer than 25 animals per year that are born and raised on the breeder's residential property should not be considered a pet dealer.	Yes, annually	Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets	Housing, sanitation, feeding and watering, handling, lighting, veterinary care and humane euthanasia
North Carolina § 19A-20 to 19A-41	Yes	\$50	Pet shop, public auction, boarding kennel, dealer Dealer – any person who sells, exchanges, or donates, or offers to sell, exchange or donate animals to another dealer, pet shop or research facility; provided however that an individual who breeds and raises on his own premises no more than the offspring of five canine or feline females per year, unless bred and raised specifically for research purposes shall not be considered to be a dealer	No	Animal Health Division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Housing, food, sanitation, temperature
North Dakota	No			No		
Ohio § 955.02 to 955.21	Yes, Registering	\$10 – individual counties may raise	Kennel: person, partnership, firm, company, or corporation professionally engaged in the business of breeding dogs for hunting or for sale.	No	County Auditor	
Oklahoma	No			No		
Oregon	No Prohibits possession of more than 50 breeding dogs		Welfare standards in place for anyone with more than 10 breeding dogs. Exempts animal control, humane societies, vets, transporters and boarding facilities	No		Space requirements for enclosures, solid flooring, stacking, exercise, sanitation, record keeping
Pennsylvania Title 3, § 459-101 to 459-219	Yes	Commercial kennel class: 50 or less – \$75 51 to 100 – \$200 101 to 150 – \$300 151 to 250 – \$400 251 to 500 – \$500 500+ – \$750	Any person who operates a kennel. Kennels shall be classified by type and the fee for the license shall be determined by kennel type, the number of dogs housed, kept, harbored, boarded, sheltered, sold, given away or transferred in or by the kennel. Kennel types: private, pet shop, dealer, rescue network, research, boarding, nonprofit, commercial. <i>Kennel</i> – Any establishment in or through which at least	Yes, new facilities and at least once per year	Department of Agriculture	Sanitation and humane conditions

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
			<p>26 dogs are kept or transferred in a calendar year, or a boarding kennel.</p> <p><i>Commercial Kennel</i> – A kennel that breeds or whelps dogs and: (1) sells or transfers any dog to a dealer or pet shop-kennel, or (2) sells or transfers more than 60 dogs per calendar year.</p>			
Rhode Island § 4-13-10 & § 4-19-1 to 4-19-14	Dealers and kennels only	Pet shop – \$100 Public auction and kennel – \$50 Dealer – \$100	<p>Pet shop, public auction, kennel, and dealer</p> <p>Dealer - any person who sells, exchanges, or donates, or offers to sell, exchange, or donate animals to another dealer, pet shop, or research facility, or who breeds dogs and or cats for the purpose of selling or donating to another dealer or pet shop, or research facility.</p> <p>Kennel - a place or establishment other than a pound or animal shelter where animals not owned by the proprietor are sheltered, fed, and watered in return for a fee.</p>	No	Environmental Management Office	
South Carolina	No			No		
South Dakota	No			No		
Tennessee §44-17.101 to 44-17.120	Yes	Commercial breeders—fees to be set in regulations Dealers--\$125 - \$1,000	<p>Dealers, commercial breeders</p> <p>Dealer - means any person who, for compensation or profit, buys, sells, transports (except as a common carrier), delivers for transportation, or boards dogs or cats for research purposes, or any person who buys or sells 25 or more dogs or cats in any 1 calendar year for resale within the state or for transportation out of the state</p> <p>Commercial breeder - any person who possesses or maintains 20 or more adult female dogs in whole or in part for the purpose of the sale of their offspring as companion animals</p>	Yes—new facilities, upon renewal or complaint	Department of Health	Humane standards to be established by regulations
Texas	No			No		
Utah	No			No		

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
Vermont § 3583 to 3684 & § 3901 to 3914 & § 4301 to 4304	Yes	Dogs kept for breeding or sale – \$10 Public auction – \$10 Pet Merchant – \$150	Owner or keeper of two or more domestic pets or wolf- hybrids four months of age or older kept for sale or for breeding purposes, public auction, pet merchant	Inspections may be conducted.	Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Division of Food Safety and Consumer Protection; municipal clerk	Humane transportation, primary enclosures, housing facilities, sanitation, euthanasia, ambient temperatures, feeding, watering, and adequate veterinary medical care
Virginia § 3.2.6507	Commercial dog breeders must obtain local business license Limits the number of breeding dogs a facility can maintain (50)	Individual counties, cities or towns may establish permit fees of no more than \$50	No commercial dog breeder shall breed dogs without a valid business license issued by the locality where he maintains dogs for the purpose of commercial dog breeding. Commercial dog breeder – any person who, during any 12-month period, maintains 30 or more adult female dogs for the primary purpose of the sale of their offspring as companion animals Commercial dog breeders shall maintain no more than 50 dogs over the age of one year for breeding purposes and breed female dogs between the ages of 18 months and 8 years only. Pet shops may not sell or offer to sell any dog procured from a person who is not licensed by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.	Commercial dog breeding operations shall be subject to inspection by animal control at least twice annually and additionally upon complaint	State Veterinarian for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; any animal control officer or any public health or safety official	Nutrition, shelter, sanitation, space, exercise, adequate care, treatment and transportation, and veterinary care
Washington 16.52 RCW	No Prohibits possession of more than 50 breeding dogs		Welfare standards in place for anyone with more than 10 breeding dogs Exempts animal control, humane societies, vets, pet stores, research institutions, boarding facilities	No		Space requirements for enclosures, exercise, sanitation, shelter, flooring, stacking, access to food and water, vet care
West Virginia § 19-20-3	Yes, Registering	\$10	Kennels – wherein dogs are bred, kept, boarded or sold as a commercial venture for profit	No	Assessor of County in which kennel resides	
Wisconsin	No			No		
Wyoming	No			No		



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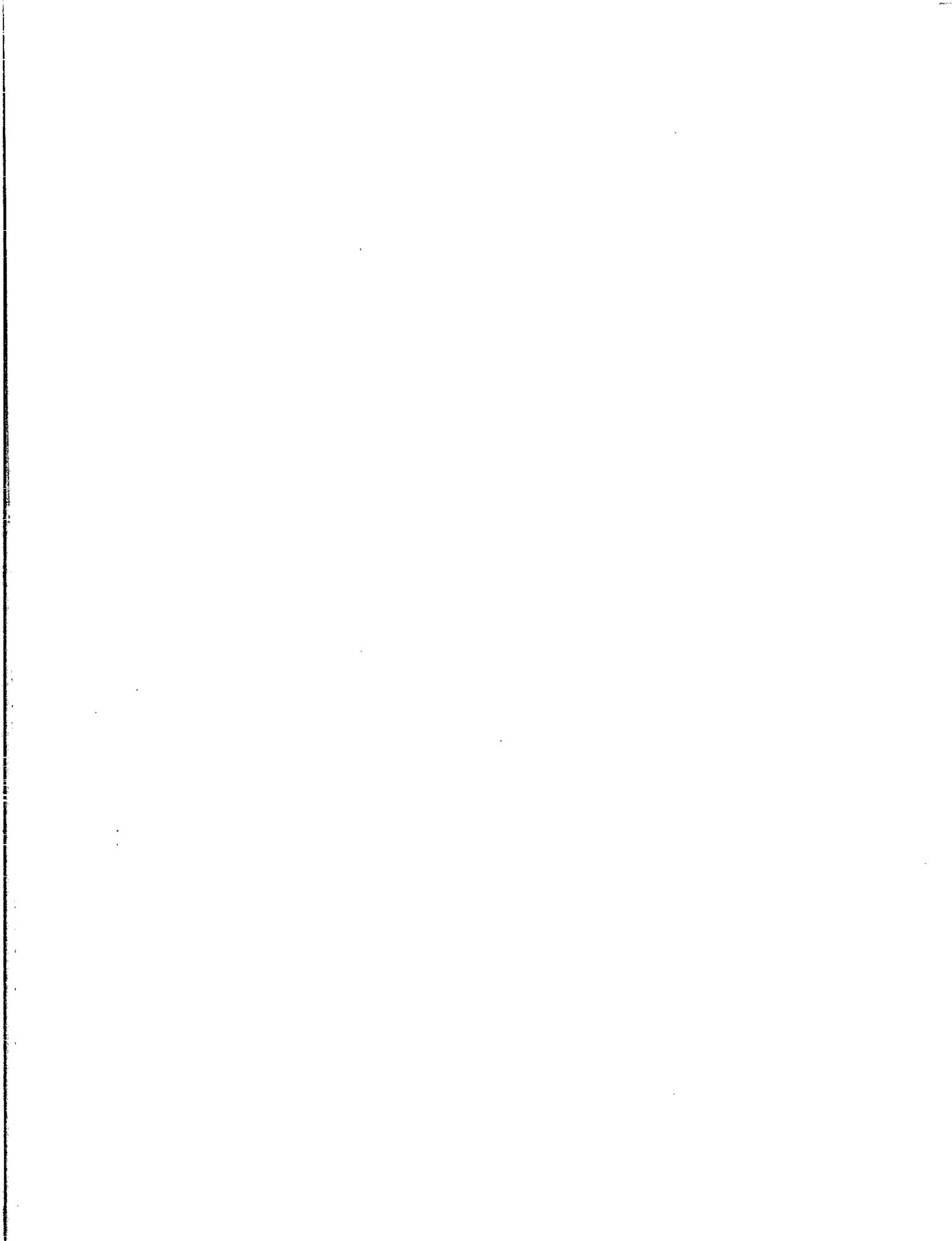
New Hampshire Mushers Association Financial Survey - Phase I Report



Authors: Tom DiMaggio, Bob Heckman, Rainer Wischinski

August 14, 2009

NH Mushers Association



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About The Authors

Tom DiMaggio is President and Founder of New Hampshire Musher's Association. He has been a Musher for 38 plus years. During that time Tom has been President, Director and Chief Judge of the New England Sled Dog. He and his wife Sandy are members of the New England Sled Dog Club, the Lakes Region Sled Dog Club and are also charter members of the Massabessic Musher's where Tom also serves as Chairman. Tom has been on the NH Trails Advisory Committee since its inception and he has been the Committee Chairman for the past 12 years. He received the "2008 State Trail Advocacy Award" from the State of New Hampshire for his long term service on this committee.

Bob Heckman is Treasurer of the New Hampshire Musher's Association. He has been a Musher for 42 plus years during which time he has been President, Treasurer, Director and Chief Judge of the New England Sled Dog Club. Bob and his wife Martha are Honorary Life Members of the New England Sled Dog Club, Past Charter Members of the Yankee Siberian Husky Club and Massabessic Musher's. Bob is currently serving as the mushing representative on the Rockingham Trails Committee. He has an MBA and MBE (Master of Business Education) from Southern New Hampshire University

Rainer Wischinski is the marketing liaison for the New Hampshire Musher's Association. He is a Director of the International Sled Dog Club (ISDRA) and he is a member of the New England Sled Dog Club Race Committee. He has been a Musher for 25 plus years during which time he has won many Mushing Championships in Europe and New England. He also serves as the web master for New England Sled Dog Club. He and his wife Anita are members of the New Hampshire Musher's Association, the New England Sled Dog Club, Lakes Region Sled Dog club and Massabessic Musher's.

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Photo Credit

The cover picture was taken by Rainer Wischinski.

About the Report

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<http://www.nhmushersassoc.org/>

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Executive Summary

The Research Project

Since the inception of the New Hampshire Mushers Association (NHMA) in 2003, the organization has attempted to ascertain the amount of money that the Mushing community spends in the State of New Hampshire on an annual basis. This report has been compiled by the NHMA to investigate that financial impact.

NHMA defines a Musher as anyone who participates in a dog powered sport.

This Phase 1 report summarizes the results of surveys conducted at 7 out of 10 mushing events during the October 2008 through March 2009 season.

This report focuses on reported Musher's spending for items such as fuel, food, and lodging.

The direct event-related financial impact for all survey participants has been identified and the projections, based on survey samples and overall number of event participants (mushers, musher family members, and spectators) for all (7) events, has been estimated by extrapolation.

This report does not include the positive financial impact outside of mushing events. Many Mushers own and operate snow mobiles and ATVs for training safety. Also to be considered is the financial impact created by the Mushing Community for pet supplies, veterinarian services and other costs related to keeping sled dogs. This will be the next phase of the survey.

Executive Summary – Key Findings

The research revealed that mushing events have a substantial positive financial impact on the State of New Hampshire:

- NHMA collected survey cards from 62.2% of the Musers attending each event.
 - Musers reported spending an average of \$315.87 per event.
 - Musers/Families spent **\$351,558** (Average spent per Muser x Total Musers x Standard Expansion Formula- *SEF) in New Hampshire during the 2008-2009 Mushing Season.
 - 43.7 % of the reporting Musers were from New Hampshire
 - New Hampshire Musers reportedly spent 27.9% of the total dollars.
 - NHMA collected survey cards from only 0.5% of the spectators attending each event.
 - Spectators reported spending an average of \$258.90 per event.
 - This sample is not statistically significant even though the spectator attendance was estimated at 7150 for the (7) events.
 - Spectators spent **\$5,553,457** (Average spent per Spectator x Total Spectators x *SEF) in New Hampshire during the 2008-2009 Mushing Season.
 - 43.9% of the reporting Spectators were from New Hampshire
 - New Hampshire Spectators reportedly spent 23.7% of the total dollars
- * **SEF** = Standard Expansion Formula is a formula used to arrive at a total financial impact of money spent by participants and tourists that has been filtered through the community multiple times.

Executive Summary – Recommendation

- Recommendations based on the survey results are:
 - NHMA should continue with the survey to show all sources of financial impact to the State by the Mushing community.
 - This preliminary information should be shared with event sponsors as an indicator of the financial impact a Mushing event can have on a community.
 - This preliminary information should be shared with the State Department of Resources and Economic Development as an incentive to include mushing in their state tourism information.

Introduction- Background

Since the inception of the New Hampshire Musers Association in 2003, the Organization has attempted to ascertain the amount of money that the Mushing community spends in the State of New Hampshire on an annual basis. Seeing the other trail users, I.E. Equestrians, ATVers, and Snowmobilers, publish their financial impact reports over the past several years, has given NHMA the incentive to proceed with this survey.

The New Hampshire Musher Association was formed in 2003 and listed by the State of New Hampshire as an official trail user in 2007.

Sled Dog Racing or Mushing has been an active sport in New Hampshire since 1924.

NMHA has maintained approximately 100 paid members per year since it's' inception in 2003. The majority of these members reside in New Hampshire. Considering our definition of a Musher as anyone who is involved with a dog powered sport, NHMA's estimate of strictly New Hampshire Musers is about 200 individuals or families.

Introduction – Methods

NHMA members passed out survey cards at 7 out of 10 mushing events during the 2008-2009 mushing season. These cards requested that the individual or family identify themselves as a musher or spectator. They also requested the person to estimate the cost of attending the event. Each person was asked to include the following in their cost estimate:

- Gas purchased
 - Getting to this event
 - Getting home from this event

- Food purchased
 - Getting to this event
 - While at the event
 - Returning home from this event

- Lodging
 - While at the event

- Estimated Purchases
 - While at this event
 - While in the local area other than the above

The cards were collected, summarized and the following spread sheet was generated. As an incentive for filling out the cards, two \$25 prepaid gas cards were awarded at each event. The total cost to NHMA was \$350.

The formula definitions:

- Reported Musher \$: The total \$ spent by the Mushers as reported on each card
- Reported Spectator \$: The total \$ spent by the Spectators as reported on each card
- Extended Musher \$: The average \$ spent by each Musher times all the participating Mushers
- Extended Spectators \$: The average \$ spent by each Spectator times the total estimated number of Spectators
- Expanded Musher \$: Extended Musher \$ times the SEF
- Expanded Spectator \$: Extended Spectator \$ times the SEF

Introduction – Survey Data

NHMA Phase 1 Financial Impact Survey Results

2009 Events	Trade Fair	Auburn	Tamworth	Hill	Laconia	Stratford	Purity	Totals
Total cards collected	91	19	38	32	32	25	35	272
Number of Musher cards collected	77	18	33	31	19	18	35	231
Number of Spectator cards collected	14	1	5	1	13	7	0	41
Total \$ reported on cards	\$30,880.00	\$2,350.00	\$9,340.00	\$7,048.00	\$15,223.00	\$5,799.00	\$12,940.00	\$83,580.00
Total Musher \$ reported on cards	\$27,094.00	\$2,325.00	\$8,586.00	\$7,008.00	\$10,438.00	\$4,574.00	\$12,940.00	\$72,965.00
Total Spectator \$ reported on cards	\$3,786.00	\$25.00	\$754.00	\$40.00	\$4,785.00	\$1,225.00	\$0.00	\$10,615.00
Average \$ as reported on Card	\$339.34	\$123.68	\$245.79	\$220.25	\$475.72	\$231.96	\$369.71	\$307.28
Average \$ as reported by Musher	\$351.87	\$129.17	\$260.18	\$226.06	\$549.37	\$254.11	\$369.71	\$315.87
Average \$ as reported by Spectator	\$270.43	\$25.00	\$150.80	\$40.00	\$368.08	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$258.90
Estimated total # of Musher at Event	150	24	47	40	33	27	50	371
Estimated total # of Spectators at Event	150	25	1500	300	4000	75	1100	7150
Extended \$ for All Musher	\$52,780.52	\$3,100.00	\$12,228.55	\$9,042.58	\$18,129.16	\$6,861.00	\$18,485.71	\$117,186.21
Extended \$ for All Spectators	\$40,564.29	\$625.00	\$226,200.00	\$12,000.00	\$1,472,307.69	\$13,125.00	\$0.00	\$1,851,152.44
Extended Total	\$93,344.81	\$3,725.00	\$238,428.55	\$21,042.58	\$1,490,436.85	\$19,986.00	\$18,485.71	\$1,968,338.65
Standard Expansion - Musers	\$158,341.56	\$9,300.00	\$36,685.64	\$27,127.74	\$54,387.47	\$20,583.00	\$55,457.14	\$351,558.64
Standard Expansion - Spectators	\$121,692.86	\$1,875.00	\$678,600.00	\$36,000.00	\$4,416,923.08	\$39,375.00	\$0.00	\$5,553,457.32
GRAND TOTAL	\$280,034.42	\$11,175.00	\$715,285.64	\$63,127.74	\$4,471,310.55	\$59,958.00	\$55,457.14	\$5,905,015.95

Average \$/Musher: \$315.86

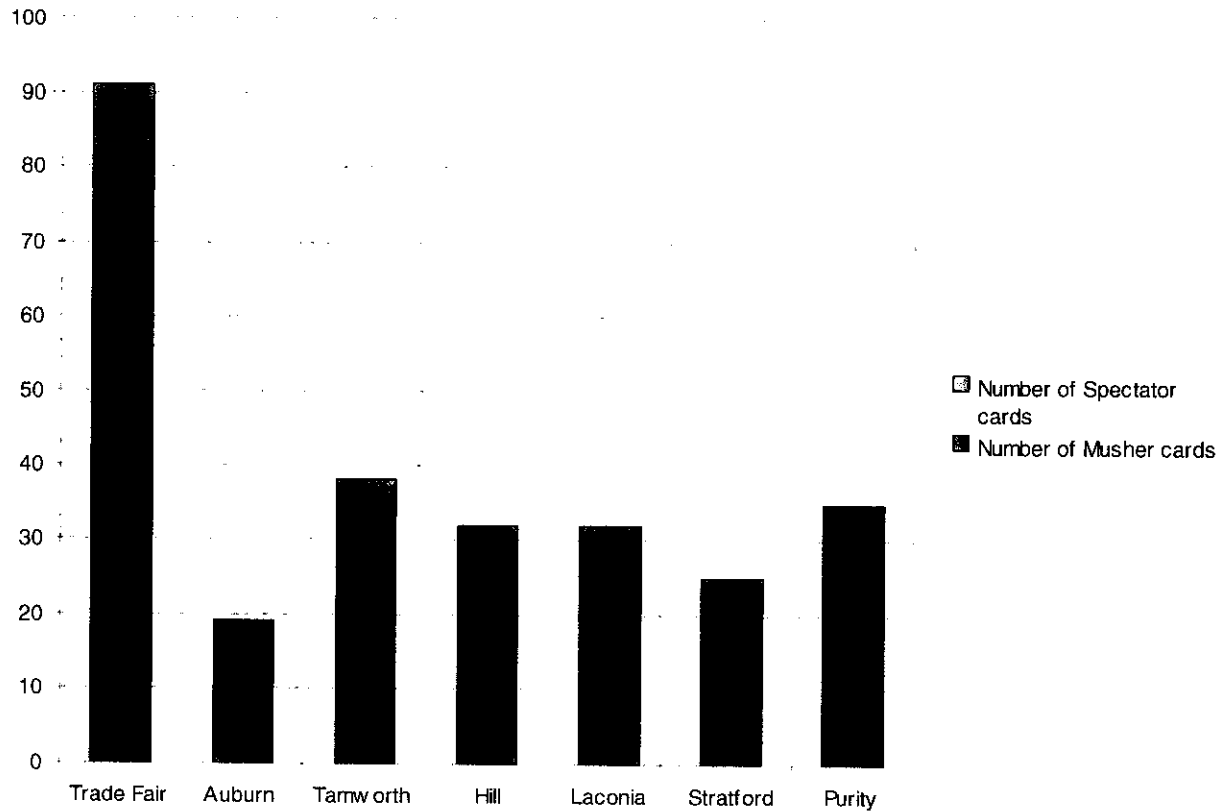
Average \$/Spectator: \$258.90

Events attracted an estimated 7,150 Spectators

Cards were collected at 7 out of 10 mushing events held in NH during this past mushing season. These numbers are based on these 7 events.

Introduction – Survey Data

NHMA Phase 1 Financial Impact Survey Card Distribution – Musher versus Spectator

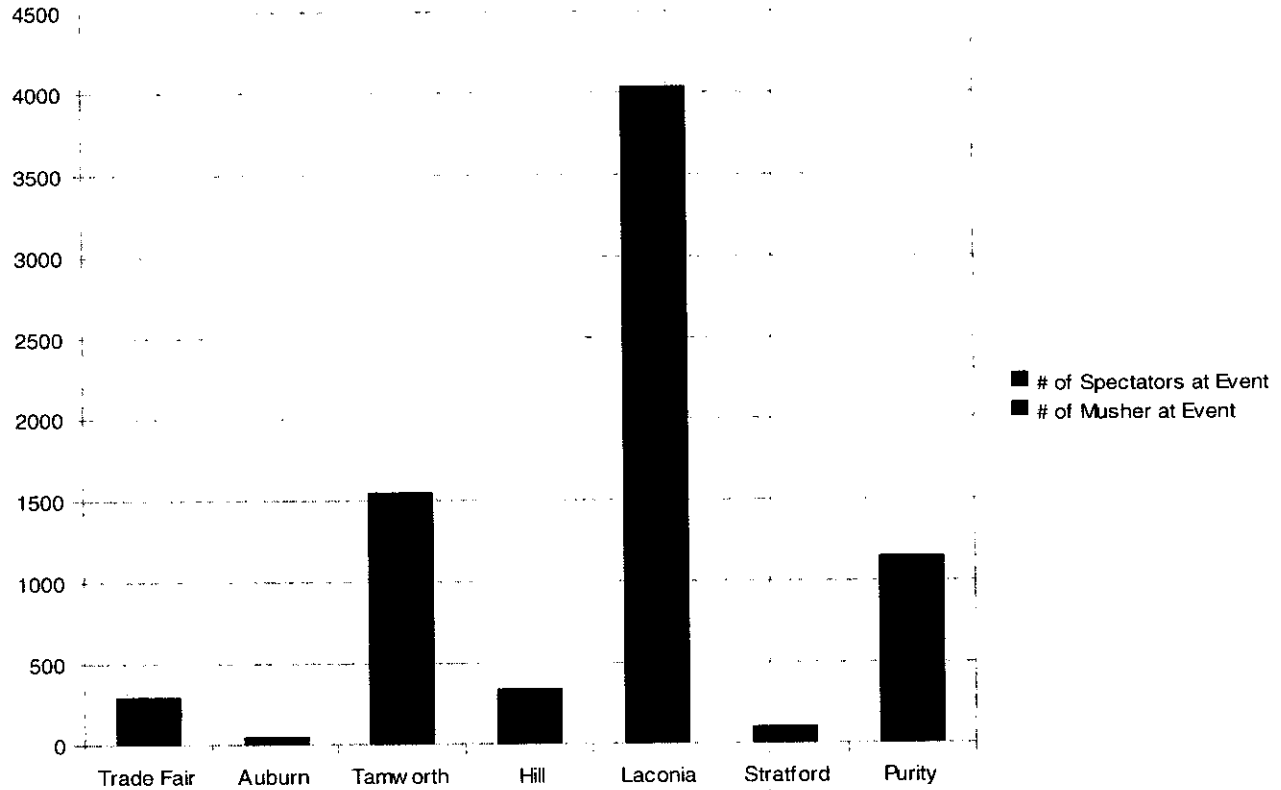


NHMA collected cards from .5% of the spectators at each event.

NHMA collected cards from 62.3% of the total mushers attending these events.

Introduction - Survey Data

NHMA Phase 1 Financial Impact Survey Total Attendees - Musher



The Mushing Events attracted an estimated 7150 spectators at the 7 mushing events that NHMA completed this survey. Again, NHMA collected .5% of the spectator completed cards at each event. However, the cards collected did indicate a significant financial outlay per individual. The chart also shows that the events that are easily accessible such as Tamworth, Laconia and Purity Springs will draw more spectators.

Individual Event Results

Northern Trade Fair

Date:	October 7/8, 2008
Weather:	Cool crisp days with mostly sunny skies
Location:	Hopkington Fair Grounds in Hopkington, NH
Sponsored by:	The Northern New England Trade Fair Association
Managed by:	The Northern New England Trade Fair Association
Estimated Mushers:	150
Estimated Spectators:	150
Card collected Mushers:	77
Cards collected Spectators:	14
Reported Musher \$:	\$ 27,094
Reported Spectator \$:	\$ 3,786
Extended Musher \$:	\$ 52,780
Extended Spectator \$:	\$ 40,564
Expanded Musher \$:	\$158,341
Expanded Spectator \$:	\$121,692

Comments: This event is a trade show featuring Mushing equipment. People came from Alaska, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Wisconsin, Canada and Europe to visit with their fellow mushers, to see all the new equipment for sale and to replenish any old or worn-out equipment just in time to start the new mushing season.

Individual Event Results

Auburn Rig Race

Date:	Nov 22/23, 2008
Weather:	Cool crisp days with mostly cloudy skies
Location:	Manchester Water Works Area in Auburn NH
Sponsored by:	The New England Sled Dog Club
Managed by:	The New England Sled Dog Club
Purse:	N/A
Teams Entered:	44
Estimated Mushers:	24
Estimated Spectators:	25
Card collected Mushers:	18
Cards collected Spectators:	1
Reported Musher \$:	\$2,325
Reported Spectator \$:	\$ 25
Extended Musher \$:	\$3,100
Extended Spectator \$:	\$ 625
Expanded Musher \$:	\$9,300
Expanded Spectator \$:	\$1,875

Comment: This event is a dry land racing event. It is a practice event held at the beginning of the racing season. Mushers enter as many teams as they have dogs in order to get them all into a racing situation. This is similar to spring training at the beginning of the baseball season. Mushers came from Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

Individual Event Results

Tamworth Sled Dog Race

Date:	Jan 31 – Feb 1, 2009
Weather:	Cold crisp days with some sun each day.
Location:	Lake Chocorua, Tamworth, NH. Race site is on Route 16.
Sponsored by:	The Tamworth Outing Club
Managed by:	The New England Sled Dog Club
Purse:	\$3000
Teams Entered:	83
Estimated Musher:	47
Estimated Spectators:	1500
Card collected Musher:	33
Cards collected Spectators:	5
Reported Musher \$:	\$ 8,586
Reported Spectator \$:	\$ 754
Extended Musher \$:	\$ 12,228
Extended Spectator \$:	\$226,200
Expanded Musher \$:	\$ 36,685
Expanded Spectator \$:	\$678,600

Comment: Tamworth is historically the first race of the season. It is held at an ideal spectator location on Lake Chocorua on Route 16 in Tamworth New Hampshire. The Tamworth race is the oldest active sled dog race in the United States. The first Tamworth Race was held in 1924. Musher came from Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont and Quebec, Canada.

Individual Event Results

Hill Sled Dog Race

Date:	Feb 7/8, 2009
Weather:	Cold days with snow flurries each day.
Location:	Profile Falls Area in Bristol, NH
Sponsored by:	The New England Sled Dog Club
Managed by:	The New England Sled Dog Club
Purse:	\$2000
Team Entered:	61
Estimated Mushers:	40
Estimated Spectators:	300
Card collected Mushers:	31
Cards collected Spectators:	1
Reported Musher \$:	\$ 7,008
Reported Spectator \$:	\$ 40
Extended Musher \$:	\$ 9,042
Extended Spectator \$:	\$12,000
Expanded Musher \$:	\$27,127
Expanded Spectator \$:	\$36,000

Comment: The Hill race is held at a very popular training location. The trails are a major portion of the Army Corp of Engineers flood control area between Bristol and Franklin New Hampshire. Mushers came from Alaska, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Ontario Canada to attend this race as a tune-up for the following week's Laconia World Championship.

Individual Event Results

Laconia World Championship Sled Dog Race

Date: Feb 13/14/15, 2009
Weather: First day of racing canceled due to ice on the trail. The 2nd and 3rd day the trail was groomed sufficiently to allow the teams to race safely. Saturday and Sunday were cold and dry.
Location: Starting area was located on Parade Road about a mile out of the center of Laconia.
Sponsored by: The Lakes Region Sled Dog Club
Managed by: The Lakes Region Sled Dog Club
Purse: \$20,000
Team Entered: 53
Estimated Mushers: 33
Estimated Spectators: 4,000
Card collected Mushers: 19
Cards collected Spectators: 13
Reported Musher \$: \$ 10,438
Reported Spectator \$: \$ 4,785
Extended Musher \$: \$ 18,129
Extended Spectator \$: \$1,472,307
Expanded Musher \$: \$ 54,387
Expanded Spectator \$: \$4,416,923

Comment: This is the biggest race in NH. Historically the start / finish line was located in the center of Laconia. However, over the past several years due to weather conditions, IE lack of snow, the start line has been moved to the Parade Road location. Mushers attending this event were from Massachusetts, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Vermont, Quebec, Canada, and Germany.

Individual Event Results

Stratford Sled Dog Race

Date: Feb 14/15, 2009
Weather: Saturday and Sunday were cold and dry.
Location: Starting area was located in Stratford NH
Sponsored by: The Stratford Nighthawks Snowmobile Club
Managed by: The North County Mushers
Purse: \$750
Team Entered: 30
Estimated Mushers: 27
Estimated Spectators: 75
Card collected Mushers: 18
Cards collected Spectators: 7
Reported Musher \$: \$ 4,574
Reported Spectator \$: \$ 1,225
Extended Musher \$: \$ 6,861
Extended Spectator \$: \$13,125
Expanded Musher \$: \$20,583
Expanded Spectator \$: \$39,375

Comment: This is a mid-distance race. Much longer trails with slower running teams. Trail lengths were 37, 30, and 18 miles. Mushers came from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, North Carolina, New York, New Hampshire, and Vermont for this event.

Individual Event Results

Purity Springs Sled Dog Race

Date: March 7/8, 2009
Weather: Saturday and Sunday were cold and dry.
Location: Adjacent to the King Pine Ski area in East Madison, NH
Sponsored by: The Purity Springs Resort
Managed by: The New England Sled Dog Club
Purse: \$8000
Team Entered: 91
Estimated Musers: 50
Estimated Spectators: 1100
Card collected Musers: 35
Cards collected Spectators: 0
Reported Musher \$: \$12,940
Reported Spectator \$: \$ 0
Extended Musher \$: \$18,485
Extended Spectator \$: \$ 0
Expanded Musher \$: \$55,457
Expanded Spectator \$: \$ 0

Comment: This is the last race of the season. Many mushers attend this race as much as a social event as a racing event. Musers came from Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode island, Vermont, Quebec, Canada, and Prince Edward Island, Canada for this event.

Findings

Despite the long history of mushing events in New Hampshire, a financial impact study has never been conducted. Now that Musers have been recognized by the State of New Hampshire as official trail users it has become imperative to show NH State Government how much Musers financially impact the state during the year. The following bullets are the key findings of this phase 1 survey.

- NHMA collected cards from 62.2% of the Musers attending each event.
- NH Musers represented 43.7% of these collected cards
- Each event averaged 53 Musers or Mushing Families.
- Each Muser/Family spent an average of \$315.86 at each event.
- These numbers extrapolate to **\$117,186** spent by Musers/Families for the total season.
- Applying the *SEF, Musers/Families spent **\$351,558** in New Hampshire during the 2008-2009 Mushing Season.
- NH Musers spent 27.9% of the total.
- NHMA collected cards from 0.5% of the spectators attending each event.
- The collected Spectator cards showed an average of \$258.90 per person being spent at each event.
- These numbers extrapolate to **\$1,851,152** spent by Spectators for the total season.
- Applying the *SEF, Spectators spent **\$5,553,457** into New Hampshire during the 2008-2009 Mushing Season.
- This year Musers came from 14 States, Canada and Germany.
- New Hampshire Musers represented 43.7% of the total Musers.
- When Race Sponsors have snow and a good trail the Musers will attend.
- Musers spent money to attend these events but they are not the major source of money at the race, the spectators are.
- These results indicate that Mushing in New Hampshire does have a financial impact.
- 272 individuals associated with the mushing events participated in this research project via a survey card. They represent a comprehensive and robust source of information to draw conclusions and make appropriate recommendations for future policy and practice regarding mushing event.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were derived from this Phase 1 survey:

- NHMA should continue with the survey to show all sources of financial impact to the State by the Mushing community. The next phases are:
 - Phase 2 - Personal Musher Survey
 - Phase 3 - Revisit Spectator Survey during the next mushing season
 - Phase 4 - Create a joint venture with local University to validate NHMA study
- This preliminary information to be shared with event sponsors as an indicator of the financial impact a mushing event can have on a community.
- This preliminary information to be shared with the State Department of Resources and Economic Development as an incentive to include mushing in their state tourism information.

Conclusion

Initial survey results indicate that Mushing events do have a financial impact to the State. Mushers do spend in the state at these events. The data supports the theory that the bigger the event the more spectators will be drawn to the event and therefore the greater the financial impact.

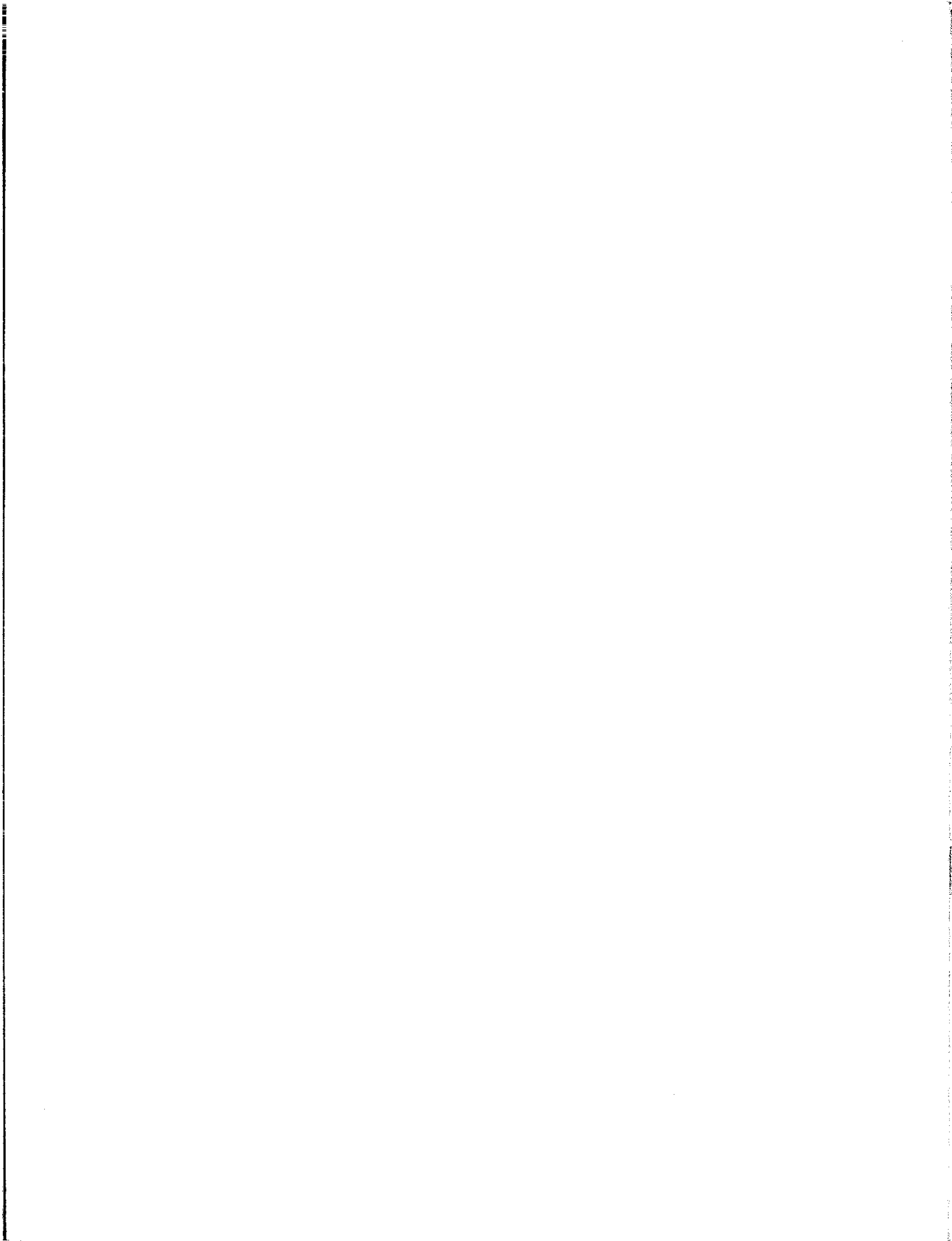
The musher survey data collected is more than statistically significant at 62.2% of all the mushers participated in the survey.

The spectator survey data collected does give an indication that spectators are the major contributor to the financial impact. This indication is significant enough to push for another more intensive survey of spectators at next year's mushing events.

Mushing events like the Laconia World Championship can draw sufficient spectator numbers to have a significant impact on the local economy. This is especially true when the event is blessed with good weather for the event and good snow for a good trail.

This suggests that Mushing organizations and the State of New Hampshire would mutually benefit from increased promotional activities sponsored by the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development.

Now that the Phase 1 study is complete, the Phase 2 research project will start immediately.





Adult dogs w/
nursing litters,
living in cages

← approx. 2wk. old
puppy b/w mother's
front legs.



MAUREEN PRENDERGAST
Animal Cruelty Investigator &
Community Outreach



**ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

545 Route 101 • Bedford, NH 03110

Cruelty Line: 603-471-0888
Outreach Line: 603-472-3647
Fax: 603-471-9036
Website: www.rescueleague.org



Multiple
dogs living
in the
same cage



cages stacked.

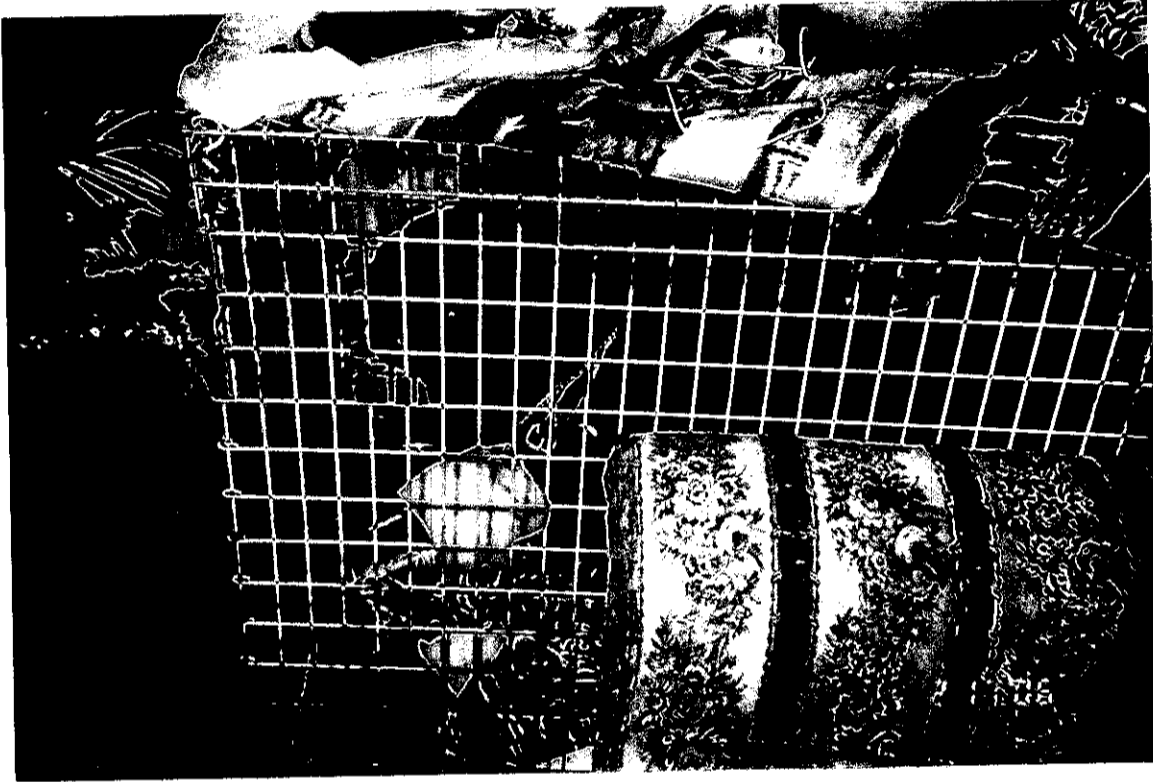
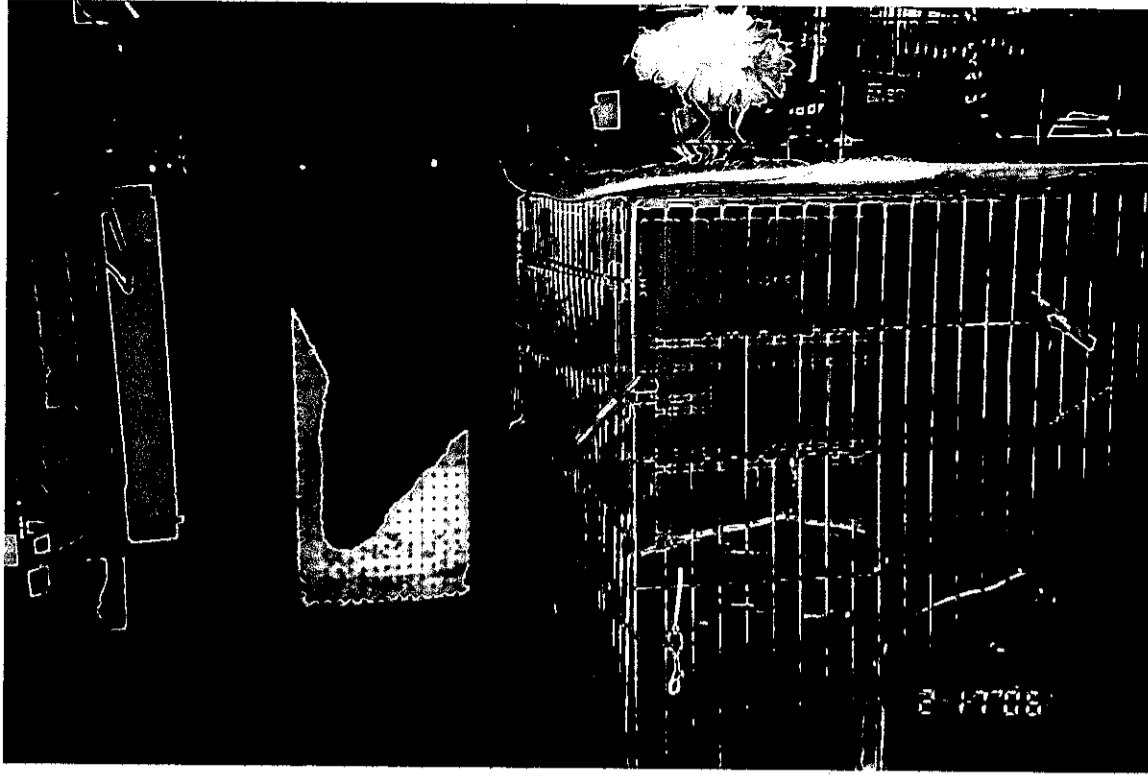
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Dogs living
→ in cages
in a car.



→ Dog after
dog, lined
up, living
in cages

Photos from
PetAbuse.com

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Home of
puppy-mill,
110 dogs
removed.



Shar-pei, with
prolapsed rectum.
On his own,
owner tried to
staple the
rectum.

*Note silver image
is staple.

PHOTOS FROM
PetAbuse.com

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Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1624-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

DATE: January 28, 2010

LOB ROOM: 308

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Groen

Seconded by Rep. Lindsay

Vote: 12-1 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

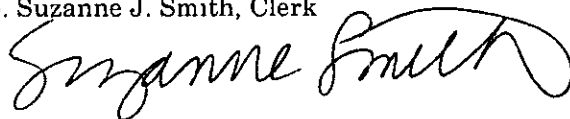
CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: 12-1

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Suzanne J. Smith, Clerk



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1624-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

DATE: 1-28-2010

LOB ROOM: 308

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. ~~Haefner~~ ~~Groen~~ OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep. ~~Lindsay~~ OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Groen

Seconded by Rep. Lindsay

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.) 12-1

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

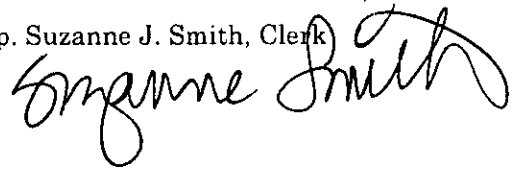
Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: ~~12~~ 12/1

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Suzanne J. Smith, Clerk


ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

Bill #: 1624 FN Title: relative to care & treatment of Dogs

PH Date: 1, 21, 10

Exec Session Date: 1, 28, 10

Motion: ITL

Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Sad, Tara A, Chairman	✓	
Beaulieu, Jane E, V Chairman	✓	
Owen, Derek	✓	
Allen, Peter H	✓	
Webb, Leigh A	✓	
Beauchamp, Roger R	✓	
Lindsey, Steven W	✓	
Poznanski, Brian D	-	
Smith, Suzanne J, Clerk	✓	
Wiley, Susan E		✓
Haefner, Robert H	✓	
Messier, Irene M	NOT VOTING	
Williams, Burton W	✓	
Knox, J. David	-	
Gandia, Laura J	-	
Groen, Warren J	✓	
Palmer, Stephen J	✓	
Tucker, Pamela Z	-	
	12	1

Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR

January 28, 2010

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Majority of the Committee on ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE to which was referred HB1624-FN,

AN ACT relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state. Having considered the same, report the same with the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Warren J Groen

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee: **ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**
Bill Number: **HB1624-FN**
Title: **relative to the care and treatment of dogs by
breeders within the state.**
Date: **January 28, 2010**
Consent Calendar: **NO**
Recommendation: **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Although amendments have been introduced to try to make this better legislation, this bill is overreaching and unnecessary with too many unintended consequences. Everyone on the committee abhors the thought of a puppy mill in New Hampshire. This is a very emotional issue for everyone, however, we must reserve the discussion to the facts. There have been only five cited cases of "puppy mills" in New Hampshire over the course of the past ten years. This bill will place undue restrictions on breeders and dog owners alike. The rules that would be applied are very generic and not breed specific, thus, dog owners could be charged with cruelty to their pets. Cruelty laws are already in existence in RSA 644:8, making this legislation unnecessary. Local animal control and law enforcement have the authority to remedy any abuses that may arise.

Vote 12-1

Rep. Warren J Groen
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB1624-FN, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state.

INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Warren J Groen for the **Majority** of ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE. Although amendments have been introduced to try to make this better legislation, this bill is overreaching and unnecessary with too many unintended consequences. Everyone on the committee abhors the thought of a puppy mill in New Hampshire. This is a very emotional issue for everyone, however, we must reserve the discussion to the facts. There have been only five cited cases of "puppy mills" in New Hampshire over the course of the past ten years. This bill will place undue restrictions on breeders and dog owners alike. The rules that would be applied are very generic and not breed specific, thus, dog owners could be charged with cruelty to their pets. Cruelty laws are already in existence in RSA 644:8, making this legislation unnecessary. Local animal control and law enforcement have the authority to remedy any abuses that may arise. **Vote 12-1.**

Original: House Clerk

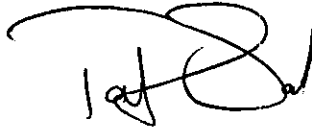
Cc: Committee Bill File

HB 1624 MAJORITY

ITL

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Warren Groen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Groen', written in a cursive style.

HB1624 ITL

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Everyone on the committee abhors the thought of a puppy mill in NH. This a very emotional issue for everyone, however, we must reserve the discussion to the facts.

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WARREN GROEN

STRAFFORD 1

ROCHESTER

NOTE ITL Y-12
N-1

REGULAR CALENDAR

January 28, 2010

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Minority of the Committee on ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE to which was referred HB1624-FN,

AN ACT relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state. Having considered the same, and being unable to agree with the Majority, report with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Susan E Wiley

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee: **ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**
Bill Number: **HB1624-FN**
Title: **relative to the care and treatment of dogs by
breeders within the state.**
Date: **January 28, 2010**
Consent Calendar: **NO**
Recommendation: **OUGHT TO PASS**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Given that the existing legislation does not require that dog breeders exercise or socialize their dogs, there is a need to add language to existing statute that would allow for enforcement of minimal acceptable standards for housing and husbandry. The minority felt this bill was a first step

Rep. Susan E Wiley
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB1624-FN, relative to the care and treatment of dogs by breeders within the state. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Susan E Wiley for the **Minority** of ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE. Given that the existing legislation does not require that dog breeders exercise or socialize their dogs, there is a need to add language to existing statute that would allow for enforcement of minimal acceptable standards for housing and husbandry. The minority felt this bill was a first step

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

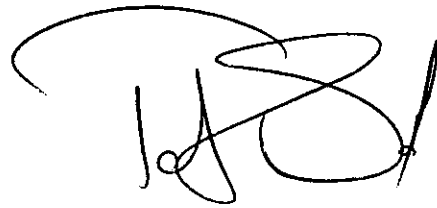
HB 1624-FN

MINORITY

OTP

Given that the existing legislation does not require that dog breeders exercise or socialize their dogs, there is a need to add language to existing statute that would allow for enforcement of minimal acceptable standards for housing and husbandry. The minority felt this bill was a first step

Susan Wiley

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SW', with a large, sweeping flourish above the letters.

OTF

this Bill was a first

The minority felt ^{it} ~~was~~ ^{steps} ~~needed~~

~~and the original~~

Given that ~~regulation regarding the~~ ^{that} ~~existing~~ ^{the} legislation does not require that dog breeders exercise or socialize their dogs, ~~and these~~ ~~standards for breeders are~~ ~~substantially lower than those for shelters~~ there is a need to add language to legislation that would allow for enforcement of minimal acceptable standards for ~~breeder~~ housing & husbandry.



Susan Wiley

late J.