



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB

## **Oppose Proposed Amendment #11 - (The Puppy Protection Act) to H.R. 7567 – The Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026**

### **Amendment #11 or H.R. 2253 – The Puppy Protection Act (H.R. 2253) Establishes Government Mandates That:**

#### Prohibits the breeding of a female dog:

- Unless pre-screened by a veterinarian. No specific details are provided on what the screening would involve or who would make these decisions.
- Based arbitrarily on the age and size of the dog, not the breed.
- If it would produce more than two litters in a 25-month period.

#### Additional arbitrary requirements include but are not limited to:

- Mandates unrestricted access from the dogs' primary enclosure, during daylight hours, to an outdoor exercise area large enough that it "allows dogs to extend to full stride". This would create a potentially dangerous environment for multiple dogs that do not get along, accidental breeding, other poor animal management practices, etc.
- Mandates annual dental exams – current regulations already require an annual medical exam.
- Mandates indoor space sufficient to allow the tallest dog in an enclosure to stand on his or her hind legs without touching the roof of the enclosure. For family dogs that live in their owner's homes, a primary enclosure may be considered the dog's sleeping crate.
- Prohibition on the keeping of dogs in enclosures above 85 degrees or below 45 degrees F, regardless of breed or acclimation needs for dogs that hunt, sled, detect explosives, or do other work and thrive in cooler temperatures, or that must be acclimated to cooler or warmer temperatures for their safety.
- Completely solid flooring, despite scientific recognition that multiple types of high-quality flooring, including engineered slatted flooring, is beneficial in certain types of kennels and with certain breeds.

### **Why This is a Problem**

While some portions of the measures include reasonable *generalized* guidelines for canine care, ***arbitrary requirements that ignore best practices for individual outcomes are not appropriate for federal mandates***. One-size-fits-all requirements do not consider the broad range of breeds and types of dogs, or best health and breeding practices. They also do not allow for creative approaches that permit expert breeders and owners to provide optimal care for their individual dogs and advance the art and science of responsible dog breeding. Arbitrary restrictions can be expensive and undermine small hobby breeding programs because of an overly broad definition of "breeding female" that impacts who is subject to federal requirements.

To learn more, see:

[\*Proposal Would Undermine Animal Welfare\*](#), DC Journal, April 20, 2023

[\*Breeder Expertise, Thoughtful Analysis Demonstrate Dangerous Flaws in 'Feel Good' Dog Law.\*](#)