



Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New from AKC Government Relations

The Month of June has been a busy one for canine advocates and the AKC GR team. Many state legislatures are holding marathon legislative days ahead of wrapping up their sessions for the July 4th holiday, and legislation continues to move fast.

On June 23-24, some 50 AKC Club Legislative Liaisons, state federation leaders, and canine advocates from across the country met in the nation's capital to participate in the AKC Government Relations National Legislative Conference. The 2-day conference empowered attendees with tools, resources, networking opportunities and information to be effective advocates for dogs in their local communities.

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Canine Advocates and Experts Gather for AKC National Legislative Conference

On Sunday and Monday, the Government Relations Team held its national legislative conference in Alexandria, Virginia and Washington DC.

Approximately 50 legislative liaisons, federation leaders, AKC club members, and dog owners and advocates from

across the United States traveled to Alexandria, Virginia, and Washington, DC, to attend the AKC Government Relations event.

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AKC Purebred Dogs Star at Capitol Hill Reception in Washington, DC

The American Kennel Club hosted a Celebration of Purebred Dogs for members of Congress and legislative staff on June 24th in Washington, DC. Hundreds of attendees gathered at the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill to meet purpose bred dogs, share in the celebration, and learn more about AKC's many programs and initiatives that benefit all dogs.

The stars of the event were eight outstanding purebred dogs. Prior to the reception, Querida the Samoyed (Reserve Best in Show at the 2018 AKC National Championship) and Lola the Norwich Terrier visited Senate and House offices where, among others, they greeted veterinarians Rep. Ted Yoho and Rep. Ralph Abraham. Rep. Tom Malinowski got to meet one of his cutest four-legged constituents

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American Kennel Club Presents New Jersey Assemblywoman Valerie Vainieri Huttle With AKC Legislator of The Year Award

New Jersey – The American Kennel Club (AKC) presented New Jersey Assemblywoman Valerie Vainieri



Huttel with the AKC Legislator of the Year award in recognition of her valiant advocacy for ensuring responsible grooming practices in the state on June 10th.

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Harrington Awarded Bebout Award at 2019 AKC National Conference

Alice Harrington of the Virginia Federation of Dog Clubs and Breeders was presented with the AKC's Walter Bebout Memorial Award for Leadership in Canine Legislation during the AKC National Legislative Conference in Alexandria, Virginia, on June 23, 2019.

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Groomer to Groomer June edition: What to do When a Bad Law is Proposed

Summer is approaching, and customers are bringing in dogs for warm weather grooming and baths. Professional groomers pride themselves on quality pet care, and the last thing you want is to be out of compliance with a law that passed without your

knowledge—or without your input.

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Legislative Information and Updates

Seventeen states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico are currently in session. AKC Government Relations is currently tracking more than 2,100 bills on the federal, state, and local levels..For more information on these bills, and information on how you can get involved, visit the AKC GR Legislative Action Center at www.akcgr.org.

Visit the [2019 Legislation Tracking page](#) for the most up-to-date information on state and federal legislation. This site, updated each weekday, provides the latest bill text, status, and links to legislative alerts posted by the AKC. Click on the links below to view highlights of issues that are being tracked by AKC Government Relations:

Federal

Issues that may affect all dog owners in the U.S.

State

Issues specific to your state

Local

Issues at the city, county, and metropolitan levels, and in U.S. territories

Please contact AKC GR at (919) 816-3720 or doglaw@akc.org for more information or to let us know what's happening in your local community.



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