



Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New from AKC Government Relations

May 1st marked National Purebred Dog Day, and AKC Government Relations was pleased to celebrate and recognize the importance of our beloved purpose-bred companions in a variety of ways throughout the last month.

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Federation Celebrates Purebred Dog Day by Presenting Painting of a Chinook – the Official State Dog of New Hampshire

On Tuesday, April 26, 2022, Angela Ferrari, President of New Hampshire's Dog Owners of the Granite State (NH DOGS), presented a painting to the House Environment and Agriculture Committee of New Hampshire's official state dog, the [Chinook](#). NH DOGS commissioned the painting by John Havrilla of [www.doggiepaintings.com](#) as a gift in recognition of the committee's hard work and in anticipation of National Purebred Dog Day on May 1, 2022. The painting was completed with photo assistance from the [Chinook Club of America](#). It will be hung in the committee's hearing room for everyone to enjoy.

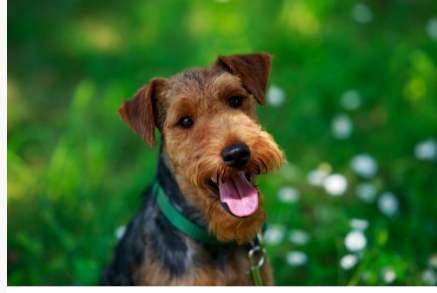
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Dr. Tonya Harris of Univ. of DC Clarke School of Law Named Law Student Writing Contest Winner

The American Kennel Club® (AKC) is pleased to name Dr. Tonya Harris, a second-year student at the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, as the winner of AKC's 2021-2022 Companion Animal Law Writing Contest. As this year's first-place winner, Dr. Harris will receive a \$2,500 cash prize.

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Dog and Cat "Bill of Rights" Is Wrong for Animals and Responsible Owners

No one supports animal cruelty. And everyone would agree that having a pet comes with an important responsibility to ensure that animal's health and well-being throughout its life.

So on the surface, Assembly Bill 1881 – the "Dog and Cat Bill of Rights" – seems harmless, and something that may even do some good.

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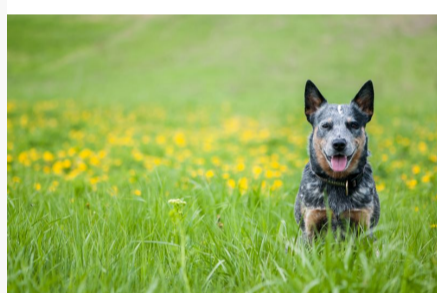


2022 National Purebred Dog Day – AKC GR & PAC Sponsored Photo Contest Results

We love our purebred dogs year-round but National Purebred Dog Day (NPDD), on May 1 every year, gives us an official day to celebrate them.

National Purebred Dog Day recognizes the pride, predictability, and purpose that purebred dogs have in our world and promotes the preservation of the dog breeds we love. It was created by [Colorado resident and Puli fancier Susi Szeremy](#). The American Kennel Club works to bring recognition to this day in a number of ways each year including its annual photo contests

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Learn More About the AKC PAC

The American Kennel Club Political Action Committee (AKC PAC), which is legally separate from the AKC, plays an important role in protecting the rights of responsible dog owners and purebred enthusiasts. The AKC PAC helps educate and support lawmakers who recognize the value of responsible dog owners, breeders and works to help protect and preserve our breeds. To learn more about the AKC PAC and how you can get involved, check out the AKC PAC's [spring newsletter](#) or visit [akc.org/pac](#).

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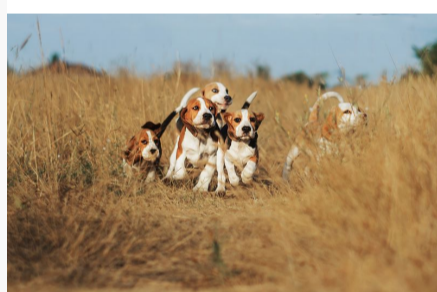


AKC GR Is On the Scene at AKC Meet the Breeds

"He held my hand!" giggled six-year-old Jalen after he received a "pawshake" from a dog just his height.

Jalen and his family met dogs from 70 different breeds, spoke with canine experts, and watched demonstrations of dog sports and working dog skills at AKC Meet the Breeds®, held April 23-24 in Tampa, Florida.

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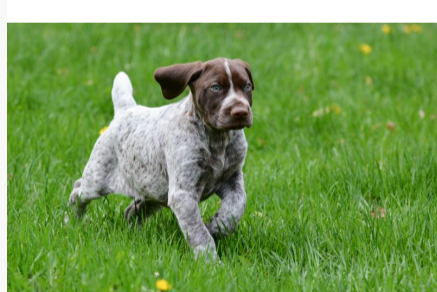


"One Health" Underlies Animal Welfare Resolution Adopted by UN Environment Assembly

Earlier this year, the United Nations Environment Assembly adopted a [resolution concerning animal welfare](#).

Hosted by the UN Environment Program, the UN Environment Assembly brings together representatives of the 193 member states of the UN, businesses, civil society, and other stakeholders to establish policies that address the world's environmental challenges. The theme of this year's session was "Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals," highlighting the pivotal role nature plays in our lives and in social, economic, and environmental sustainable development.

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Webinar Examines the Impact of Pandemic on Detection Dog Industry

On April 20th, the [AKC Detection Dog Task Force](#) (DDTF) hosted a webinar, *Impacts of Covid-19 on the Working Dog Industry* with Lane Kjellsen, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of [K2 Solutions](#). K2 Solutions is an industry leader that is focused on domestic public security with highly trained detection canines.

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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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