



## Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



### What's New in Government Relations

The Westminster Kennel Club show was held last week at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center and televised to millions of dog lovers around the World. The show ring is one of the few places where an expert can judge a dog, based on its written breed standard, of how capable it is of doing its original job.

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### POLICY ANALYSIS

BREEDER LAWS AND REGULATIONS

### New in the GR Toolbox: Comprehensive Breeder Laws and Regulations Policy Brief

Whether pushed by animal extremists who are interested in abolishing responsible dog breeding, or by well-meaning legislators who hear of an animal cruelty case and believe the only solution is to implement harsh restrictions on all dog breeders, breeders have been under legislative assault.

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### New in the Legislative Action Center: Preparing for Advocacy Handout

The AKC Government Relations team tracks and takes action on legislation across the country impacting dog owners, breeders, and our sport. Yet the most effective voice is yours – dog owners and breeders in local communities who will be directly impacted by laws.

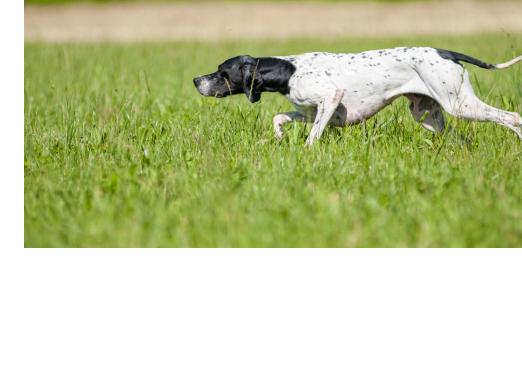
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### New in the Legislative Action Center: Responsible Policy Video About Pet Choice

Proposals seeking to limit pet choice and enact retail sales bans continue to be prominent in states and communities across the country. Proponents often claim that these proposals – also called retail pet store bans – are a guaranteed solution to help shelters and eliminate bad breeders. In fact, the opposite is the case.

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### Westminster's Diversity Belies Legislative Threat to Hobby and Specialty Dog Breeders

Tonight, in front of millions of dog lovers in New York City and around the World, a new Westminster Champion will be crowned.

Every dog shown over the past two days represents generations of thoughtful breeding by responsible breeders dedicated to the preservation and advancement of their breeds.

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### Legislative Information and Updates

Linked below are some highlights of pending legislation impacting dog ownership and dog owners' rights across the country. For more information on these issues, and information on how you can get involved, visit the AKC GR Legislative Action Center at [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org).

Visit the [2023 Legislation Tracking map](#) 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.

In addition to tracking and responding to legislative proposals, AKC Government Relations addresses dog-related regulatory proposals from the US, federal government, all 50 states, and the District of Columbia. AKC GR's Regulatory Resource Center provides updates on [federal](#) and [state](#) regulatory issues that may impact dog owners.

Federal	State	Local	Regulatory
Issues that may affect all dog owners in the U.S.	Issues specific to your state	Issues at the city, county, and metropolitan levels, and in U.S. territories	Regulatory issues at the federal, state, and local levels

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



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