



Taking Command

A publication of the AKC Government Relations Department



What's New in Government Relations

The past month has been especially busy for federal legislation and regulation. Recent AKC GR blogs and alerts highlight the steps AKC is taking – and what you can do – to impact two major issues that could have significant impact on you and a large number of dog enthusiasts nationwide.

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CDC's Dog Import Rule: Contact CDC and Congress – and Why it Matters

On August 1, 2024, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will implement [new restrictions and requirements for the entry of dogs into the U.S.](#)

The American Kennel Club (AKC) recognizes the serious health threats posed by the recent, continuing import of unhealthy dogs using fraudulent veterinary/import paperwork, and supports CDC's intention of protecting the public from serious health risks. However, we remain concerned that banning the import of all dogs younger than six months of age is overly burdensome to responsible and law-abiding dog owners who do not present this risk.

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AKC IMPACT IN ALABAMA

The American Kennel Club (AKC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the health, breeding, exhibiting, and advancement of purebred dogs. Together with our state and affiliates, AKC works to improve the health and welfare of all dogs, support the safety of the dog industry, and promote responsible dog ownership. The AKC operates over 25,000 dog events each year, which generate significant economic benefits to local communities and increase the number of dogs being spayed or neutered annually in their area.

AKC DOG EVENTS IN AL 2023

226 EVENTS **23,000 PARTICIPANTS**

\$2.15 million ECONOMIC IMPACT

SHOW WEEKEND

AKC is proud to announce that the AKC Show Weekend, the largest dog event in the Southeast, is set to return to the state capital in Raleigh, NC, this year. The event will feature a variety of dog shows, seminars, and other activities, and is expected to generate significant economic benefits to the local community.

AKC SUPPORTS A & R COP GRANTS

AKC is proud to support the Alabama & Researcher Cop Grants, which provide financial support to law enforcement agencies for the purchase of law enforcement K-9s.

ALABAMA POLICE AGENCIES THAT RECEIVED GRANTS

Alabama State Police, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, and other law enforcement agencies.

SUPPORTING CANINE HEALTH RESEARCH

AKC is proud to support the Canine Health Research (CHR) program, which provides financial support to researchers for the study of canine health and disease. This program has supported research in a variety of areas, including cancer, heart disease, and genetic testing.

Unveiling the AKC's Economic and Community Impact: State-by-State Insights

The AKC Government Relations Department is excited to announce updated AKC economic and community impact figures for all 50 states. The ["AKC Impact by State" packet](#) offers valuable information for lawmakers, local media, chambers of commerce, and other community entities about the positive effects of AKC clubs, affiliates, and events in each state.

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Purebred Dogs Charm Lawmakers at North Carolina State Legislature

AKC staff and their dogs visited the state legislature in Raleigh on May 29 for the annual AKC Canines at the Capitol event, which many legislators and staff again claimed to be the "highlight of the year" at the State Capitol.

While the House unexpectedly canceled session due to unforeseen circumstances and the Senate had a limited schedule, numerous lawmakers and staff came to meet the dogs. AKC staff received many expressions of gratitude for coming, saying how much they were looking forward to the event and how important it was to them.

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AKC GR Attends Local PA Officials Conference

Recently, the American Kennel Club Government Relations Department (AKC GR) participated in the Pennsylvania State Association Boroughs (PSAB) 112th Annual Conference. This year's conference, which brings elected and appointed officials from the Commonwealth's 755 Boroughs, had the highest attendance ever.

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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 [here](#).

Visit the [2024 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

State

Local

Issues that may affect all dog owners in the U.S.

Issues specific to your state

Issues at the city, county, and metropolitan levels, and in U.S. territories

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.



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

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