

Dear Task Force Committee Member:

December 4, 2013

My name is Toni Delorenzo. I am an employee of The Dog house. I provide animal care for our puppies, work with our dog daycare and boarding dogs and assist on finding good homes for the small amount of rescue dogs we take care of. The health and wellness of every one of the puppies and dogs in our store is of extreme importance to me. Every day when I go to work I do my best to make sure that all the puppies and dogs are in a clean, healthy, comfortable environment and are loved. At The Dog House there are strict procedures for cleaning, sanitizing, and taking care of the dogs to make sure they are healthy. I also work with the veterinarian who comes once a week to check on all the puppies. It brings a smile to my face every time I see one of our puppies go to his or her new home. When you come to The Dog House you will see hundreds of pictures of happy customers holding their new family member. Many of our customers have come back to purchase their second or third puppy from us. We at The Dog House have also found homes for a small amount of rescue dogs over the last five years. People have left dogs at our door step. Mainly because of the poor economic conditions people can not afford their dog or in case of Vinnie, a five year old terrier mix, his owner died leaving no one to take care of him. Because these dogs are older it generally takes two to six months or in the case of Vinnie two and one half years to find them a suitable home.

I understand I am one of over 300 employees who would lose our job if you decide to put legislation through that would ban the sale of puppies and kittens in Connecticut Pet Shops. I strongly urge you to consider other alternatives to this drastic, unfair action.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Delorenzo
Employee
The Dog House