## 6 MORE CAMDEN COUNTY TOWNS BAN PUPPY MILL SALES

## Five More In Process - Total Will Surpass 30 In June

**Norman's Law**, which bans the sale of dogs and cats bred in inhumane "puppy mills," continues to gain momentum in Camden County. Just eight months after its creation, 25 municipalities in the County have passed the law, which was named for a shelter dog adopted by Freeholder Jeffrey Nash. Collingswood and Audubon Park adopted it on April 4, Mount Ephraim on April 7, Barrington on April 12, Berlin Borough on April 14 and Gloucester City on April 28. The movement to restrict puppy mill sales is now spreading into neighboring Gloucester and Burlington Counties.

More than 130 anti-puppy mill ordinances have been enacted nationwide, including 37 in New Jersey. Nearby Philadelphia passed its version of the law on April 14, joining other major US cities like New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Phoenix and Boston. Each of these cities and towns has expressed by legislative action a public policy that condemns inhumane practices. **What community would not want to do the same?** 

"Puppy mills" mass produce puppies and kittens in appallingly cruel conditions. The Humane Society, ASPCA, NJSPCA, Best Friends Animal Society and Friends of Animals United are tireless advocates for legislation to stop the retail sale of puppies and kittens from these real-life houses of horror. Prohibiting such sales still leaves the consumer with a wide selection of deserving animals from the many humane shelters, rescue organizations and breeders that operate responsibly.

Anti-Puppy Mill Ordinances protect citizens because commercially bred animals often develop physical and behavioral problems resulting in expensive veterinary care and heartache for unsuspecting buyers. Many of these suffering creatures wind up in shelters as a last resort. Municipalities spend significant tax dollars every year to support those shelters and the animal control professionals who service them. Why not further support them with legislation that encourages adoption and curtails the forprofit importation of unhealthy animals?

The 25 boroughs and towns that have passed Norman's Law represent over three-quarters of Camden County's citizens. *New Jersey Residents Against Puppy Mills* hope to inspire the remaining municipalities in Camden County and throughout New Jersey to join this compassionate movement. As more and more municipalities take action, those that do not are at greater risk of a puppy mill pet store opening in their community. Once open, such stores have proven difficult to regulate and even more difficult to shut down. *Proactive legislation will prevent this blight from infecting your community!* 



## Camden County Municipalities That Have Adopted Norman's Law:

Audubon
Audubon Park
Barrington
Bellmawr
Berlin Borough
Berlin Township
Brooklawn
Cherry Hill
Clementon
Collingswood
Gloucester City
Gloucester Township
Haddon Heights

Haddon Township Laurel Springs Magnolia Merchantville Mount Ephraim Oaklyn Pine Hill Runnemede Somerdale Voorhees Waterford Winslow

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