

October 12, 1973

Leg - Animal

[REDACTED]
Girard, Kansas 66743

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your recent letter expressing your concern about recent initiatives in Congress to correct certain conditions which animals are subjected to during air transportation.

I certainly share your feeling that the many fine kennels throughout the State have received unjust criticism by some members of the press. Kansas is one of the leading states for the production of pets. At this time, out of the nearly 4,000 USDA licenses in the United States, Kansas has over 1,500 -- or more than 1/3 -- of the USDA inspected kennels in the United States.

Mr. Jim Clawson of the Pet Producers of America from Randall, Kansas, testified before the Special Studies Subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee recently as to some of the problems which exist in air transportation of animals. He explained his new educational program about the problems involved in transporting animals. He also discussed his attempts to correct the conditions in those kennels which unfortunately have given a bad name to the pet industry. In addition, he mentioned that we must use common sense in approaching the issue of animals in air transportation. Both the air carriers and breeders are going to have to make some concessions to correct the problems.

As soon as transcripts of his testimony become available, I will be pleased to forward a copy to you. Appreciated hearing from you on this matter, and hope you will let me know whenever I may be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD:clj
E

October 1, 1973

Girard, Kansas

Dear Senator Dole;

I am writing you about the latest attack against those of us who ship our puppies through a broker.

Several weeks ago there were long articles in papers across the country, including the Pittsburg Sun, about the horrible conditions under which puppies are shipped by air. Those of us who ship this way were referred to as ~~pa~~ "puppy mills" in the most insulting way. The articles were printed with the apparant blessing of the Humane Society but the term "puppy mill" was coined by a group of show kennels which have been urging thier friends to 'get rid of the "puppy mills" for years now.

They forced an amendment to the Animal Welfare Act through a few years ago but this did not force us out of business, it just made more work for everyone so now they are at it again. ~~E~~ We are complying with the law and paying our fee so it seems to me that we are entitled to some protection.

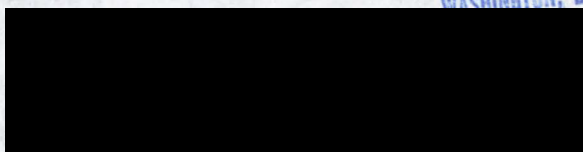
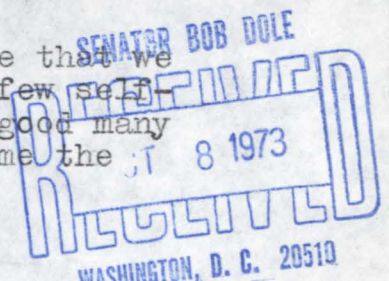
Yesterday evening KOAM TV carried more of the same slanted and untrue story. Puppies are not treated cruelly. They are crated and shipped very carefully. If only because there is a lot of money involved and a hurt or dead puppy is a loss.

These same people who say that we are mistreating puppies routinely use car exhaust to dispose of unwanted puppies in dog pounds across the country. This doesn't seem to upset anyone at all but a puppy being shipped by air in a perfectly adequate crate should be stopped. The truth is that they're losing money and they want to make dog-breeding into a monopoly controlled by themselves.

There was an item in yesterdays Wichita Beacon , the Army is buying 400 Beagles to be used in testing nerve gas . So far there has been no mention of this buy the dog lovers of America evidently only those pups shipped by brokers are deserving of any concern.

I don't know what can be done but it seems to me that we shouldn't have to put up with constant abuse from a few self-interested selfish people. If something isn't done a good many Kansans are going to be out of business and believe me the ecomomy will feel it.

Thank you





[REDACTED]
Girard, Kansas 66743

Senator Robert Dole
Senate Office Building
Washington
D.C.