

**MISSOURI STATE SENATE**

Honorable Senator  
201 W Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**MISSOURI GOVERNOR JAY NIXON**

Office of Governor Jay Nixon  
P.O. Box 720  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
ph: 573-751-3222

**MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Honorable Representative  
201 W Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Missouri Senator, Representative and Governor Nixon:

Nearly 1 million voters passed Proposition B, the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act, last November. I am shocked that the Missouri Senate has since approved SB-113, a measure that essentially guts Prop B. I understand SB-113 needs another vote to move to the House.

Please firmly oppose all legislation intended to dilute or repeal Prop B. I respectfully ask Governor Nixon to veto any legislation that undoes Prop B and overrides the voters' will.

In Missouri — nicknamed the nation's Puppy Mill Capitol — regulatory gaps have resulted in many large-scale breeding facilities that operate with: Inadequate veterinary care, nutrition, exercise, shelter; overcrowding and containment in stacked wire cages; squalid conditions; animals in ill health ranging from rotting teeth, eye/ear infection, parasites/worms, open sores and skin disease...to deadly parvovirus and distemper, mammary tumors, crippling deformity, etc.

Opponents argue that Prop B imposes "economic hardship" upon breeders. We should neither excuse nor empathize with any breeder unable to comply with basic animal care standards. In other words, if you can't afford to give dogs constant access to water, cages they can turn around in, and better vet care — then you're in the wrong business altogether. Anti-Prop B legislation shamefully seeks to:

- Allow vets to visit a site without examining even one dog.
- Repeal a stipulation that animals have continual access to water.
- Remove a Prop B provision for regular exercise.
- Permit cage stacking — regardless of dripping waste.
- Remove Prop B protection from hot/cold weather extremes.
- Permit use of wire-bottom cages just 6 inches longer than the animals themselves.
- Grant breeders a 180-day window to remedy violations, while animals suffer.
- Let breeders house unlimited "breeding dogs," with lax welfare requirements.

If anti-Prop B legislation becomes law, Missouri would not only retain its image as the leading puppy mill state — but also expose undemocratic lawmakers and their disrespect for the people's will.

The Puppy Mill Prevention Act reasonably requires sufficient food, water, exercise, cage size, hygiene, and medical care. It shields dogs from intense heat or cold and establishes more humane breeding cycles. Please oppose measures to strip or repeal Proposition B. Let's move on to more pressing legislative concerns and lose Missouri's Puppy Mill Capitol title for good.

Thank you,