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Contact info: Tammy S. Grimes, 814.941.7447

www.mothersagainstdogchaining.org, Tammy@mothersagainstdogchaining.org

MOTHERS AGAINST DOG CHAINING ASKS PENNSYLVANIA SENATOR O'BRIEN TO SUPPORT HB1911 AND GET IT OUT ON THE FLOOR FOR A VOTE

Bill Would Protect Children as Well as Dogs

(Altoona, PA - 20 April, 2006) Mothers Against Dog Chaining asks the Pennsylvania Committee headed by Senator O'Brien to support the proposed chaining limits provided by House Bill 1911, which provides limits for the tethering of dogs, and get it out onto the floor for a vote.

From October 2003 through April 2006, the group has tabulated at least 78 children seriously injured or killed by chained dogs in the U.S. Chained dogs, unsocialized with humans, can and do attack and kill small children who come into their territory. There are currently at least 90 cities, counties, and states in the nation with laws banning or limiting chaining.

New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Rhode Island, and California all have bills limiting tethering proposed in this legislative session. Pennsylvania could be the second state in the nation, behind Connecticut, to put a law on the books which would protect both children and dogs.

Tammy Grimes, founder of Dogs Deserve Better and leader of the Mothers Against Dog Chaining initiative, feels legislation must work hand in hand with education to save the lives of our children. She states, "Children are losing their lives because we are not socializing our dogs. Chaining a dog for life is not the answer, for the dog or the innocent child who may wander into its path. Where education fails to reach the people, legislation must step up to protect our children and our pets."

"We are sending letters to all state reps in Pennsylvania asking that they support legislation to ban or limit chaining of dogs. This in turn will protect our children for further serious injury or death as our dogs become better-socialized family members. We also ask all parents of children harmed by chained dogs to stand with us in this effort, to speak out and stop the chaining."

For more information and the latest updates on attacks and the efforts of Mothers Against Dog Chaining, please visit the website at www.mothersagainstdogchaining.org.