



April 27, 2010

The Honorable Dean Florez
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 313
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: SB 250

Dear Senator Florez:

The State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind sent a letter of Oppose Unless Amended for SB 250 on May 7, 2009. An excerpt from the letter is provided below:

"The State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind opposes SB 250 unless it exempts from its provisions guide dogs in training and breeder stock from licensed guide dog schools. Guide dog schools currently pay for dog licenses and should not have to pay an additional fee for unaltered dogs for their breeding stock to produce guide dogs for the visually impaired."

On August 31, 2009, amendments were made that did address an exemption for any "owner or trainer of guide dogs." It has come to our attention, however, that some of our stakeholders remain concerned that **guide dog breeders** are not also exempt from the licensing requirement. At their request, we have written to your office to consider adding said language to the bill upon its re-introduction this legislative session.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions regarding this issue, please feel free to contact me at (916) 574-7825. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas B. Scott

Thomas B. Scott
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cc: Board Members

Frank Welte, Governmental Affairs, California Council of the Blind

Mary Willows, President, National Federation of the Blind

Mary Beth Randall, Guide Dog Users California

Shannon Dillon, California Association of Guide Dog Users

Laurie Mehta, Guide Dog Users Incorporated

Nancy Gardner, CEO, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc.

Dale Hartford, President, Guide Dogs of America

Roccie Hill, President, Guide Dogs of the Desert

Kim Kirchmeyer, Deputy Director, Board and Bureau Relations, Department of Consumer Affairs

John Perry, Legislative Analyst, Department of Consumer Affairs