

Chairman Mark Taddiken
Senate Agriculture Committee Members

Regarding changes pertaining to the Kansas Pet Animal Act proposed in Senate Bill 414, page 14, lines 25 & 26 and on page 16, lines 18, 19 and 20.

Why is this bill needed at this time? Are there other areas of the law that should be addressed? Licensees have had little time for the opportunity to comment and suggest changes that would make the law better.

Why is there a need to change to include greyhounds? The National Greyhound Association has a very strict inspection service. If there have been problems, there are already regulations and laws in place to address those concerns.

As a licensed, accredited Kennel Operator, I don't believe that changes in the veterinary care provision in the Kansas regulations are necessary. Since we are a USDA licensed professional breeder there is already a veterinary care program in place. I do not believe that the Kansas inspectors will stop with just a "show me your Veterinary Care Program so that I know you are in compliance with the USDA". There will probably have to be discussion and suggestions on their part. Duplication of effort will cause more work, more papers, more time on the part of the veterinarian and the professional breeder. The time you required for this duplication would be time taken away from the actual care of the animals. You already have in place provisions to address problems in the health of animals in the licensed professional kennel. It is not an effective way to address the health of a single animal. The health of the kennel has already been addressed by the USDA regulations and requires no duplication of effort on the part of the licensed professional breeder or the licensed accredited veterinarian.

Another question I have regards the expense and time commitment of the staff in dealing with unlicensed facilities. Some of these are where there are family dogs and cats and the number is more than the 19 defined in the law. Is that really a hoarding problem or is that a large expense to the program just because the family has more than 19 dogs or cats?

I have to ask, where would the money come from to fund more inspectors?

The changes proposed do not appear to be of any benefit to the animals in question but to hand more power and control to the government.

I strongly recommend NO to the proposed changes.

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