

Sample Letter to Lawmakers – Breeder Regulations

The Honorable <name of legislator>

Address

RE: Oppose <Bill #>

Dear <Senator _____ OR Representative _____ OR Assemblyman or Assemblywoman _____>:

I am writing you today because I am a constituent and I am concerned about <Bill #>, a measure that would impose unreasonable regulations on responsible dog breeders.

Insert information about what the specific bill would do (i.e. Will it limit the number of dogs you can own? Require burdensome and expensive changes to your kennel? Require you to waive your right to a warrant prior to an inspection of your private property?). Be brief and concise.

Personalize here – identify yourself as a dog owner, breeder and/or fancier. How many years have you been involved with dogs? What breeds have you owned or shown? Do you compete with your dogs? In what events do you compete? How would this bill affect your willingness and ability to show dogs in your state?

What steps do you take in caring for your dogs? Describe the facilities you have and the level of care you provide. Are you inspected by AKC?

<Bill #> will not automatically create more responsible owners or improve the welfare of dogs in <your state>. But it will hurt responsible breeders and dog owners like me who strive to raise healthy, well cared-for dogs and work to ensure that these puppies are placed with responsible owners.

As a taxpayer I am also concerned that passage of this bill would cost the state a large amount of money. *(Insert information here on how it will cost the state: Will this create new, high taxes for citizens? Could it force law-abiding owners to relinquish their dogs to public animal shelters in order to comply with ownership limit or allow for the seizure of animals at public expense? If so, any dogs likely to be sent to public shelters will be housed and/or euthanized at the taxpayer's expense.)*

As a constituent and responsible dog breeder, I am extremely concerned about the unacceptable conditions in which some dogs live, but I ask that you oppose this burdensome and ineffective legislation. Instead, please work on legislation that will address the real issue – irresponsible ownership – and the enforcement of existing animal cruelty laws without taking away the rights of responsible breeders.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Address