

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 418 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY HANNA, BEAR, BEYER, BRENNAN, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, DALEY, DeLUCA, DONATUCCI, ELLIS, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, GEIST, GIBBONS, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HARRIS, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, HOUGHTON, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KRIEGER, MAHONEY, MANN, MENSCH, MILLARD, MOUL, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PARKER, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, PEIFER, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, PYLE, QUINN, READSHAW, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SEIP, SIPTROTH, STABACK, TALLMAN, TRUE, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD AND DELOZIER, JULY 17, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JULY 17, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating the American Kennel Club on the occasion of the
 2 125th anniversary of its founding in the City of Philadelphia
 3 and designating the month of September 2009 as "American
 4 Kennel Club Month" in Pennsylvania.

5 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives takes great pride in
 6 recognizing organizations dedicated to providing for the welfare
 7 of dogs and the strengthening of the human-dog bond; and

8 WHEREAS, On September 17, 1884, a group of 12 dedicated
 9 sportsmen, responding to a "meeting call," met in the rooms of
 10 the Philadelphia Kennel Club at the northeast corner of 13th and
 11 Market Streets; and

12 WHEREAS, Each member of the group was a representative or
 13 delegate from a dog club that had, in the recent past, held a
 14 benched dog show or had run field trials; and

15 WHEREAS, This new "Club of Clubs" was, in fact, the American

1 Kennel Club (AKC); and

2 WHEREAS, The AKC, headquartered in New York City, with an
3 operations center in Raleigh, North Carolina, operates the
4 world's largest registry of purebred dogs, is the nation's
5 leading not-for-profit organization devoted to the advancement,
6 study, responsible breeding, care and ownership of dogs and is
7 the only registry that incorporates health screening results
8 into its permanent dog records; and

9 WHEREAS, The AKC offers the largest and most comprehensive
10 set of DNA programs for the purposes of parentage verification
11 and genetic identity to ensure reliable registration records;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The AKC created and supports the Canine Health
14 Foundation (CHF), which funds research projects focusing on the
15 genetics of disease, the canine genome map and clinical studies
16 and has donated more than \$22 million to the CHF since 1995; and

17 WHEREAS, The AKC approves, sanctions and regulates the events
18 of its 609 member clubs and monitors more than 4,000 licensed
19 and sanctioned clubs throughout the United States which hold
20 events under AKC rules and regulations; and

21 WHEREAS, The AKC in 2008 sanctioned or regulated 22,630
22 sporting events that included breed conformation, agility,
23 obedience, earthdog, herding, field trial, retrieving, pointing,
24 tracking and coonhound events; and

25 WHEREAS, The AKC honors the canine-human bond, advocates for
26 the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health
27 and well-being and works to protect the rights of all dog
28 owners; and

29 WHEREAS, The AKC promotes responsible dog ownership and
30 breeding practices and supports thousands of volunteers and

1 teachers from affiliated clubs across the country that teach
2 responsible dog ownership and safety around dogs; and

3 WHEREAS, The AKC founded and supports the AKC Humane Fund,
4 which promotes the joy and value of responsible pet ownership by
5 supporting breed rescue activities, educating adults and
6 children about responsible dog ownership and by assisting human-
7 services organizations that permit domestic abuse victims access
8 to shelters with their pets; and

9 WHEREAS, The AKC trains and employs kennel inspectors and
10 conducts more than 5,200 kennel inspections each year; and

11 WHEREAS, The AKC promotes responsible dog ownership, care and
12 handling of dogs to more than 21,000 youths 9 to 18 years of age
13 enrolled in its National Junior Organization; and

14 WHEREAS, The AKC established the AKC Canine Good Citizen
15 program, which certifies dogs with good manners at home and in
16 the community; and

17 WHEREAS, The AKC created and operates DOGNY - America's
18 Tribute to Search and Rescue Dogs, which supports canine search
19 and rescue organizations across the United States; and

20 WHEREAS, The AKC annually awards \$170,000 in scholarships to
21 veterinary and veterinary technical students; and

22 WHEREAS, The AKC has reunited more than 340,000 lost pets and
23 their owners through the AKC Companion Animal Recovery Program;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, The AKC maintains the world's largest dog library
26 and the Museum of the Dog in St. Louis, which houses one of the
27 world's largest collections of dog-related fine art and
28 artifacts, both of which are open to the public; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate the
30 American Kennel Club on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of

1 its founding in the City of Philadelphia and designate the month
2 of September 2009 as "American Kennel Club Month" in
3 Pennsylvania; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the House of
5 Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania transmit
6 copies of this resolution to the American Kennel Club, 260
7 Madison Avenue, New York, New York.