

Chairman Mark Taddiken
Senate Agriculture Committee Members

Senate Bill 414

Vote NO 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.

Are these changes really necessary at this time? Licensees have not had much time to digest the changes or suggest changes that would make for a better law.

I have read the National Greyhound Association's care standards and see that they pretty well parallel the USDA rules. I don't believe that we need to start inspections on them unless there are several valid and documented complaints.

I participated in a USDA Town Hall Meeting in Washington D.C. several years ago. There were people in attendance from all walks of the Pet Industry. But I'll never forget what one Animal Rights woman from Austin, TX stated. She said "If we can't put you out of business today, we will legislate you silly." (You meaning those who raised pets in the pet industry) From what I see, that is exactly what is happening piece by piece and they're doing a darn good job of it!

There's an old adage that goes something like this "you can feed the alligator a little bit at a time, but eventually he will eat you too!" This is exactly what I'm seeing by many folks who think that by appeasing the Animal Rights efforts they will spare us.

In 2007 there were a little over 400 USDA licensed breeders in KS. That number dropped to around 280 in April, 2010 and per the USDA APHIS website it was down to 196 breeders on Feb. 20, 2012.

I think our state program would better spend their time searching out and bringing into compliance those who are skirting the laws as they written now.

If we want to keep Kansas Shining lets concentrate on those who are operating outside the existing laws!

Therefore I am against the changes in Senate Bill 414, page 14, lines 25 & 26 and on page 16, lines 18, 19 and 20 and strongly recommend that we leave them as they are now.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Mosshart
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Kansas Federation of Animal Owners member
Kansas Pet Professionals member
Missouri Pet Breeders Association member
Oklahoma Pet Professional member