

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE BILL

No. 11

Session of  
2025

INTRODUCED BY

SARAIYA  
MARCH 2, 2025

REFERRED TO

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, MARCH 3, 2025

## AN ACT

Implementing the act of March 21, 2025, entitled Puppy Mill Pipelines Illegal in Pennsylvania to prohibit the commercial sale and distributions of puppies sourced from inhumane breeding operations, know as puppy mills, to establish complete measures for the prevention of the puppy mill pipeline in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, protecting animal welfare, promoting moral breeding practices, and encouraging responsible pet ownership.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1.

Introducing the act of March 21, 2025 (P.N.47, No.11), referred to as “Puppy Mill Pipelines Illegal in Pennsylvania”.

House Bill 11 is proposing that pet stores cannot sell animals that come from high volume commercial breeding facilities, known as puppy mills. Instead stores can sell animals from shelters, rescues, or reputable breeders who adhere to humane standards. House Bill 11 aspires to stimulate the number of pet adoptions, and focus on adopting animals from shelters and rescue organizations. “Puppy Mill Pipelines Illegal in Pennsylvania” requires more transparent breeding parties, including but not limited to breeder licensing, and inspection requirements. House Bill 11 calls for consumer protection by requiring breeders to provide information such as their license

numbers, names, and health records of the animals. “Puppy Mill Pipelines Illegal in Pennsylvania” also requires state agencies such as the United Against Puppy Mills (UAPM) and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to be held accountable for monitoring pet stores to ensure they adhere to the new regulations. To ensure pet stores and puppy mill breeders are abiding to the new law, regulatory bodies would conduct regular inspections to make sure pet stores comply with the law. House Bill 11 encourages consumers and the public to report suspected violations to authorities and/or representatives from the UAPM. Penalties and fines for violations include but are not limited to a minimum of a \$100,000 fine, and a minimum of a 7 year jail sentence.

## Section 2.

House Bill 11 is necessary in Pennsylvania for a numerous number of reasons. One of the reasons is animal welfare. Puppy mills are large scale commercial breeding facilities where dogs are often treated poorly. Dogs in these mills are frequently kept in overcrowded, unsanitary conditions, with no regard for their health or overall well being. Many are deprived of their basic needs, such as water, food, and medical care, which leads to physiological and physical suffering. Puppy mill pipelines also contribute to the overpopulation of many dogs who are sold through pet stores or online because pet stores more often than not, buy puppies in bulk, and reputable breeders will not sell them puppies for a cheap price, like puppy mill breeders will so as long as there is a demand for puppies, puppy mills will be able to continue to flourish. Many Pennsylvanians are being swindled out of their hard earned money by purchasing puppies from mills often unknowingly supporting unethical breeding practices. These puppies come with hidden health problems, which can lead to

expensive veterinary bills for unsuspecting customers. Puppy mills typically prioritize profit over the health and welfare of animals.

### Section 3.

House Bill 11 would bring benefits to the Commonwealth. It would provide a significant improvement in the lives of dogs. Without the pressure to breed dogs for profit in inhumane conditions, animals would be treated more ethically leading to healthier happier pets. “Puppy Mill Pipelines Illegal in Pennsylvania” will also help reduce the strain on animal shelters. By reducing the amount of puppies in these facilities, shelters would face less overcrowding, because there would be less puppies to rescue from puppy mills, and be able to devote more resources to adopting out animals in need. By making puppy mills illegal, House Bill 11 will prevent consumers from falling victim to deceptive practices. It would also promote a healthier, safer pet-buying experience, encouraging the Commonwealth to seek reputable breeders or adopt from shelters instead. “Puppy Mill Pipelines Illegal in Pennsylvania” will boast Pennsylvania’s reputation. Pennsylvania could gain a reputation as a leader in animal welfare which could improve its image both nationally and internationally. This state would be viewed as a place that values humane treatment of animals, and could attract tourism.

### Section 4.

Costs implemented with House Bill 11 are paying the workers who will monitor and enforce the law against the puppy mill pipeline, penalties and legal actions in court for

violators, the transition for licensed breeders, loss of revenue for pet stores, additional resources for shelters, business disruptions, economic shifts, funding for education and outreach, the medical attention required for rescued animals, and the risk of an underground market. An approximate estimate of the costs of House Bill 11 is around \$50,000 to \$100,000, but the costs of House Bill 11 are endless. The most expensive parts of House Bill 11 is paying the dog warners who will inspect the mills, providing additional resources for shelters such as bigger fencing, cars, more square feet, etc, and penalties, legal actions in court for those who do not abide by the laws House Bill 11 is proposing, and all the medicines and equipments used for the rescued puppies.

#### Section 5.

House Bill 11 will be funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as by Pennsylvania's State Government. \$75,000 from the Pennsylvania's General Assembly each year to help put an end to the puppy mill pipeline. The state would get this money from the \$166,156,674.70 in the Agriculture section of the Pennsylvania's state budget, and there would be delegations made to grant the fund for making puppy mill pipelines illegal.

#### Section 6.

This act shall take effect in 45 days to allow puppy mill breeders, pet stores and consumers to prepare and adjust to reforms.