PETITION OF VERMONT RESIDENTS

Subject: Puppy Mills in Vermont

We, the undersigned, call upon Governor Shumlin to support legislation to combat puppy mills in Vermont: S. 142, an Act Relating to Pet Merchants and H. 340, the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act.

The Pet Merchant Bill closes loopholes in the existing law that exempts offspring of household pets, without definition or limits, regardless of how many puppies are bred and sold. The Puppy Mill Bill addresses the inhumane conditions that have been uncovered in some puppy mills in Vermont by defining minimum standards for facilities breeding more than 10 females.

These bills close an unintended ambiguity in Vermont law; protect unwitting consumers from purchasing diseased and dying puppies; provide minimum humane standards for commercial dog breeding facilities; protect responsible dog breeders; and allow Vermonters to uphold the integrity and good name that our state has worked hard to achieve.

NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS/COUNTY

Return to: Joanne Bourbeau, Vermont Humane Federation, PO Box 619, Jacksonville VT 05342