

Attorney Robert Willig ACRE Office

## Dear Attorney Robert Willig:

I am writing on behalf of my mother, Our farm is located in Independence Township, Washington County. We are in the process of building a new barn that will house sheep. We intend to build the barn 50' to 60' from the property line. The current township ordinance reads that a building used for sheltering livestock has to be 200' from any property line (410-92 B). There are other townships in our county that have setbacks of 50-60', which, we feel is reasonable. As we understand, townships cannot impose setbacks on farms that are not CAOs or CAFOs. Because of the current setback ordinance, we have not been able to obtain a building permit that allows us to continue with construction. I have attached a copy of the current ordinance.

We are located on a dead-end street. Access to the barn would be off our current farm lane, not a public road. The land where this barn is to be built slopes toward our property and not any other adjacent land. We are zoned agriculture and we are in an agriculture secure area.

At this point, the delay of this building is starting to interfere with daily production, time efficiency, and is costing us financially.

Sincerely,