



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB<sup>SM</sup>



Dear Massachusetts Kennel Clubs and Dog Owners:

Our rights as responsible dog owners, fanciers and breeders continue to be threatened. The AKC Government Relations Department is currently tracking over 1,000 bills at the local, state, and federal level that have the potential to threaten the existence of responsible breeders, our right to own the dogs of our choice, and our ability to raise or show the purebred dogs that we have nurtured and struggled to improve and preserve for over 125 years.

As you know, the AKC Government Relations Department works closely with its state federations to address canine legislative issues around the country. Federations play a key role in ensuring that your rights as breeders, exhibitors, and owners are protected. AKC federations are generally comprised of kennel club volunteers and other responsible owners and breeders who care about the well-being of all dogs, the future of purebred dogs, and the right to responsibly own and breed dogs.

The Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners (MassFed) serves as your AKC state federation, working to protect and promote the rights of dog owners, fanciers and breeders in Massachusetts by fighting against breed-specific legislation, restrictive ownership limits and zoning laws, breeding bans, mandatory spay/neuter laws, and homeowner's insurance issues.

MassFed is critical to the entire dog community in Massachusetts as they strive to uphold the tenets of their mission statement:

- To promote and protect the interests of responsible dog owners
- To actively assist or participate in local, state, and national legislation concerning dogs and dog owners
- To bring such legislation to the attention of the membership and to the general public
- To promote responsible dog ownership
- To use all legal means to promote the general welfare of dogs and dog owners
- To disseminate information and knowledge regarding dogs

MassFed officers are happy to speak at club and organizational meetings. To request a speaker or find out more information about MassFed, visit their website at [www.massfeddogs.org](http://www.massfeddogs.org) or e-mail them at [info@massfeddogs.org](mailto:info@massfeddogs.org).

As our rights continue to be threatened, it is essential that we work together with a united voice. We strongly encourage you to support your state federation to help ensure a strong, unified voice for dogs and dog owners in Massachusetts.

Together we can work to preserve our right to own, breed, and exhibit our beloved dogs for years to come.

Sincerely,

Sheila Goffe  
Director of Government Relations