



Taking Command

April 2026

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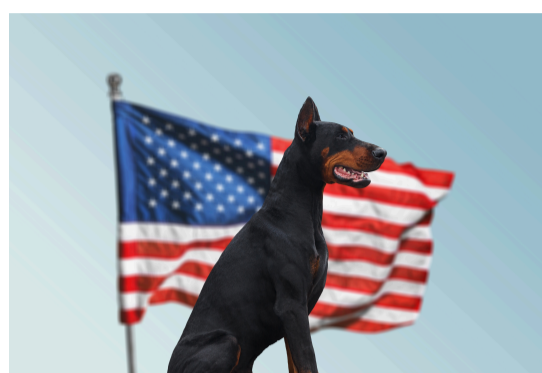


What's New in Government Relations

Spring signals a very busy season for dog competitors and exhibitors. With more sunshine and warmer weather throughout the country, there are numerous events in which to participate from national specialties and conformation shows to a variety of performance events including field trials, barn and hunt tests, Fast CAT, and more.

Yet language added to the U.S. House "Farm Bill" in a recent markup threatens the future of AKC performance events and recognized hunt training techniques.

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The articles below are a digest of blogs recently published by AKC Government Relations. To view all resources, please [click here](#).

Prepare for the 2026 Upcoming Elections

Election season is here once again. Although many of us may be experiencing déjà vu, we are also feeling incredibly grateful we live in a country where we have the right to not only choose our political leaders, but we are also able to participate in their campaigns – all of which are important to protecting our rights as dog owners, breeders, and exhibitors.

When it comes to elections, AKC Government Relations has all you need for you to vote, get involved, and ensure success.

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AKC GR Highlights First Quarter 2026 Legislative Successes

The first three months of 2026 saw a tremendous flurry of legislative activity across the country. AKC Government Relations thanks all the state federations, clubs, breeders, and dog owners who joined us in speaking out, resulting in [numerous legislative successes](#) from Hawaii to New Hampshire. [Check out the full list of successes through March 2026 here](#), and be sure to keep watching for Legislative Alerts and checking the [AKC Legislative Action Center](#) for the latest information on federal, state, and local legislative issues still pending across the country.

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AKC DDTF Webinar Series: Comparing Multiple Approaches to the Breeding and Training of Detection Dogs, May 14, 2026, 7:30pm ET

The AKC Detection Dog Task Force invites you to join an upcoming webinar on May 14: Comparing Multiple Approaches to the Breeding and Training of Detection Dogs.

Industry experts with diverse backgrounds will compare and contrast their approaches to breeding and training sporting breeds for detection work. This discussion will highlight both shared strategies and key differences in producing high-quality dogs for advanced detection programs

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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 [2026 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	Regulatory
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	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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