



Taking Command

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A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New in Government Relations

This past month, AKC GR staff had the privilege of escorting a local New Jersey lawmaker around the prestigious Morris and Essex show. This was an excellent opportunity for the lawmaker to see firsthand the true value of AKC shows – from the celebration of purebred dogs and quality breeding, to responsible pet ownership, to the economic value the shows bring to the state and local community.

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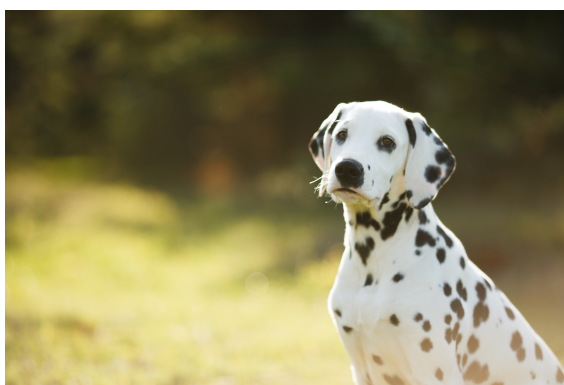


New in the GR Toolbox: New Animated Video Explains How a Bill Becomes a Law

AKC GR is pleased to introduce the latest in our series of policy explainer videos. Understanding the Legislative Process is a brief animated video to help dog owners navigate the legislative process and successfully build positive relationships with lawmakers.

Each year, AKC Government Relations tracks approximately 2,000 bills at the state, local and federal level with the potential to impact dog owners. These bills don't become laws overnight – there is a public process that each piece of legislation must go through.

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No, the American Kennel Club Does Not Put Profit Over the Care And Wellbeing of Animals

A small Washington DC- based news organization published an article yesterday that parroted claims by animal rights organizations that the American Kennel Club puts profits over the care and wellbeing of animals.

Nothing could be farther from the truth.

The AKC is a private not-for-profit organization. We are a club of clubs, the world's largest all-breed dog registry. We love dogs and we're proud of the great things we, our affiliates, our 4,900 volunteer clubs and responsible breeders do every day to preserve the unique diversity of canine breeds and the well-being of all dogs – regardless of breed or mix.

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AKC GR Shares Legislative Update with Missouri Animal Owners

Recently, Jacob Hupp, AKC Government Relations (GR) Central States Analyst, attended the Missouri Animal Husbandry Association's annual conference. The event brought together breeders, farmers, ranchers, veterinarians, and community members from across the state for a day of networking, education, and discussion on key issues impacting responsible animal ownership.

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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 [here](#).

Visit the [2025 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 U.S. 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 for more information or to let us know what's happening in your local community.

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