



Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department

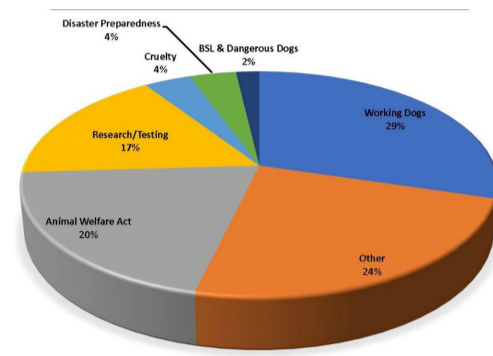


What's New in Government Relations

2022 was another busy year for the AKC Government Relations Department (GR). The team monitored approximately 2,400 pieces of canine legislation and some 680 regulations impacting dogs, dog ownership, and canine health and wellbeing.

Oversight and jurisdiction of animal issues differ at the federal, state, and local levels. As such, the types of policy issues in canine legislation and regulation also vary between the different levels.

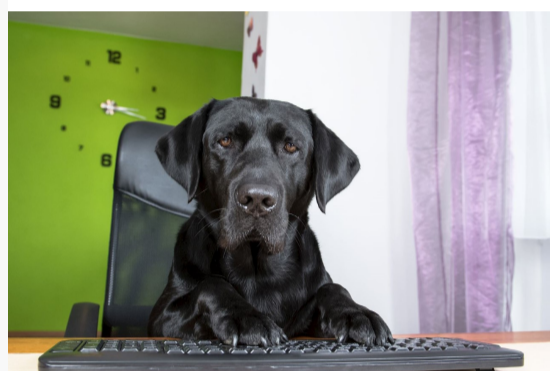
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AKC GR Legislative Year in Review: 2022

2022 was another busy year for the AKC Government Relations Department (GR). The team monitored approximately 2,400 pieces of canine legislation and some 680 regulations impacting dogs, dog ownership, and canine health and wellbeing. Legislative numbers were slightly lower than 2021, as it was an election year in most states and many state sessions were shorter in duration. In addition, several state legislatures did not meet this year. However, the number demonstrates that animal welfare issues continue to be a key priority for lawmakers around the country.

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AKC Detection Dog Task Force Launches Quarterly Detection Dog Bulletin

The AKC Detection Dog Task Force is pleased to announce a new newsletter: the [AKC Detection Dog Bulletin](#). The Detection Dog Bulletin is a quarterly newsletter for those who want to learn more about the breeding, development and training of dogs needed for detection work.

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AKC Presents Michael Houchard With Bebout Legislative Leadership Award

Legislative expert and American Kennel Club Delegate Michael Houchard was awarded the AKC's Bebout Memorial Award for Legislative Leadership at the AKC Delegates quarterly meeting in December in Orlando, Florida.

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Robustness in Training with Jay Crafter – Part 2 – K9 Handler Selection in Crucial Conservation Work

Robustness in Training *Part 1* was so well received, the AKC Detection Dog Task Force (DDTF) enthusiastically welcomed Jay Crafter of [Invictus K9](#) back for *Part 2!*

In part one, Jay shared his experiences with recruiting and training dogs and dog handlers to assist in wildlife conservation work in Africa. He and his teams help enforce anti-poaching laws by providing a means to track poachers for apprehension by law enforcement.

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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 [2023 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 U.S. 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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