



Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New from AKC Government Relations

September means the end of summer, going back to school, and for some states it also signifies the convening of legislative sessions after summer breaks, and a final push on bills before the end of the year. We encourage you to continue to keep an eye on our [Legislative Action Center](#) for the latest information and alerts, and also make sure that your club has a dedicated Legislative Liaison who has given up-to-date contact information to AKC GR to ensure that you don't miss any important alerts.

[Read More](#)



How to Prepare for Disaster with Your Pet

This time of year, much focus is placed in the media on hurricanes and other natural disasters, and soon winter weather will be arriving for much of the country. As such, many communities are focusing on disaster preparedness and awareness – and it's an opportune time to not only make sure you have a plan, but also as dog experts to help your community be proactive.

[Read More](#)



AKC GR Reaches Thousands of Groomers at Groom Expo

This month, the American Kennel Club's Government Relations Department joined thousands of attendees in Hershey, Pennsylvania for one of the largest grooming shows in the world, Groom Expo. AKC Government Relations team member Emily Holmes made presentations to interested groomers on the importance of understanding how legislation can impact the grooming industry. Additionally, she was available to talk to grooming professionals about important laws and specific legislation that directly affect grooming businesses. This offered attendees the opportunity to engage in two-way communication about factors impacting their work and industry, and how the AKC Government Relations Department can be of assistance.

[Read More](#)



AKC Dogs Offer Stress Relief in Final Week of California Legislative Session

The weather and dog gods were smiling on September 10 for the American Kennel Club's first California Canines at the Capitol event in Sacramento. About a dozen dogs and their handlers were on hand on a beautiful, late-summer day to greet legislators and legislative staff, state workers, and the public to talk about the AKC and responsible dog ownership.

[Read More](#)



Effective Advocacy: How to Positively Influence Legislation That Affects You

Customers may request creative services or ask that their dogs be groomed to resemble a particular “celebrity” dog. Expectations are high, and the pressure on groomers to deliver top results on wiggling, howling and sometimes uncooperative pets has never been greater.

In this age of instant communication, even the best-run grooming business can be negatively affected by a dissatisfied customer who posts a grievance on social media. The issue may be correctable, such as a groom job that didn’t exactly match the owner’s vision, but what about an accident that affects the safety or health of a pet? A distressed customer may contact the press, the story goes viral and a tragic incident that affected a single pet is perceived as a community-wide problem.

[Read More](#)

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

State

Issues specific to your state

Local

Issues at the city, county,

dog owners in the U.S.

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.



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

[Learn About Dogs](#) | [Register Your Dog](#) | [AKC Events](#) | [AKC Clubs](#)



American Kennel Club, 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178

You are subscribed to AKC Government Relations news. You can unsubscribe at any time.

© 2019 American Kennel Club. All Rights Reserved.

[About AKC](#) | [Mission Statement](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)