



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®



IN SESSION

AKC'S CONGRESSIONAL NEWSLETTER

The American Kennel Club's Newsletter for Members of Congress and their Staff



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PERSPECTIVES

We're more than champion dogs... We're the dog's champion.

AKC Celebrates 140 years of Dog Expertise

On September 17, the American Kennel Club (AKC) marked its 140th anniversary with a celebration at the U.S. Capitol, spotlighting the critical role the organization plays in advancing the welfare of dogs, supporting responsible breeders, and championing the rights of dog owners across the nation. The day's events were a powerful reminder of how far the AKC has come in advocating for both the wellbeing of dogs and the rights of those who care for them.

The celebration began with a significant moment on Capitol Hill. Con-

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AKC Board and staff with several of the participating dogs

gressman David Rouzer (NC-7) introduced *House Resolution 541*, formally recognizing the American Kennel Club's contributions to the wellbeing of dogs, both in North Carolina and across the country. As Congressman Rouzer noted, "Through local and national clubs, the American Kennel Club has provided for the wellbeing of dogs in North Carolina and beyond for 140 years. I am proud to introduce this resolution commemorating the Club's critical work for dogs and their owners in all our communities."

This resolution serves as a powerful acknowledgment of the AKC's ongoing efforts to support responsible dog ownership, ensure the health and welfare of dogs, and advocate for policies that foster a positive environment for both breeders and pet owners.

The Capitol event was the culmination of a summer's worth of tireless advocacy by AKC's Government Relations team, who have worked closely with members of Congress to ensure that federal policies benefit the wellbeing of dogs while safeguarding the rights of responsible dog owners. The day provided an opportunity to engage directly with members of Congress and their staff to highlight key issues impacting the dog world, from dog breeder regulations to animal welfare enforcement.



Congressman Thompson with Bubbles

In a powerful display of bipartisan support, the AKC presented its 2024 *Legislator of the Year Award* to Congressman G.T. Thompson (PA-15), Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Under Chairman Thompson's leadership, the House Agriculture Committee has been instrumental in advancing policies that protect the welfare of



Congressman Garcia with Bubbles the American Foxhound and breeder/owner Ruth Marsh

dogs, improve enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), and ensure that breeding laws are fair and balanced. As Sheila Goffe, AKC Vice President of Government Relations, remarked, "Chairman Thompson has been a crucial ally in our work to preserve the unique breeds that are a cherished part of American heritage."

Chairman Thompson expressed his gratitude for the award, acknowledging the ongoing partnership between the AKC and his committee in promoting responsible breeding and enhancing the welfare of all dogs. "Since its founding 140 years ago, AKC has been the unwavering leader in promoting responsible dog ownership," Thompson said. "AKC policy experts have been a great partner and resource on canine issues both at the state and national levels."

Throughout the day, Capitol Hill was abuzz with dogs and their handlers participating in meetings with Congressional staff. These dogs were not just charming visitors to the Capitol—they were powerful advocates for responsible dog ownership and the importance of breed preservation.

Andrew Green and Amy Kiell-Green, with their Russell Terrier *Hero* and Samoyed *Prince Louis*, met with staff for Senators Cory Booker (NJ) and Kirsten Gillibrand (NY), sharing first-hand experiences of the breed-specific challenges and benefits that come with responsible ownership. Kent Boyles and Sharee Moses Combs, accompanied by the stunning German Shepherd *Mercedes*, continued the advocacy work in the afternoon, meet-



Kent Boyles and Congressman Dan Newhouse chat as Mercedes looks on

ing with staff for Representatives Tammy Baldwin (WI), Mark Pocan (WI), and G.T. Thompson (PA).

Wherever they went, the dogs drew attention and sparked conversations, reminding those on Capitol Hill of the profound bond between people and their pets. *Mercedes*, a Reserve Best in Show winner at both the 2023 AKC National Championship and the 2024 Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, stole the spotlight during her Capitol Hill appearances, showcasing the grace and intelligence of the German Shepherd breed.

The evening's reception was a highlight of the day, bringing together dog lovers from across the Hill for a special Meet the Breeds event. Congressional members and their staff had the opportunity to meet representatives from each of the seven AKC breed groups, as well as learn about the organization's ongoing efforts to protect and preserve the diversity of dog breeds.

The evening also featured remarks from Congressman G.T. Thompson (PA) and Congressman Don Davis (NC), both of



Congressman Davis delivers a rousing endorsement of AKC's Good works

whom highlighted the remarkable impact AKC has had on dogs, breeders, and communities in their home states. "Eastern North Carolina and America have significantly benefited from education, advocacy, and firm stances in support of canines and their owners," said Congressman Davis. "AKC's impact is inspiring as we celebrate this historic milestone, and we should remain hopeful about the future."

AKC President and CEO Dennis Sprung spoke to the incred-



House Agriculture Chairman G.T. Thompson shares some thoughts on AKC and 2024 House Farm Bill



Upon receiving the AKC Legislator of the Year award, Congressman GT Thompson receives a kiss from Mercedes

ible legacy of the organization, emphasizing the importance of continued advocacy to protect responsible dog owners and preserve the diverse and unique breeds that are part of our nation's heritage. A particularly special moment of the evening included a tribute to the U.S. Capitol Police K-9 Unit, which includes five graduates of AKC's Patriotic Puppy Program. The entire K-9 Unit was honored with an AKC Canine Officer Program (K-9 COP) award in May, underscoring the AKC's commitment to working with law enforcement to promote the safety and wellbeing of both dogs and their handlers.

The 140th anniversary celebration at the U.S. Capitol was more than just a commemoration of AKC's long history—it was a call to action to continue advocating for the rights of responsible dog owners and the welfare of all dogs. The support from members of Congress, the meaningful partnerships with breeders, and the ongoing commitment to protecting dogs through legislation and policy reforms will ensure that the next 140 years will be as impactful as the first.

For those in Congress, we encourage you to stay engaged with AKC's efforts to promote responsible dog ownership, support legislative measures that safeguard the health and welfare of dogs, and protect the rights of dog owners and breeders. Together, we can ensure that dogs continue to thrive in our communities and that the legacy of responsible dog ownership endures for generations to come.

To learn more about how AKC's Government Relations team is working to protect your rights as dog owners and to stay informed on legislation and public policy impacting the dog world, visit www.akcgr.org.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila Goffe".

Sheila Goffe

AKC Supports Animal Care Enhancements Included in H.R. 8467, Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 and Opposes Anti-Dog Breeder Provision included in the Senate Farm Bill, the Rural Prosperity and Security Act



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Sheila Goffe
Vice President
Government Relations

November 25, 2024

**AKC Supports Animal Care Enhancements Included in H.R. 8467,
Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 and Opposes Anti-Dog Breeder Provision included in
the Senate Farm Bill, the Rural Prosperity and Security Act**

Dear Member of Congress,

On behalf of the American Kennel Club (AKC), our more than 5,000 community-based dog clubs, and millions of responsible dog owners and enthusiasts throughout America, I write to you today to express support for animal care enhancements included Title XII of the Farm Bill, H.R. 8467, the *Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024* and to oppose inclusion of provisions that would restrict the responsible activities of federally licensed breeders. Specifically, the AKC supports the following positive Farm Bill animal care provisions:

- **Section 12410 – Enhancement of Pet Protections.**
 - **Report to Congress.** Requires that within two years of the date of enactment, or longer if determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, a report will be provided to Congress from the Secretary evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of enforcement standards under, and the requirements of, the Animal Welfare Act (AWA); efforts to educate and advise dealers of all standards and requirement of the Act; and the capacity of the Secretary to enforce standards under the Act... .
 - **Veterinary Care.** Mandates that annual veterinary exams of animals under the AWA include a visual dental exam.
 - **Confiscation for Unrelieved Suffering.** Requires AWA inspectors to notify state law enforcement and animal health officials if a dog is determined to be in a state of “unrelieved suffering” and further requires that immediate confiscation be considered for such dogs.
- **Section 12005 – Importation of Live Dogs** - Expands USDA’s electronic health documentation requirements for pets entering the United States. This provision reflects language in the Healthy Dog Importation Act (HR 1184) by requiring electronic records documentation on dogs prior to their importation that confirms the dog is in good health; microchipped; has received all necessary vaccination and parasite treatments, demonstrated negative test results, and has a health certificate from an accredited veterinarian; and in the case of a dog intended for transfer, is at least 6 months old. Exceptions are provided for dogs that are personal pets of

United States origin returning to the United States; United States military working dogs; for research purposes; and coming to the United States solely for veterinary treatment; among several others.

- **Section 12411 – Protecting Animals with Shelter** - Reauthorizes funding for transitional shelters for victims of domestic violence that allow victims to shelter with a pet. This provision mirrors efforts privately supported by the AKC Humane Fund.
- **Section 12003 – Establishes the USDA’s National Detector Dog Training Center** which will train specially selected dogs (and their handlers) to identify invasive pests and diseases that threaten agriculture. The measure is also known as H.R. 1480, The Beagle Brigade Act”.

While the AKC supports these positive animal care provisions House Farm Bill, **we are concerned about several provisions in the Senate companion, *The Rural Prosperity And Security Act***, that include problematic aspects of the *Better CARE for Animals Act (S 2555/HR 5041)* **that unnecessarily restrict AWA licensees and dealers.** *AKC respectfully requests you oppose attempts to add the following provisions to the final bill.*

- **Expanding the power of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to enforce any violation of the AWA and circumvent the USDA’s authority and the expertise of veterinarians and other animal experts** at USDA to enforce animal care requirements.
- S 2555/ HR 5041 would also empower the DOJ to file charges, including potential criminal charges, **seize animals and impose penalties regardless of whether USDA has determined or even alleged that there has been a violation of the AWA.** USDA already has the demonstrated authority and ability to work with the DOJ on rare cases involving criminal conduct. In fact, on March 8, 2024, the USDA and the DOJ Natural Resources Division (ENRD), signed a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#) ¹ on Civil Judicial Enforcement of the AWA. The DOJ [press release](#) ² announcing the MOU, notes that “the agencies have been **closely collaborating** on civil judicial enforcement of the AWA for almost four years.”

Animal extremist groups pushing these anti-breeder measures would have you believe that there are few federal, state, or local laws and regulations governing dog breeders and that all dogs come from large, commercial-sized kennels. Initially passed by Congress in 1966, the AWA has been amended numerous times and is enforced by the USDA APHIS Animal Care division. It regulates the treatment of animals, not raised for food or fiber, in research, teaching, testing, exhibition, transport, and by dealers. AWA [regulations](#) ³ outline federal animal care standards covering humane handling, housing, space, feeding and watering, shelter from extremes of weather, sanitation, ventilation, separation of incompatible animals, transportation, handling in transit, and veterinary care, including annual exams for all licensed animals.

For more information, USDA AWA licensing and state laws governing breeders and dealers, please see the links below for downloadable fact sheets and policy analysis.

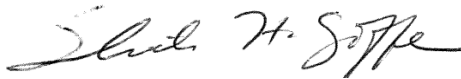
The American Kennel Club supports strong enforcement of the AWA and taking appropriate action against any breeder or person, licensed or not, who does not provide proper care and conditions for their animals. We work closely with the USDA’s APHIS to promote high quality, science-based

standards for licensed commercial pet breeder/dealers and to educate dog owners and the public about AWA licensing, inspections and compliance requirements.

As experts in canine health and the breeding and care of dogs, AKC respectfully requests that you support the animal care enhancements included in the H.R. 8467 and that you oppose adoption of provisions that are onerous to AWA licensees and registrants and could undermine appropriate or specialized care for some animals. AKC will continue reaching out to your offices over the coming weeks and months to provide more information about AKC and our policy positions. In the meantime, if you have questions regarding canine issues, proposed legislation, or AKC policy positions, please do not hesitate to contact us by email at doglaw@akc.org or phone at 919-816-3720.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to promote the health and well-being of all dogs. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sheila Goffe
Vice President, Government Relations

Resources: To learn more about canine issues and to follow AKC on social media, please see the following links:

[American Kennel Club](#)
[Understanding The Facts of Breeder Laws and Regulations](#)
[Policy Analysis: Understanding Breeder Laws and Regulations](#)

[American Kennel Club Government Relations](#)
[Understanding USDA Breeder Licensing Requirements](#)

¹Memorandum of Understanding; U.S. Department of Justice; Accessed 12/9/24; <https://www.justice.gov/opa/media/1341811/dl?inline>

² Department of Justice Press Release; Accessed 12/9/24; <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-and-usda-enter-memorandum-understanding-civil-enforcement-animal-welfare>

³ Regulations for the Animal Welfare Act, Accessed 12/9/24; <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/media/document/17164/file>

Founded in 1884, the American Kennel Club is a private is a not-for-profit organization and club of clubs. We are the world's largest registry of purebred dogs and currently recognize 200 breeds of dogs. We also operate the nation's largest breed rescue network. Nationwide, our 5,000 community-based dog clubs host some 26,000 canine events annually with over 3.5 million individual participants. AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of our registry, advocating for the purebred dog as a family companion, advancing thee health and wellbeing of all dogs, educating about responsible dog ownership, and protecting the rights of responsible dog owners.

AKC is More than Champion Dogs, We're the Dog's Champion



The American Kennel Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting responsible dog ownership, preserving purebred dogs, the health and well-being of all dogs, and advocating for science-based canine policy that is reasonable, enforceable and non-discriminatory.

Did you know?

- AKC is the world's largest all-breed dog registry.
- AKC has more than 5,000 local and breed-based dog clubs throughout the U.S.
- AKC hosts over 25,000 dog events per year with more than 3.5 million entries, including breed conformation, agility, obedience, field trials, and more.
- AKC events can inject more than \$2.15 million into the community during each event.
- Nationwide, AKC dog events can generate more than \$1.5 billion a year in local spending.
- AKC's Detection Dog Task Force works to help address the shortage of high-quality U.S. -bred and -trained explosive detection dogs to protect public safety and national security.
- For more than a decade, AKC Humane Fund has provided grants to shelters that house victims of domestic abuse with their pets.
- The AKC Museum of the Dog preserves, interprets, and celebrates the role of dogs in society and educates the public about the human-canine bond through its 1,700-piece rotating collection and 4,000-volume library.
- AKC Pet Disaster Relief program helps local Emergency Management provide animal care services immediately following a disaster, including a donation of a trailer stocked with essential supplies to house over 65 pets in the critical first few days following a disaster. To date, more than 100 emergency relief trailers have been donated to communities around the nation.
- AKC Canine Health Foundation funds research projects that focus on all aspects of the physical, mental, and social well-being of dogs. AKC CHF's \$67 millions in grants has resulted in over 1,135 research grants, countless canine health projects, and 932 peer-reviewed publications.
- AKC co-founded American Service Dog Access Coalition (ASDAC), a charitable organization of industry leaders working together to establish Service Dog Pass,™ an authoritative, verifiable service dog credential to establish and incentivize compliance with behavioral and health standards for service dogs and to address fraudulent misrepresentation of pets as service dogs.
- AKC Reunite has reunited more than 650,000 lost pets with their owners, donates microchip scanners to shelters, and helps reunite pets displaced by storms and other disasters. The Adopt A K9 Cop Program has donated funding for police K-9s to more than 200 police departments.
- AKC's Rescue Network provides financial assistance to non-profit rescue groups. More than 450 AKC Rescue Network groups are located across the U.S.; the largest rescue network in America.
- AKC has a dedicated team of field agents who visit and inspect kennels to educate breeders and ensure proper care and conditions of AKC-registered dogs and accurate record keeping. Since 2000, AKC field agents have conducted over 80,000 inspections nationwide.
- AKC created the Canine Good Citizen® program - A 10-step test that encourages and certifies dogs who have good manners. Over 1,200,000 dogs have earned CGC certification.
- AKC provides teachers nationwide with academically rigorous lesson plans and activities that incorporate core subject areas for grades K-12 and teach about responsible dog ownership.
- And much more!

AKC Patriotic Puppy Program Graduates Its 100th Detection



The American Kennel Club (AKC®), the world's largest purebred dog registry and a leading advocate for dogs, is pleased to announce that its Patriotic Puppy Program (PPP), has graduated its 100th detection dog, a yellow Labrador Retriever named K9 Teddy.

The AKC Patriotic Puppy Program is part of the AKC's Detection Dog Task Force, a program established by the AKC to **help address the critical shortage of high-quality domestically bred, raised and trained explosives detection dogs crucial to the national security.**

Detection dogs serve as particularly invaluable assets in law enforcement, search and rescue operations, and public safety initiatives. These expertly trained dogs perform essential tasks including drug and explosives detection, tracking missing persons, and even identifying harmful agricultural pests. Alarmingly, the U.S. Government relies on Europe for 80 to 90% of its working dogs, a situation exacerbated by global rising terrorism threats, leading to a shortage of available dogs. The AKC Patriotic Puppy program places emphasis on American-bred detection dogs, who benefit from a rich lineage developed over generations, ensuring they possess the temperament, intelligence, and physical capabilities required to excel in demanding roles. By supporting programs like the AKC Patriotic Puppy Program, dog breeders are helping create a robust national resource of highly trained detection dogs to meet pressing needs.

About the Patriotic Puppy Program:

The AKC Patriotic Puppy program is a first-of-its-kind program that works with US dog breeders to establish high-level skills for breeding and raising consistent, high quality detection dogs domestically, addressing a critical need for highly skilled canines in a wide range of sectors including law enforcement,

transportation security, military and agriculture. "The American Kennel Club established the Detection Dog Task Force in response to a crucial need for more U.S. bred and raised detection dogs. The success of the Patriotic Puppy Program shows one of the many ways that responsible U.S. dog breeders and enthusiasts give back to their communities and their country," said Sheila Goffe, AKC Vice President, Government Relations.

The American Kennel Club offers training, seminars and one-on-one mentoring opportunities to program participants free of charge. The Patriotic puppy program provides 187 breeders in 44 states are participating.

- **Training Accountability:** Participants maintain detailed training records which they review with program advisors to track progress, tailor learning, and evaluate various training methodologies.
- **Diverse Exposure:** Once young puppies are fully vaccinated, they receive extensive exposure to external environmental stimuli throughout the puppy raising period. Participants work with their pups daily to familiarize them with loud noises, large crowds, and a variety dynamic environments. This prepares them for the real-world scenarios in which they will ultimately serve.
- **Placement Opportunities:** Upon successful program completion – which usually takes place about one year of age, participants may receive assistance in placing their successful graduates with local, state and federal agencies, where they will receive advanced specialized training and help address the urgent demand for highly skilled detection canines.

K9 Teddy, the program's 100th graduate, was bred by program participant Roxane Dutson of Utah, Utah, worked closely with AKC Patriotic Puppy Program Manager Stacey West, and is now handled by Police Officer Ryan Frost of the Maine Capitol Police. Frost and K-9 Teddy are stationed at the buildings and grounds of the State Capitol in Augusta. Frost and K-9 Teddy also serve as part of the Maine State Police K-9 Explosives Unit, standing ready to assist at various locations throughout the state.

According to breeder Roxane Dutson, "Teddy was always a joy to raise. He had the spirit and energy of a Malinois in a Lab's body, with an incredible toy drive—he never lost a game of tug."

To learn more about the Patriotic Puppy Program and its impact on detection dog training, please visit www.akc.org/edc ■

AKC Humane Fund's Domestic Shelter Funding



[Domestic violence statistics](#) in America are sobering. Nearly one in four women and about one in seven men will experience severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

What makes these statistics more concerning is that not all victims of domestic violence leave the situation right away. [Surveys](#) of domestic violence victims have indicated that nearly half have delayed leaving or returned to their abuser because they feared what could happen to their family pets. In one Utah study, over 70% of pet-owning victims said their abuser threatened, injured, or even killed their family pet.

Not all domestic violence shelters are able to accommodate pets, making the decision to leave that much more difficult. In order to run a pet-friendly domestic violence shelter, additional funds and resources are needed so shelters have the right tools to accept animals of varying sizes.

The AKC Humane Fund is the leading organization providing financial assistance to domestic violence shelters that accept pets. Our grants make it easier for women's shelters to welcome pets and help break the cycle of domestic abuse. We know that when a woman enters your shelter, she's already facing countless challenges. Leaving her pet behind doesn't have to be one of them.

Learn more or [make a donation to the AKC Humane Fund](https://www.akchumanefund.org) at [AKCHumaneFund.org](https://www.akchumanefund.org). ■

Research Aims to Improve Quality of Life for Dogs with Epilepsy

Just like people, dogs can suffer from epilepsy. This seizure disorder is characterized by uncontrolled electrical activity in the brain resulting in abnormal movements, altered behavior, and/or loss of consciousness. Seizures can have many causes - such as trauma, infection, metabolic disturbances, brain tumors, and more. When no specific cause can be pinpointed, it's known as idiopathic epilepsy.

Idiopathic epilepsy is the most common medical neurologic disorder of dogs and is reported to affect one in every 100 dogs. Diagnosis, often made in young to middle-aged dogs, involves a full medical work-up to rule out underlying causes and treat any concurrent diseases. This may include bloodwork, imaging such as MRI or CT scans, and cerebrospinal fluid analysis. The condition requires lifelong management, creating a significant financial and emotional burden for affected dogs and their families.

Treatment for idiopathic epilepsy involves avoiding or managing seizure triggers such as anxiety, stress, or certain foods. If seizures are severe or occur frequently enough, anti-seizure medications are prescribed. There are numerous anti-seizure drugs approved for use in dogs. They must be taken as prescribed and should not be stopped without consulting a veterinarian, as doing so may trigger more seizure activity. Multiple medications may be needed to adequately control a dog's seizures and a good relationship with the veterinary team is critical for successful outcomes. Additional treatment options include nutritional supplements, dietary therapy, and traditional Chinese veterinary medicine. All treatments should be given under the guidance of a licensed professional to avoid dangerous side effects and medication interactions.

Progress in Canine Epilepsy Research

Despite appropriate anti-epileptic therapy, approximately one-third of dogs with idiopathic epilepsy will continue to have seizures. If we better understand exactly what, where, and how the brain malfunctions in epileptic dogs, we might be able to discern different subtypes of epilepsy, create more accurate diagnostic tests, and develop more effective treatments for this challenging disease. Thanks to funding from the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF, www.akcchf.org), a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the health of all dogs through scientific research, veterinary scientists are actively searching for these answers.

Since its founding in 1995, CHF and its donors have invested more than \$3 million to study canine epilepsy, resulting in significant progress:

- **Dietary Supplements:** Studies show that supplementation with medium-chain triglyceride oil decreases seizure frequency and improves the behavioral changes that commonly occur with epilepsy.
- **Genetic Research:** Specific genetic mutations linked to an increased risk of epilepsy in dog breeds like the Belgian Tervuren and Belgian Sheepdog allow breeders and veterinarians to conduct preventive screenings and manage idiopathic epilepsy in these breeds.

- **CBD Oil Efficacy:** Additional research has demonstrated CBD oil added to standard anti-epileptic drugs is a treatment option that may reduce seizures in dogs with epilepsy.

Active Epilepsy Studies

Ongoing CHF-funded studies are building on these findings to provide new diagnostic and treatment options for epileptic dogs.

- **Brain Imaging:** One study is using novel imaging technology to measure brain tissue stiffness and how it relates to epilepsy.
- **Biomarkers:** Researchers are also exploring biomarkers of drug-resistant epilepsy to quickly identify dogs that will need higher doses and/or multiple drugs to control their disease. This will give owners a more accurate prognosis and help clinicians begin appropriate therapies for these difficult cases.
- **CBD Oil Dosing:** A clinical trial is defining the appropriate dose of CBD oil for seizure treatment – providing data on how much of this compound should be given and how often for maximum effect when given in addition to standard anti-epileptic drugs.
- **Advanced Technology:** Different technologies such as MRI and EEG are exploring how the brain is impacted by epilepsy and anti-seizure drugs to identify new treatment strategies.
- **Cluster Seizure Management:** Finally, another clinical trial is examining in-home treatment protocols for cluster seizures, a dangerous condition in which seizures occur frequently.

Additional Resources

While idiopathic epilepsy usually requires lifelong management, there is hope for affected dogs and their families. Veterinary scientists are borrowing knowledge from human medicine, using new technologies, and exploring medications and nutritional supplements - all to increase our understanding of idiopathic epilepsy and improve outcomes for affected dogs. CHF and its donors remain committed to this search for answers. They offer resources to help veterinary professionals and dog owners stay up to date on the latest research findings. Your dog may also be eligible to participate in canine epilepsy research by submitting a blood sample or participating in a clinical trial. Anyone interested in learning about these opportunities and supporting this critical canine health research can visit www.akcchf.org/epilepsy for more information. Working together, we can create a brighter future for epileptic dogs and their families. ■



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