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## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

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December 6, 2019

The Honorable Collin Peterson  
Chairman  
House Committee on Agriculture  
1301 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable K. Michael Conaway  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Agriculture  
1010 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Peterson, Ranking Member Conaway, and House Agriculture Committee Members:

I am writing regarding my support for H.R. 2442, the Puppy Protection Act, which I introduced with Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-1), Charlie Crist (FL-13), and Jim McGovern (MA-2). I join my colleagues in respectfully requesting the House Committee on Agriculture consider this crucial legislation in a future hearing and subsequent mark-up.

I have long championed legislation that protects our nation's animals from abuse and neglect. Prior to coming to Congress, I was a leader on a number of animal welfare initiatives in the Pennsylvania State Senate. I helped pass Libre's Law, which increased penalties for animal abuse. I also authored a puppy mill ban, which would protect consumers and animals by ending the sale of commercially bred puppies at pet stores, since the vast majority of dogs sold at these stores come from inhumane puppy mills. This legislation is currently pending in the Pennsylvania General Assembly and other states have made efforts to pass similar legislation.

Earlier this year, I was proud to join my colleagues to introduce the Puppy Protection Act. This bipartisan legislation aims to improve standards for federally licensed commercial dog breeders. H.R. 2442 will not impact family pets, livestock, or family breeders, but rather updates standards for veterinary care, housing, breeding practices, and the humane placement of retired breeding dogs. Too many of our dogs currently suffer from inhumane conditions in commercial breeding facilities, but I look forward to working with you and my colleagues Representatives Fitzpatrick, Crist, and McGovern to provide protections for these animals in the future.

Thank you for holding this member day to discuss priorities currently pending in the House Committee on Agriculture and for considering my request.

Very respectfully,

Guy Reschenthaler  
Member of Congress