



Taking Command

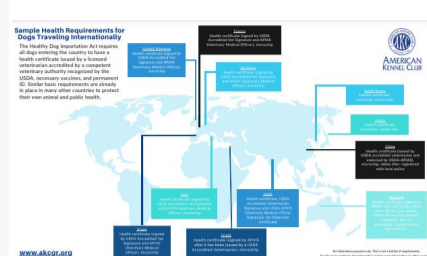
A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New from AKC Government Relations

Thanksgiving is only a few weeks away and it has been a good reminder for us to acknowledge how thankful we are. We are thankful for the ability to see our friends and family again, to be able to travel and go to dog events, and most importantly - we are thankful for YOU! Every year your passion and love for purpose bred dogs inspires us and fills us with the energy we need to continue into the next year.

[Read More](#)

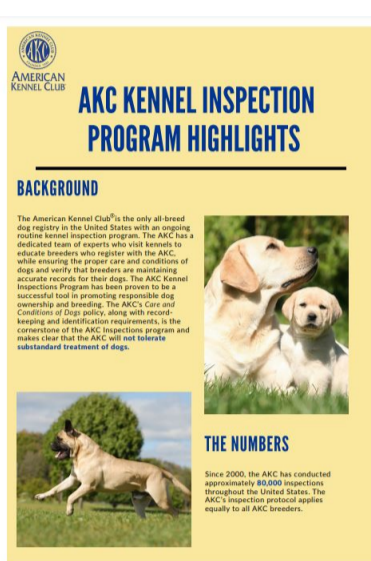


Proposed Healthy Dog Importation Act Requirements Similar to Current Policies in Other Countries

In recent months, the AKC Government Relations team has received numerous questions about requirements for importing/exporting and traveling internationally with dogs.

In July, recent incidents of rabid dogs being imported into the U.S. for rescue markets, combined with a shortage of customs staff to assess the health status of dogs coming into the U.S. caused the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to suspend import permission for dogs from over 110 countries. In the case of the CDC's action, the catalyst was an increase in animals from countries determined to be at high risk for the spread of the canine variant of rabies, a disease that was eliminated from the U.S. a generation ago.

[Read More](#)



New in the Legislative Action Center: AKC Inspections Program Fact Sheet

When communicating with lawmakers, it is important to demonstrate the value and expertise of AKC and its clubs, and the [AKC Legislative Action Center](#) has a number of resources available to help.

Most recently, AKC Government Relations has [added a new fact sheet](#) to the AKC Legislative Action Center Toolbox that provides some basic bullet points and information on the AKC Inspections Program.

[Read More](#)



Jacob Hupp Will Represent AKC GR in Texas, Central States Region

The American Kennel Club Government Relations department is pleased to welcome our newest staff member, Jacob Hupp. Jacob will serve as the Legislative Analyst/Community Outreach Coordinator for US Central States including Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

[Read More](#)



No, A U.S. Federal District Court Did Not Classify Hippos as Legal Persons

Over the past few weeks, [news stories](#) reported a startling development in the ongoing policy debates about how animals should be classified under the law: That a U.S. federal district court ruled that some hippos that are the subject of an international case were persons under the law. Guess what: Those headlines were sourced from an advocacy [blog](#) published by the animal rights group Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF), which seriously misconstrued the nature of the court's action.

[Read More](#)



AKC Solicits Nero's Law Support at Dedication of Gannon K-9 and Police Training Center

On Saturday, October 23, Massachusetts State Representative Steven Xiarhos (Sandwich), House sponsor of HB 2547, "Nero's Law", together with Police Chief Frank Fredrickson and Yarmouth Board of Selectmen dedicated the newly built K-9 and police officer training center in the name of Sgt. Sean Gannon.

The training center is located behind the Yarmouth Police Department as a memorial to Sgt. Gannon, who lost his life while serving an arrest warrant in 2018. During the incident, his police K-9 Nero suffered career ending injuries. The *Cape Cod Times* published [an article](#) covering the community celebration where Denise and Patrick Gannon noted sincere appreciation that their son would not be forgotten.

[Read More](#)



Pets Flying Cargo (Domestic) 2021

Whether you are competing in a show or taking a vacation with your pet, sometimes flying is the most efficient option. But did you know that depending on which airline you take, the policies you must follow could differ drastically, especially in the COVID-19 era? Don't get caught unprepared. If you are flying with a pet it is important that you plan ahead and familiarize yourself with your airline's rules and regulations.

[Read More](#)



AKC GR Educates on Advocacy, Community Involvement at Great Dane National Specialty

Last month, hundreds of Great Dane owners, exhibitors and breeders traveled to the South Carolina coast to celebrate their breed at the Great Dane Club of America National Specialty.

As part of this week-long event, AKC Government Relations provided a seminar on how Great Dane clubs and owners could be effective advocates and make a big impact in their local community on behalf of the sport and their beloved large dogs

[Read More](#)

Legislative Information and Updates

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.

FOLLOW US



This email was sent to emilyholmes@akc.org from an AKC mailing list. [Unsubscribe](#).