

BARK THE ALERT!

Proposed Federal Regulations Threaten the Future of Small Breeders and Fanciers!

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has proposed administrative changes to the Animal Welfare Act that would subject anyone who maintains more than 4 “breeding females” and sells one pet sight unseen to strict federal licensing, regulation and inspections as a USDA commercial breeder. The term “breeding female” is not defined so no one knows who would be impacted.

This includes any transfer where a buyer doesn’t pick up the dog directly from the seller –even among co-owners, long-time associates or a “puppy back” as back as part of a breeding agreement.

The proposal includes multiple species – you could own only one intact female dog (along with other species) and still be subject to USDA commercial breeder regulations if you sell a single puppy sight unseen.

USDA commercial breeder regulations were not intended or designed for small hobby breeders. It is unreasonable and virtually impossible for responsible hobbyists who keep dogs in their homes to comply with regulations designed for large, commercial operations.

This is a proposed administrative change to existing law, not new legislation, so we need YOUR involvement NOW.



The future of dogs depends on YOU. We need your help to send a clear message to USDA that this proposal:

- Hurts small responsible breeders
- Does not improve the welfare of dogs
- Threatens the future of purebred dogs – and especially rare breeds – in the United States.

What you can do:

- 1) Join tens of thousands of other concerned fanciers by signing AKC’s online petition at www.akc.org/petition by August 13, 2012.
- 2) Submit comments directly to USDA by August 15, 2012. Visit www.akc.org/governmentrelations and click on “USDA/APHIS Regulations Resource Page” for more information about how you can make an impact with your own constructive comments.



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Learn more about how this dangerous proposal could affect your rights and the future of responsibly-bred purebred dogs at www.akc.org/governmentrelations or call 919-816-3720

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