AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB®

Canine Legislation Position Statement

PROPER CARE AND HUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS

Dog owners bear a special responsibility to their canine companions to provide proper care and humane treatment at all times. Proper care and humane treatment include an adequate and nutritious diet, clean water, safe and clean living and travel conditions, regular veterinary care, kind and responsive human companionship, and training in appropriate behavior. The American Kennel Club® believes that dogs should not be kept in circumstances or numbers where these needs cannot be adequately fulfilled.

No dog should be left in a vehicle if its comfort, health, and safety is in question. "Good Samaritan" legislation must provide a balanced approach that protects both the health and safety of dogs and the interests of responsible dog owners.