



Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New from AKC Government Relations

When speaking to state legislators around the country, the American Kennel Club Government Relations department (AKC GR) often hears this: *"We don't hear from your people. We hear from the animal rights lobbyists, but we don't hear from you. We want your input."*

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Winter is Coming: What to Consider with Inclement Weather Legislation

Winter is coming, and with it, a drop in temperatures. No dog should be left in conditions where its health and safety are in danger.

In response to a tragic situation, it's not uncommon for some lawmakers to introduce laws aimed at protecting dogs outside in extreme weather situations. Unfortunately, in an effort to simplify the enforcement, some proposals define "extreme weather" by using a specific temperature range, and/or an active weather warning issued by the National Weather Service. These arbitrary definitions, though well-intentioned, can have serious unintended negative consequences for dogs and responsible dog owners.

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Consumer Protection Talking Points- Share the New Flyer with Lawmakers

Due to the increased discussions on the issues of consumer protection, AKC GR is pleased to provide a new, fresh redesign of a handout we first provided in early August that will be even more effective in communicating on this issue. We encourage you to view the new [Consumer Protection Talking Point flyer here](#) and consider sharing it with lawmakers.

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Michigan Senator Kevin Daley Recognized as AKC Legislator of the Year

Recently, members of the Michigan Association for Pure-Bred Dogs (MAPBD) traveled to Lansing to present the AKC Legislator of the Year Award to State Senator Kevin Daley.

Senator Daley, who represents Bay, Lapeer, and Tuscola Counties, is a farmer and the Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, where the majority of canine legislative issues in the Michigan State Senate are assigned. He has been crucial in preventing legislation from advancing that negatively impacts purebred dog owners and hobby breeders.

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AKC's MA Legislator of the Year Presents Best in Show at South Shore Kennel Club Event

On Friday, September 17, AKC Delegates Gale Golden and Linda Flynn (South Shore Kennel Club Show Chair) presented Rep. Tackey Chan (Quincy), House Chairman of the Joint Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee, with the Massachusetts Legislator of the Year of Award.

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AKC Patriotic Puppy Program Introduces New Collateral

The [Patriotic Puppy Program](#) (PPP) under the purview of AKC's [Detection Dog Task Force](#) (DDTF), has introduced two newly developed flyers to increase awareness of the program.

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Legislative Information and Updates

There are now thirteen states in session or special session, and three states accepting prefiles for 2022 legislative sessions.

Linked below are some highlights of pending legislation impacting dog ownership and dog owners' rights. 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.

Visit the [2021 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

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

Regulatory

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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