



Taking Command

September 2026

A publication of the AKC Government
Relations Department



What's New in Government Relations

For many around the country, September signals a focus on returning to school. And in a sense, it is the same for the AKC Government Relations team as this month we look forward to welcoming club members, breeders and dog enthusiasts from across the country to Raleigh, North Carolina, for our National Legislative Conference.

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



Register Today: AKC National Legislative Conference 2026

The American Kennel Club (AKC) Government Relations Department is excited to announce that the 2026 National Legislative Conference will return to Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, September 26, 2026.

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AKC GR Joins Pennsylvania Sporting Dog Owners for Annual Meeting with Game Commission

"Legislation targeting one segment of the dog-owning community can eventually affect all dog owners," AKC Government Relations Mid-Atlantic Region Director Charley Hall told attendees at the annual Pennsylvania Sporting Dog Owners Meeting with the Pennsylvania Game Commission, held recently in Harrisburg.

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New Breeding Moratoriums Show Why Lawmakers Need to Hear Directly From Dog Owners

[This article was originally published in the March 2026 edition of Show Sight magazine.](#)

Just a few weeks ago, the Philadelphia City Council passed a three-year moratorium on all breeding in an attempt to address shelter population concerns in the city. The city is the latest in a disturbing new trend among cities and local communities, joining Los Angeles and two New Jersey townships in attempting to "solve" the complex issue of animals in shelters by targeting breeders.

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Tales From the Trenches: Federation Leader Offers Five Actions to Take Now to Advocate for Dogs

For over 30 years, Karen Strange has advocated for Missouri animal owners... Over the decades, MoFed has seen tremendous success in Jefferson City on behalf of purebred dog owners and breeders, and Strange credits much of it to their members being proactive before an issue is even introduced – particularly during election season. In fact, she has this message for clubs and dog owners: These next weeks leading up to the election are a critical time for making a difference!

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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.



Everything We Do,
We Do for Dogs.



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