



## Legislative News Update

This is a summary of Legislative News that we are following as we come to the end of 2025. IBPSA is proud to have provided hands-on legislative support for our membership this year and we'll keep it rolling in 2026! We're here to help you stay on top of what could affect you, as well as offer our assistance in educating your legislators on the facts of owning and operating a safe and prosperous pet care business.

### Alabama: HB569

This bill died in committee. It would have required a veterinarian or technician to be on-site during operating hours at certain boarding and grooming facilities.

### Colorado: PACFA Review

The State of Colorado recently conducted a sunset review of the Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act (PACFA)—to evaluate whether the current regulation of pet care facilities continues to serve the public interest. The report has been issued which recommends that PACFA be extended for 15 years. The findings will be reported during oral testimony in 2026.

### Florida: SB150 ("Trooper's Law")

This new law makes it a third-degree felony to restrain and abandon a dog outdoors during a declared natural disaster or at any time during a mandatory or voluntary evacuation order. The law went into effect on October 1, 2025.

## Maine: SB1771

This bill took effect on September 24, 2025, strengthening the oversight of kennels by shifting the Licensing Authority from Municipalities to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

## Massachusetts: Multiple Bills

**HB1817** - Pending Joint Judiciary Hearing as of February 27, 2025. This bill would standardize consideration of pets in divorce and separation; including division of costs, custody and control.

**HB4564** - an Act to Increase Kennel Safety, ("Ollie's Law"), went into effect in December 2024. The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources is now working with an advisory committee to create standards and enact regulations for commercial boarding and training kennels, including dog daycares. IBPSA is on this committee, meetings are ongoing.

**SB1263** ("Crawford's Law") is awaiting a date for hearing. This would be an amendment including tort limits for the reckless death of a cat or dog. IBPSA will be monitoring the outcomes of this meeting.

**Massachusetts Superior Court Ruling on Non-Compete Agreements** came in September, 2025. For a brief summary of the ruling and a refresher on MA non-compete laws, [read here](#).

## Minnesota: Local Regulation for Shakopee

The Shakopee City Council approved a slate of rules governing dog boarding and day care businesses in residential areas. Under the proposed ordinance revisions, people who temporarily care for canines for profit must obtain a permit, comply with city inspections and limit their charges to a maximum of four dogs.

## Nevada: Assembly Bill A418

This bill passed June 6, 2025. It requires each city council or other governing body of an incorporated city to adopt an ordinance requiring the owner or operator of a kennel, an animal rescue organization that handles pets or a commercial establishment engaged in the business of handling pets, including, without limitation, a breeder, a cattery, a retailer,

a pet groomer or a dealer, to complete (biannually) a training course on handling pets in a manner prescribed by the city council or other governing body of the incorporated city.

### **New Hampshire: SB50**

A working committee to study the regulation of private animal boarding facilities has filed its report, but it is not yet published.

### **New Jersey: S4804**

This bill was referred to the Senate Economic Growth Committee on November 6, 2025. This legislation would require all pet shops, grooming facilities, and pet daycares to install and maintain video monitoring systems.

### **New York: A9123**

This bill was referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee on September 26, 2025. This legislation would provide for the licensing, inspection and regulation of animal boarding kennels; authorizing the department of agriculture and markets to license, inspect and regulate animal boarding kennels.

### **North Carolina: S275**

This bill was referred to committee on March 13, 2025. It would deregulate small boarding kennels by limiting permitting & requirements to boarding kennels providing services to six or more animals.

### **Pennsylvania: HB693**

This bill has been introduced and was referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs on February 21, 2025. It would require all kennels to have the same regulations as commercial kennels.

### **Rhode Island: SB34**

This bill has been referred to the Senate Finance Committee on May 1, 2025 for further study. It would remove sales tax on pet care services.

## Texas: HB4777

This bill was referred to committee on April 24, 2025 and left pending in committee. IBPSA submitted a letter of opposition. The bill would penalize commercial boarding facilities for loss of life or injury of pets in their care to include pain and suffering

## Virginia: HB2313/SB1051

This bill convened a working group to determine licensing requirements for boarding facilities. The first meeting of the new working group in Virginia for HB2313 went really well and there were a lot of voices heard. Your fellow IBPSA Member, Sami Engle, attended on IBPSA's behalf and reports that while everyone seems to be in agreement that a state license would be good, it is not looking like inspections are going to be able to move forward for a number of reasons. The next meeting will be in the spring. Thank you, Sami, for representing IBPSA!

## United States

**HB4057** has been introduced. It would establish a pilot program on home kenneling of canines for U.S. Customs and Border Protections Office of Field Operations, and for other purposes.

**New U.S. Employment Laws Taking Effect January 1, 2026.** You can read a summary by state [here](#).

**If you have any questions or comments about any legislation, or if you know of something local that you would like us to review, please reach out to us at [ceo@ibpsa.com](mailto:ceo@ibpsa.com).**



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