



Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New from AKC Government Relations

It is truly the dog days of summer, which for Government Relations means taking a moment to consider all the work that has been done in conjunction with breeders, federations, and clubs across the country on behalf of our wonderful dogs and our sport. Currently, the majority of state legislatures are adjourned for the year or in summer recess. The first six months of the year were incredibly busy, with AKC GR tracking over 2,000 bills across the United States. We have taken a moment this month to [reflect back on the last six months](#), and also [celebrate the many successes](#) for dogs across the United States.

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Legislative Update: AKC Government Relations Looks Back at the First Six Months of 2022

With elections looming and many states holding shorter sessions, the first half of 2022 was an intense, hurried pace for AKC Government Relations and our clubs and federations.

In the first six months of 2022 AKC GR tracked more than 2,000 dog-related bills on the federal, state, and local levels, many of which were carried over from 2021 sessions. After an emphasis on COVID-related issues for the last two years, the canine legislative landscape in 2022 is returning to a variety of animal welfare issues.

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AKC GR Celebrates 2022 Legislative Successes to Date

The first six months of 2022 were incredibly busy for Government Relations, with over 2,000 bills being tracked in 46 states (four states did not meet in 2022). AKC GR was pleased to partner with breeders, clubs, and federations, and together we saw dozens of victories on behalf of dogs throughout the United States.

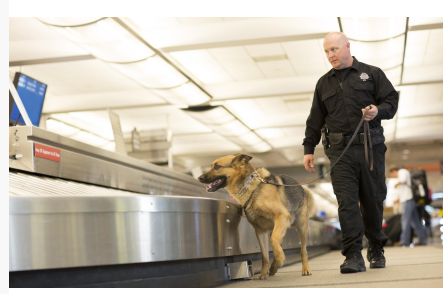
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New AKC Resource: Intro to the AKC Legislative Action Center

Each year, the AKC Government Relations Department (AKC GR) tracks thousands of bills across the country with the potential to impact our dogs, our breeding programs, and our sport. It is essential that AKC club members and breeders join us in speaking up, but it can be hard to know where to start.

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AKC Detection Dog Conference, August 23-25, 2022, Durham, NC – Registration Information

The AKC Detection Dog Task Force (DDTF) is excited to announce the AKC National Detection Dog Conference is returning to Durham, NC, on August 23 – 25, 2022. We are pleased to invite you to attend!

This year's theme is bringing together stakeholders to improve availability of high-quality, American-bred, -raised, and -trained dogs to protect our national and public security.

The conference focuses on presenting practical information for key stakeholders, including breeders, puppy-raisers, trainers, and buyers — and providing real, actionable resources that improve participants' opportunities to work together for a successful future.

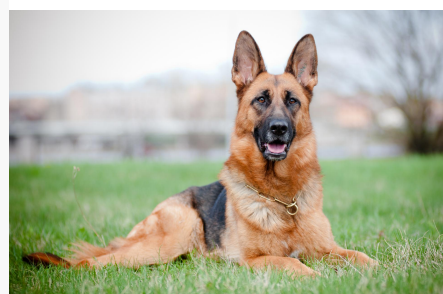
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Lawmakers Celebrate Dogs, Responsible Dog Ownership at First Ever Dallas Meet the Breeds Event

The AKC Government Relations (GR) team was in Dallas for AKC's popular Meet the Breeds event on June 25 and 26. The GR team took this opportunity to educate lawmakers, dog owners, and the public about responsible dog ownership and how we can work together to preserve and protect these wonderful breeds.

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International Update: FCI, WCA Announce Agreement

Recently, the Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI) and the World Cat Federation (WCF) [announced their agreement](#) to work together "to jointly represent the well-understood interests of dog and cat breeders in the international arena and in the Parliament of the European Union." FCI is an international federation of national kennel clubs with sections in [Europe, the Americas and Caribbean](#); and [Asia, Africa, and Oceania](#). The American Kennel Club (AKC), the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC), and the Kennel Club (UK) are not members of FCI.

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Legislative Information and Updates

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