



Taking Command

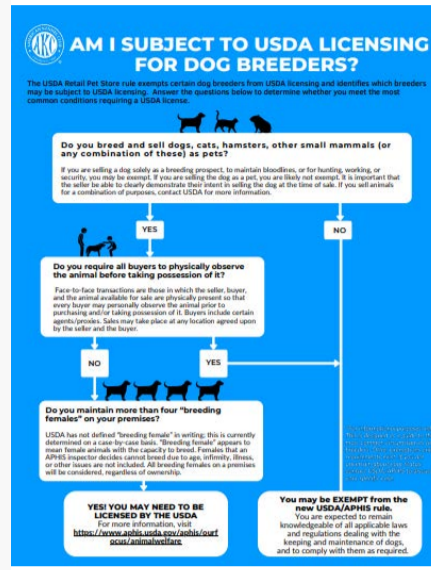
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What's New from AKC Government Relations

As the temperatures continue to rise, so does the AKC Government Relations team's outreach across the nation, including partnering with you to advocate at state legislatures and providing new materials that enable you to be more effective in communicating on the federal, state, and local levels.

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New in the GR Toolbox: *Understanding USDA Dog Breeder Licensing*

Many of the bills in Congress that impact dog breeding or breeders relate specifically to the U.S. [Animal Welfare Act](#) (AWA).

The AWA requires licensing and inspection of certain individuals who breed and sell (transfer) pets, including dogs. The AWA is administered by the [Animal Care Division](#) of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), which is a part of U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

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Printable One-Pager *Understanding AKC GR Legislative Communications*

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 clubs, breeders, hobbyists and sportsmen. However, the biggest influence on legislators and local government officials comes directly from their own constituents.

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Veterinarians, Animal Health Institute Join AKC in Opposing California Dog and Cat Bill of Rights

A bill pending in the California State Assembly seeks to adopt a "Dog and Cat Bill of Rights", with such vague statements as giving a dog or cat the "right to be spayed or neutered", a right to a life "free from fear and anxiety", and many other broad statements.

While the author and supporters are touting this as merely a list of responsibilities and helpful reminders for pet owners, Assembly Bill 1881 actually opens the door for a radical shift in the legal status of animals in the state – a shift that could dramatically alter how animals are cared for and treated throughout California.

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In the Courts: U.S. Supreme Court Takes Up Case Involving California's Extraterritorial Animal Care Standards

[Earlier this week, the United States Supreme Court agreed to consider a case](#) brought by the National Pork Producers Council and the American Farm Bureau Federation (petitioners) against multiple California officials and animal rights groups (respondents). At stake is an important question for every American animal owner, including dog owners: Can one state force animal owners in other states to adhere to its care requirements?

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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.

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 for more information or to let us know what's happening in your local community.

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