



# Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



## What's New from AKC Government Relations

Legislatures are in full swing around the country, and the AKC Government Relations (AKC GR) team is monitoring bills impacting a broad range of issues.

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## Understanding AKC GR Legislative Communications

It's no secret that across the country, at all levels of government, anti-breeder and animal rights groups are pushing legislation that undermines ownership and breeding of purebred dogs. AKC Government Relations (AKC GR) works hard to track legislation of importance and advocate on behalf of dog clubs, breeders, enthusiasts and owners. The biggest influence on legislators and local government officials comes directly from you -- their own constituents.

AKC GR issues legislative alerts and informational updates make it easy for you to learn about legislative issues impacting dog ownership and to take action.

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## New in the GR Toolbox: Resources To Support Bans On Breed Specific Insurance Policies

We have all heard the expression, "don't judge a book by its cover," meaning don't make a judgment based on appearance alone.

Throughout the years, [breed-specific legislation \(BSL\) and proposals](#) have been introduced with the intention of reducing dog bites and dangerous dog behavior. These policies and restrictions are ineffective and punish responsible owners of well-behaved animals while failing to address real dangerous dogs regardless of breed.

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## Detection Dog Task Force Launches The Confident Puppy e-Learning Course

In a recent webinar the AKC Detection Dog Task Force (DDTF) and AKC Canine College unveiled *The Confident Puppy e-Learning Course - Interactive Puppy Training with a Purpose!*

The Confident Puppy course leverages broad expertise from the [AKC Detection Dog Task Force](#) and the [Patriotic Puppy Program](#) to help dog owners and enthusiasts raise resilient, well-socialized and confident dogs. The course provides a collection of educational resources for individual breeders, trainers, and puppy raisers.

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## 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](http://www.akcgr.org).

Visit the [2022 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](mailto:doglaw@akc.org) for more information or to let us know what's happening in your local community.

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