**SMKC Legislative Report June 10, 2017 General Meeting**

**HB334**  As of Oct 1, 2017, a kennel license must be obtained if you own 6 unspayed females over 6 months for the purpose of breeding and selling their offspring OR you sell dogs from 6 or more litters in a year.

**HB781** As of Oct 1, 2017,pet stores can’t get animals from anyone with citations or violations. Each cage must include all info how they got the animals.

**SB441**  As of July 1, 2017, eligible veterans can now get training if they wish to participate in the Service Dog Program.

**HB216**  As of Oct 1, 2017, veterinarians are immune to any liability during emergency care when an owner is not available to grant permission.

**HB1463** As of Oct 1, 2017, a veterinarian is required to report anyone suspected of being cruel to or using any animal for fighting. They will contact their animal control agency or any appropriate law enforcement officer.

In relation to the current H3N2 influenza going around, as of November, 2014, the USDA  (United States Department of Agriculture) banned the importation of puppies 6 months and under.   Any other animal must be vaccinated and have health clearance certificates to be allowed in the country.   Yes, these probably can be black marketed; but laws are in place to insure the health of imported animals.

There is an article at [www.veterinarypracticenews.com](http://www.veterinarypracticenews.com)   titled Canine Influenza Virus 2017: Beyond Two Show Dogs.   It simplifies and tries to make the reader proactive in helping to minimize the spread of the virus.

Senator Addie Eckhardt would certainly make our voices heard.  Email her at Adelaide.eckhardt@senate.state.md.us   .

Thank you for your concern and participation in our Great Club, Your Legislative Liaison, Diane Horowitz