

## **Breeder Bill Sample Letters to the Editor (No Ownership Limits)**

### Letter # 1 (If unannounced inspections are included in the bill):

As a (insert state) dog-lover, I'm opposed to (insert bill number). Supporters claim the bill will protect dogs from cruel treatment and being forced to live in terrible conditions. The truth, however, is that this bill infringes on the rights of responsible (insert state) dog breeders by allowing inspectors to show up without prior notice or a warrant, search their homes and private property at any time of day or night, and seize their animals if they do not have a license – with no warning or opportunity for them to come into compliance with the new law – all while doing nothing to improve the well-being of dogs. (Insert state) should enforce current animal cruelty laws. This would protect the dogs being harmed without taking away the liberties of law-abiding citizens who happen to breed dogs.

### Letter # 2 – For states with budget issues

The State of (insert state) is in a budget crisis. Employees are being laid off and funding is being cut for important services. In the midst of this, the (insert legislative body- State Senate, State Assembly, etc.) is seeking to pass legislation that would spend (thousands of dollars, etc. – if a specific monetary figure has been projected, include that) a year to regulate dog breeders in the state. While I am concerned about dogs being treated well and having basic needs met, I would rather see better enforcement of the animal cruelty laws already in place. This would protect the dogs being mistreated without spending taxpayer money on a new government program we can't afford.

### Letter #3

The (insert legislative body- State Senate, State Assembly, etc.) is considering a “puppy mill bill” that supporters claim will protect dogs in the state. If you take the time to read the bill, however, you will see that it punishes anyone who breeds dogs- even if they aren't doing anything wrong. It allows for unannounced inspections of their private homes and property at any time of day or night and even allows for the dogs to be immediately taken away if the breeder is unlicensed – all at the taxpayers' expense! As a (insert state) taxpayer, I am appalled that the state is considering spending money on a law that violates the rights of responsible people making a legitimate living.

### Letter #4

As a responsible dog owner, I oppose the dog breeder regulations currently being considered by the (insert legislative body- State Senate, State Assembly, etc.). This bill treats all dog breeders the same, even if they take excellent care of their dogs. Responsible breeders are a tremendous value to the state. They are experts in their breeds, take extreme care to ensure dogs are placed in good homes, and can help new owners learn how to properly care for their new puppy. (Insert bill number) does not distinguish between these breeders and those who mistreat their dogs. Rather, it creates a

new, expensive government program that is not necessary and violates the rights and privacy of those who are actually benefitting their communities.

(If there is a dog show coming up, you may wish to add: I invite you to come to our next dog show, which will be held (provide location, dates, time and website if available) and see for yourself the commitment that we as (AKC dog show exhibitors OR members of \_\_\_\_\_ club) have to breeding and raising healthy, quality purebred dogs.