

## **(S1139/HR2669) Pet Animal Welfare Statute - PAWS**

*September 12, 2005*

On May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Senate Bill S1139 was introduced by Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA) and co-sponsored by Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) with the purpose of amending the federal Animal Welfare Act to strengthen the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture to regulate the pet industry.

### 1.) Current Animal Welfare Act (AWA):

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ac/awapdf.pdf>

### 2.) The actual PAWS Senate Bill (S1139) with proposed changes to the Animal Welfare Act:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:s1139is.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_bills&docid=f:s1139is.txt.pdf)

### 3.) Summary of what the PAWS changes to the AWA entail:

- PAWS strengthens the USDA's ability to identify large-scale breeders who sell puppies for resale by requiring retail pet stores and others who acquire dogs for resale to maintain records of where the dogs they are selling were obtained and to provide these records to the USDA upon request.
- The bill also extends the time period that the USDA can suspend the license of a dealer when an animal's health is in imminent danger from the current 21 days to 60 days.
- The bill authorizes the USDA to go to court directly to obtain injunctions against persons violating the law or operating without a license, rather than relying on U.S. attorneys to do so.
- The bill brings under coverage of the AWA high volume retailers and sellers who are not retail pet stores. The PAWS legislation considers breeders who breed 7 or more litters per year and house 25 or more dogs per year to be a High Volume Breeder. Breeders who breed less than 7 litters per year or house fewer than 25 dogs per year will be exempt from legislation.

### 4.) Links to information in support of PAWS:

The AKC has a wealth of information to support their position on PAWS at this link:

[http://www.akc.org/canine\\_legislation/paws\\_QA.cfm](http://www.akc.org/canine_legislation/paws_QA.cfm)

<http://www.dognews.com/sari.html>

<http://www.dognews.com/mandeville.html>

<http://www.dognews.com/holt.html>

[http://santorum.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressOffice.View&ContentRecord\\_id=1311&CFID=21246775&CFTOKEN=15906175](http://santorum.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressOffice.View&ContentRecord_id=1311&CFID=21246775&CFTOKEN=15906175)

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/05219/549485.stm>

## 5.) Links to information in opposition to PAWS:

Groups opposing PAWS (294 as of 9/11/05):

<http://saova.org/1139opponents.html>

[http://www.thedogplace.com/TheDogPress/Columns/Editorials/PAWS\\_and\\_Pause\\_for\\_Thought.asp](http://www.thedogplace.com/TheDogPress/Columns/Editorials/PAWS_and_Pause_for_Thought.asp)

[http://www.thedogplace.com/library/Projects\\_and\\_Issues.htm](http://www.thedogplace.com/library/Projects_and_Issues.htm)

[http://www.thedogplace.com/library/Projects/PAWS\\_Cooke\\_on\\_Case\\_Against.htm](http://www.thedogplace.com/library/Projects/PAWS_Cooke_on_Case_Against.htm)

<http://www.dognews.com/mcgowan.html>

<http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/ThoughtsAboutPAWS.pdf>

[http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/MAPBD\\_Newsletter\\_Editorial\\_J\\_Irvine.pdf](http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/MAPBD_Newsletter_Editorial_J_Irvine.pdf)

[http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/Petletter\\_July05.pdf](http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/Petletter_July05.pdf)

[http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/SantorumRebuttal\\_July\\_27.pdf](http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/SantorumRebuttal_July_27.pdf)

<http://saova.org/1139battaglia.html>

<http://www.cfa.org/exhibitors/alert-US-PAWS-lettertoAKC.html>

<http://www.naiaonline.org/body/articles/SantorumPaws062005.htm>

<http://www.naiaonline.org/body/articles/SantorumPaws062005.htm>

<http://www.dfow.org/hcontents.htm>

<http://ukcdogs.com/forums/showthread.php?s=&threadid=57827>

[http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/NO\\_PAWS.pdf](http://www.ncraoa.com/PDF/NO_PAWS.pdf)

<http://www.contentcanine.com/articles/article/1696175/28488.htm>

I have tried to provide an unbiased view of the PAWS legislation, but I was unable to find an adequate number of links to pro-PAWS sites to include. Most of the pro-PAWS information can be found on the AKC web site. If anyone has a link that they feel has merit that they would like to see included on this page, please email the link to me.

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