

November 2023 SVDFFA Meeting

Prepared by Melody Tate, SVDFFA VP and Legislative Liaison

General AKC Links:

- AKC Legislative Action Center: <https://cgrcengage.com/akc/lac>
- Legislative Tracking: <https://www.akc.org/clubs-delegates/government-relations/legislative-tracking/>

California Legislative Links:

- <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/home.xhtml>
- Senate: <https://www.senate.ca.gov/>
- Assembly: <https://www.assembly.ca.gov/>
- Governor's Office: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/>

City of Los Angeles Notice:

On Friday, October 20, the Los Angeles City Council directed that an ordinance be drafted to suspend the issuance of breeding permits in the city as a way to address shelter overpopulation concerns. Public comments from key officials indicate that this could also curtail the ability to own intact animals in the city. Should this proposal be adopted, it would ban all breeding in the city and could prevent the ownership of intact animals. (The attached CC Oct 20 Journal, Item 16, beginning on page 17 of 71 gives more detail.)

Please see the AKC legislative page for lots of details and recommendations:

<https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/ask-los-angeles-city-council-oppose-ban-breeding-intact-animal-ownership/>

- c. Provide a 90-day notification of the street segments approved for Tour Bus restrictions in the Resolution, attached the Council file, to the Tour Bus companies known by the LADOT to use those streets.

3. DIRECT the LADOT and the Los Angeles Police Department to:

- a. Issue warnings in lieu of citations for 30 days following the installation of Tour Bus restrictions signs by the LADOT.
- b. Report to the Council within six months after the full installation of regulatory signage associated with the September 22, 2023 LADOT report, attached to the Council file, in regard to citations, observed tour bus volume, and behavior since implementation, as well as remaining street segments that should be assessed or reassessed for tour bus regulations.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The LADOT reports that there is no financial impact at this time.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Adopted Item Forthwith

Ayes: Blumenfield, de León, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Padilla, Park, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (14); Nays: (0); Absent: Harris-Dawson (1)

(16) **23-1008**

NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 53.15.2 of Article 3, Chapter V to place an immediate and indefinite moratorium on the issuance of new breeding permits.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Hernandez - Park - Blumenfield):

1. REQUEST the City Attorney, in consultation with the Department of

Animal Services (DAS), to:

- a. Prepare and present an ordinance in 15 days amending LAMC Section 53.15.2 of Article 3, Chapter V to place a moratorium on the issuance of new dog breeding permits, which shall be lifted when the shelters are at 75 percent capacity or less for three consecutive months, and shall be automatically reinstated once the shelters are at over 75 percent capacity.
- b. Prepare and present an ordinance amending LAMC Section 53.15.2 of Article 3, Chapter V to allow the DAS to limit the issuance of breeding permits at the discretion of the General Manager, should the ordinance to place an immediate and indefinite moratorium on the issuance of breeding permits take more than 30 days to prepare and present.

2. INSTRUCT the DAS to report to the Council within 30 days on:

- a. Number of illegal breeding reports received in the last calendar year.
- b. Number of illegal breeding citations issued in the last calendar year.
- c. Total amount of money collected from these citations.
- d. Fee structure and dollar amounts for illegal breeding infractions in other comparable cities.
- e. List of cities that have placed moratoriums on the issuance of breeding permits.
- f. List of cities that ve banned outright the issuance of breeding permits.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the

Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Adopted Item Forthwith

Ayes: Blumenfield, de León, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Padilla, Park, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (14); Nays: (0); Absent: Harris-Dawson (1)

(17) **23-0926**

NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the care and preparation of animals for adoption, metrics used to evaluate adequate care and the effectiveness of the volunteer program's recruitment and onboarding practices, current protocol for protecting shelter animals from extreme heat, and related matters.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Harris-Dawson - Padilla):

1. INSTRUCT the Department of Animal Services (DAS) to report to the Council on how its shelters are providing proper care and preparation to animals that are up for adoption, including metrics used to evaluate adequate care and the status of the following:
 - a. Plan to ensure that all dogs in shelters are regularly exercised and properly attended to; and if not, what additional human and/or budgetary resources are required to fully implement this plan.
 - b. Plan to ensure the best possible treatment of cats, rabbits and all other small animals by both staff and volunteers during the animals' stay at City shelters; and if not, what additional human and/or budgetary resources are required to fully implement this plan.
 - c. Use of the orange list to ensure that community partners willing to cover the costs of expensive vet care for shelter animals on the orange list are notified and given the opportunity to provide this care.

California Bills:

Note: 2023 session is fully completed, 2024 session will complete the 2-year bill cycle.

Bill #/Name/Author	AB 781, Accessibility to emergency information and services: emergency shelters: persons with pets, Brian Maienschein, D, San Diego
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passed out of Emergency Management, in Appropriations • Passed out of Committee and Assembly, referred to Senate • Passed through Committee on Governmental Organization, and into Appropriations • Placed in suspense file on 8/14/2023 (assume it will re-activate next session) • Removed from suspense passed Senate, sent for concurrence • Enrolled and presented to Governor 9/20/2023 • Signed into Law
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link to bill information: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB781 • This bill would require a county, on or before July 1, 2024, to update its emergency plan to designate emergency shelters able to accommodate persons with pets. The AKC supports this bill.
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKC Bill Page: (general CA) https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/california-update-bills-impacting-dog-owners-4/ • AKC supports
Club Action?	Enrolled, Governor supports, Signed

Bill #/Name/Author	AB 1215 – Pets Assistance with Support Grant Program: homeless shelters: domestic violence shelters: pets, Wendy Carillo, D, Los Angeles
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passed out of Housing and Community Development, sent to Appropriations • Passed out of Committee and Assembly, referred to Senate • Passed out of Committee on Housing, referred to Appropriations • Placed in suspense file on 7/03/2023 (assume it will re-activate next session) • Removed from suspension, passed Senate, passed concurrence • Enrolled and sent to Governor 9/18/2020 • Vetoed by the Governor over budgetary issues
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative bill page: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1215 • Currently, many shelters for domestic violence victims and homeless people are not able to accommodate people with pets, causing many to avoid the

	shelter system. This bill would use state grants to allow for domestic violence and homeless shelters to be able accommodate pets with the goal of removing more people from harmful situations. The AKC supports this proposal.
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AKC Bill Page: (general CA) https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/california-update-bills-impacting-dog-owners-4/
Club Action?	Enrolled, AKC supports, Vetoes

Bill #/Name/Author	SB-89 Crimes: stalking, Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh, R, Redlands
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unanimously passed out of Senate Referred to Assembly Committee on Public Safety 7/7/2023 failed passage in committee, reconsideration granted
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative bill page: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB89 Brings California definitions of stalking to be in line with federal law, including to make harming or killing pets a stalking offense.
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AKC Bill Page: (all states) https://www.akc.org/clubs-delegates/government-relations/newsletters/taking-command/state-issues-may-2023/?sc_src=email_29116&sc_lid=2167389&sc_uid=i0f50VfVhE&sc_llid=5683 AKC Supports
Club Action?	Watch

CA Dead or Currently Inactive

Bill #/Name/Author	AB 240, Dogs and cats: California Spay-Neuter Fund, Ash Kalra, D, San Jose
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced Referred to Committees on Agriculture, and Revenue and Taxation Amended, re-referred to Agriculture Hearing postponed Due to inaction, the bill missed a committee legislative deadline and will not be acted upon this year.
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link to bill information: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB240 The bill would establish the California Spay-Neuter Fund in the State Treasury. Amended to impose a \$200/label fee on manufacturers of pet food, rather than a per-unit fee. Will require 2/3 majority to pass

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunsets 1/1/2044
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKC Bill Page: N/A
Club Action?	None at this time

Bill #/Name/Author	AB 554, Corporations for the prevention of cruelty to animals: enforcement of laws, Jesse Gabriel, D, LA and Ventura Counties
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passed Assembly Judiciary Committee; referred to Assembly Banking and Finance Committee • Passed out of Banking • To full Assembly • Moved to Inactive file on request of author • Due to inaction in the full Assembly, the bill will not advance this year.
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link to bill information: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB554 • This bill would clarify animal cruelty enforcement and could make it easier for an owner's animals to be seized without traditional due process protections. AKC has numerous concerns with the bill and underlying law.. • The AKC had concerns about new, proposed language expanding current law that could have allowed for legal action to be taken before animal cruelty had ever taken place. After working with the author's office and the Assembly Judiciary Committee, the author agreed to remove this language, and the AKC will continue to monitor Assembly Bill 554.
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are encouraged to reach out to Asm. Gabriel's office at (916) 319-2046 or assemblymember.gabriel@assembly.ca.gov and thank him for considering AKC's concerns.
Club Action?	Watch

Bill #/Name/Author	AB 703, Residential property insurance: dog breeds, Greg Hart, D, Santa Barbara
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced • Referred to Committee on Insurance • Amended, re-referred to Insurance • Hearing cancelled at request of author • Due to inaction, the bill missed a committee legislative deadline and will not be acted upon this year.
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link to bill information: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB703 • Would prohibit an insurer from refusing to issue, canceling, refusing to renew, or increasing the premium for a policy of residential property insurance on the sole basis that the applicant or insured owns or harbors a

	dog that is a specific breed or mixture of breeds, except if the dog is known to be or has been declared potentially dangerous or vicious.
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKC supports
Club Action?	None at this time

Bill #/Name/Author	AB 742, Law enforcement: police canines, Corey Jackson, D, Riverside
Activity	Tabled by the author, so it's done for this session.
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link to bill information: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB742 • After recent amendments, this bill would have restricted the use of police canines for the purpose of arrest, apprehension, or any form of crowd control. AKC recognizes the value of highly trained working K9s for a wide variety of jobs including detection, search and rescue, and other public safety functions. Rather than limiting the safety functions of properly trained working K9s, AKC supports a focus on ensuring that law enforcement canines and their handlers have the proper and up-to-date training, certifications, and knowledge of best practices to keep all Californians safe. • The measure passed two Assembly committees, but did not advance in the full Assembly, and will not advance this year.
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKC Bill Page: https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/california-assembly-committee-advances-bill-limiting-use-police-canines/ • The author of the proposal, Assemblymember Corey Jackson (Dist. 60), is working with stakeholders on possible amendments to the bill to ensure the safety of all Californians. No action is needed at this time.
Club Action?	None at this time

Federal Bills:

Bill #/Name/Author	Better CARE for Animals Act of 2023/ SB 2555/ Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT] 12 Cosponsors, none from California
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced 07/27/2023, assigned to Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry No action since
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link to Bill information: https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2555/cosponsors?s=1&r=4&q=%7B%22search%22%3A%222555%22%7D Better Collaboration, Accountability, and Regulatory Enforcement for Animals Act of 2023 or the Better CARE for Animals Act of 2023 This bill modifies enforcement provisions under the Animal Welfare Act, including by allowing the Department of Justice (DOJ) to bring civil actions against violators of the act for appropriate relief, such as removing animals, revoking violators' licenses, or issuing civil penalties. DOJ must use the penalties to pay for the temporary care for animals pending the disposition of civil or criminal proceedings that allege violations of the act with respect to such animals. <p>From AKC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This would circumvent oversight authority by an agency staffed by animal experts that focuses on improving animal husbandry; and instead place it with one with little or no animal expertise that focuses on violations as potential federal crimes. 2555 would also empower the DOJ to file charges, seize animals and impose penalties regardless of whether USDA has determined or even alleged that there has been a violation of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA).
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AKC Page: https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/u-s-congress-ask-senators-collins-king-today-oppose-harmful-radical-change-breeder-regulations/ Though there are no CA co-sponsors (as of now), if you know folks in the states represented by current sponsors (Delaware, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington) let them know and urge them to take action.
Club Action?	

Bill #/Name/Author	Goldie's Law/ HR 1788/ Rep. Malliotakis, Nicole [R-NY-11] 84 Cosponsors, including 16 from California: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17] Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-32] Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28] Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44] Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]
---------------------------	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26] • Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-9] • Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24] • Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38] • Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49] • Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12] • Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18] • Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30] • Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-19] • Rep. Steel, Michelle [R-CA-45] • Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-39]
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced 03/24/2023, assigned to House Committee on Agriculture • Referred to subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry on 4/25/2023 • Other than additional sponsors, no action has been taken since assignment to committee.
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link to Bill information: https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1788?s=1&r=3&q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+1788%22%5D%7D • Goldie’s Act would allow for seizure or immediate euthanasia of dogs an inspector deems to have experienced “psychological harm”, a term the legislation does not define.
AKC Action Requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKC Page: https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/members-congress-need-hear-opposition-anti-breeder-legislation-call-email-today/ • Ask them to not support advancing the Puppy Protection Act or Goldie’s Act out of committee or in the Farm Bill. Tell them, despite claims being made by animal rights groups, these bills DO impact responsible small breeders.
Club Action?	

Bill #/Name/Author	<p>Puppy Protection Act of 2023/ HR 1624/ Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]</p> <p>195 Cosponsors, including 35 California Co-Sponsors (* is original co-sponsor):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-19]* • Rep. Torres, Norma J. [D-CA-35] • Rep. Gomez, Jimmy [D-CA-34] • Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-21] • Rep. Mullin, Kevin [D-CA-15] • Rep. Jacobs, Sara [D-CA-51] • Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28] • Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-14] • Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30] • Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49] • Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-32]
---------------------------	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44] • Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24] • Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-9] • Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38] • Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2] • Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-10] • Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-7] • Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-50] • Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18] • Rep. Kim, Young [R-CA-40] • Rep. Kiley, Kevin [R-CA-3] • Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-4] • Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46] • Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-39] • Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-6] • Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-8] • Rep. Kamlager-Dove, Sydney [D-CA-37] • Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29] • Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-52] • Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-31] • Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-25] • Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-16] • Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-33] • Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced 03/17/2023, assigned to House Committee on Agriculture • Referred to subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry on 4/19/2023 • Other than additional sponsors, no action has been taken since assignment to committee.
Descriptive Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link to Bill information: https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1624?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22puppy%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=1&overview=open#content • The Puppy Protection Act has been introduced in each of the last two Congresses. Last year, animal rights groups obtained more than 200 sponsors on the bill, vastly over-representing support for the bill and increasing likelihood of passage this year. Your voice is especially important because your Congressman sponsored the bill last year, and has likely been asked by animal rights groups to support it again this year. • 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 take into account 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

	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies to: Anyone subject to USDA breeder/dealer licensing. Breeders are subject to USDA licensing if they maintain more than 4 “breeding females” (a term that is undefined but is generally considered to mean an intact female) and transfer even one of the offspring “sight unseen”. “Breeding females” include any combination of cats, dogs, or other small pet mammals such as hamsters, guinea pigs, etc.
<p>AKC Action Requested</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKC Page: https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/members-congress-need-hear-opposition-anti-breeder-legislation-call-email-today/ • Ask them to not support advancing the Puppy Protection Act or Goldie’s Act out of committee or in the Farm Bill. Tell them, despite claims being made by animal rights groups, these bills DO impact responsible small breeders.
<p>Club Action?</p>	

Regulatory Highlights—Fed, State, Local

- <https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/usda-aphis-proposed-rule-seeks-formalize-african-swine-fever-related-dog-import-requirements/>

The United States Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) is proposing new rules to establish requirements regarding the importation of live dogs for resale, whether through retail or wholesale channels or fee-based adoption, from regions where African Swine Fever (ASF) exists or is reasonably believed to exist. The proposed rules would formalize requirements that have been in place since August 2021. USDA APHIS is also proposing a technical change with regard to microchips.

- **CDC** has extended the current requirements for the import of live dogs from countries at high risk for rabies. For more detail, see <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/index.html>
- USDA APHIS (U S Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) On July 12, USDA APHIS published its 2022 Impact Report, which can be found here https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/aphis_general/2022-impact-report.pdf
- Breed-Specific law information from AKC: <https://www.votervoice.net/AKC/campaigns/94319/respond>