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## KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill

## Blue | CW 22

## Referred to Committee: Senate 2

Sponsors: Adam Wier, Thomas Woeste, Colten Crager, Dawson Spraggins	Action on the Bill	
School: Lexington Christian Academy	House	Senate
	□ Passed	□ Passed
City: Lexington	Defeated	Defeated

An Act relating to Imposing Stricter Laws On Operations Of Dog Breeding Facilities To Prevent Animal Cruelty During Breeding

## Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: A plan by the Kentucky Youth Assembly to enforce stricter laws on animal breeders in order to prevent the neglect of the animals and the overpopulation of domestic pets in Kentucky. The lack of attention and improper breeding care experienced in the puppy mills results in many of the dogs having terrible physical conditions, emotional trauma, and possible genetic disorders.

Section 2: The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals defines Puppy Mills as the large-scale commercial dog breeding operations where profit is placed above the well-being of animals. Bred without consideration of genetic quality, this produces generations of dogs with unchecked hereditary defects. Puppy Mills would be identified by having produced over fifty dogs in a six month period

Section 3: The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals estimates that there are almost 200 puppy mills in Kentucky, with an additional 9,800 scattered around the United States. Each mill contains hundreds of dogs born into terrible living conditions. Once a Puppy Mill is shut down, the dogs will be distributed to various adoption agencies and licensed breeders.

Section 4: The current punishment for animal cruelty and neglect in Kentucky is a Class A Misdemeanor. Breeders found guilty of having operated a Puppy Mill would receive a Class A Misdemeanor, resulting in the appropriated penalties and an additional loss of licensing to breed animals. If the breeder is found guilty of continuing the Puppy Mill in any capacity, they will be issued a Class D Felony.

Section 5: All breeding centers in the state of Kentucky would be required to register for a breeding license, permitting the breeding of a maximum of fifty dogs per six month period. Breeding licenses would be issued by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Any breeding centers would also be required to register for a Kentucky business license.

Section 6: All licensed breeding centers would receive one mandatory visit per year from a representative of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. They would also receive random visits at undisclosed times throughout the year. The representative would decide whether the Breeding center passes required guidelines given by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

Section 7: This law act would go into effect January 1, 2020.