



Taking Command

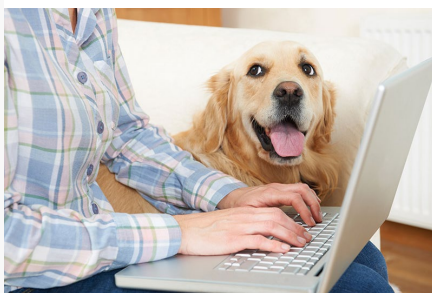
A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New from AKC Government Relations

Summertime means parades, picnics, public events—and legislatures adjourning or going into recess. Over the next few months, many state and federal legislators will be back in their districts. This is an excellent opportunity to let them know about the wonderful things you and your club do for dogs and the community, and perhaps even consider inviting them to a club meeting or local dog show. Make sure to take advantage of this break in legislative session to show your legislators first hand why your sport and your dogs are so important.

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Register now: AKC Government Relations Webinar hosted by Sheila Goffe

The [AKC Education Webinar Series](#) provides an opportunity for Clubs to learn more about the resources AKC has to offer.

The last Wednesday of every month will bring a new topic covering misconduct, making your show an event, social media and marketing, tax laws and much more. There is no limit to the number of club members that may attend. During the webinars, you will be able to ask questions and participate in open discussion.

The American Kennel Club Government Relations department is pleased to announce Vice President, Sheila Goffe will be hosting the webinar on July 31st at 8:00pm. [Register now!](#)

Please Note: Webinars will sometimes be aired on days that do not fall on the last Wednesday of the month. Additionally, while most webinars air at 8:00pm ET, some do not. Please see each webinar for exact times. Finally, while every effort is made to keep the date and time of a webinar once it is listed, webinars may be rescheduled due to unforeseen issues. If a webinar must be rescheduled, we strive to give registrants as much notice as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

[Register Now](#)



Legislative Successes

Check out the newest successes from the close of many legislative sessions. These and other victories have been won in cooperation with AKC federations, clubs, and responsible dog owners and breeders around the country who continue to work tirelessly to promote positive canine legislation in their state and community. To view all Legislative Alerts posted for your state in 2019, as well as the latest information on all bills being tracked by the AKC Government Relations Department, visit the [2019 Legislation Tracking page](#).

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Tales from the Trenches: NJFDC Lobby Day



2019

On June 3, 2019, the New Jersey Federation of Dog Clubs (NJFDC) held their quarterly delegates meeting. At the meeting, the guest speaker was Dr. Peter Guzzo, President of TTP Government Relation, who is a well-known lobbyist in the state of New Jersey. Dr. Guzzo was there to help prepare the delegates for the upcoming annual NJFDC Lobby Day on June 10th.

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AKC GR Hosts Local Advocacy Meeting in Nevada

On a very hot Saturday in July, the Silver State Kennel Club, an all-breed club in Las Vegas, Nevada, graciously hosted a meeting with Robert Miller, AKC Legislative Analyst and Community Outreach Coordinator (Western Region). About 30 people braved the 110-degree afternoon to discuss local, state and national legislative trends affecting dogs and their owners. Robert spoke about the assistance GR can offer to local clubs as they confront proposed changes to local and state ordinances that can negatively affect dogs and their owners. He also pointed out the many resources available online that can be used to contact elected and appointed officials on issues of interest.

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AKC GR Provides Resources, Solutions at National County Leaders Conference



As the number of dog laws proposed on the local levels continue to increase, it is becoming even more essential for the AKC and local clubs to become proactive in education and outreach to local officials. Last week, the American Kennel Club Government Relations Department (AKC GR) participated for a third year in the National Association of Counties annual conference, which brings together county leaders from across the United States.

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AKC GR Speaks on Preserving California's Hunting and Sporting Traditions

AKC's Government Relations Department is an active participant in the California Hunting and Conservation Coalition, a group that meets quarterly to discuss issues affecting hunters and sportsmen in the Golden State. The Coalition's July meeting, which was held in Davis, California, was sponsored by Government Relations. Robert Miller, AKC Legislative Analyst and Community Outreach Coordinator (Western Region) spoke to the group about AKC's role in partnering with sportsmen, dog groups and hunters to support legislation and regulations ensuring the continued use of dogs in all aspects of life, whether hunting, performance sports, or simply as companions. He discussed legislative trends that restrict and prohibit the right to own, breed and use dogs responsibly. Robert also addressed issues of hunting heritage and the value of passing those traditions to future generations.

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Legislative Information and Updates

Ten states and the District of Columbia 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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