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ALBANY

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Veterans' Affairs

ANGELO SANTABARBARA  
Assemblyman 111<sup>th</sup> District

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

RE: PLEASE SIGN ASSEMBLY BILL A740A

Dear Governor Cuomo,

As you may be aware, Flat Creek Border Collies, a dog-breeding operation located in the hamlet of Sprakers in Montgomery County, is again generating public outcry regarding the treatment of and living conditions for the nearly 70 dogs living on its premises.

Over the past week, I have received numerous phone calls and e-mails from New Yorkers who are concerned about the health and well-being of the dogs, particularly during this recent time of frigid weather. I agree wholeheartedly with those who have contacted me, and I believe that by signing assembly bill A740A, which currently sits at your desk, you would be able to help end situations like this across New York State.


There are a couple of significant problems that we see at the Flat Creek Border Collies that have the potential to be rectified if this bill becomes law. The first problem is that the current statewide standards for care and conditions provided by pet dealers is simply not enough at certain times of the year, particularly in these cold temperatures. Another problem on display is that there is relatively little being done in terms of oversight at these pet dealers.

Signing A740A could prevent the problems listed above, as well as others, by giving local governments the ability to dictate their own laws, rules, regulations or ordinances. Furthermore, I believe that municipalities know best how to regulate their own local pet dealers because they can see the effects and results first hand.

Therefore, I respectfully request that you sign assembly bill A740A so that localities are able to properly address situations like the current one with Flat Creek Border Collies. I think we owe it to these animals to make sure that they are best protected.

I appreciate your consideration of this bill. If I can be of any other help, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully Yours,



Angelo Santabarbara  
Member of Assembly  
111<sup>th</sup> Assembly District