



Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New from AKC Government Relations

As the summer winds down and election season begins in earnest, August is a good time to reflect on the previous legislative year and hone some new skills for legislative advocacy. A great way to refresh, improve, and learn new skills is at our 2022 AKC Legislative Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina, October 22-23.

Join us for a day and a half of learning, networking, and sharing experiences with other legislative liaisons around the nation. Learn from AKC Government Relations and other experts about the latest trends, strategies, and tips for community outreach and legislative success. Learn how you can get involved, improve outcomes and inspire others to join the cause.

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Save the Date: AKC Legislative Conference - October 22-23

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The American Kennel Club Receives Leashes Of Leadership Award

The American Kennel Club (AKC®), the world's largest purebred registry and leading advocate for dogs, received the 'Leashes of Leadership Award' from the Association of Service Dog Providers for Military Veterans (ASDPMV) on July 20, 2022, at the National Service Dogs for Veterans Conference held in San Antonio, TX.

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Rhode Island Rep. Bennett Recognized for Nero's Law at Providence County KC Dog Show

On Sunday, July 31, Rhode Island State Representative David Bennett (Warwick/Cranston), House sponsor of H. 7021, "Nero's Law," was recognized by the Providence County Kennel Club (PCKC) at their Wide World of Indoor Sports Dog Show. He enjoyed meeting exhibitors and taking photos with many different breeds before awarding Best in Show.

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What's The Difference Between Animal Rights And Animal Welfare—And Why Does It Matter?

The most radical animal rights groups advocate violence to achieve this goal. The federal government recognizes such activities as animal terrorism. The federal Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (AETA) (18 U.S.C. § 43) outlaws activities for the purpose of damaging or interfering with the operations of an animal enterprise (including educational, agricultural, breeding, and other activities) and causing damage or loss of real or personal property, or placing a person in reasonable fear of injury.

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AKC Provides Expertise to Thousands at National Legislative Conference

Last week, thousands of state legislators and staff from across the country attended the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) annual summit, in Denver, Colorado. Once again, the AKC Government Relations booth proved to be one of the most popular exhibitors at the conference.

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National Conference Provides Opportunities To Educate Local Lawmakers

Recently, the National Association of Counties (NACo) held their 2022 Annual Conference in Adams County, Colorado. Charley Hall, AKC Government Relations Legislative Analyst/Community Outreach Coordinator for the Mid-Atlantic Region, staffed an AKC Government Relations booth to provide information, education, and resources to the more than 2,000 conference attendees from all over the country.

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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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