



The NLRC was organized in 1996 with the idea of creating a national club that would preserve and promote the Labrador Retriever. Everyone in the Labrador community is welcome...from pet owners to old timers.

We are a National Lab Club formed by the members, for the members, working together for the preservation and protection of the Labrador Retriever.

THE LABRADOR CONNECTION

Spring 2022 ELECTRONIC EDITION

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Dog Legislation Needs You to Help Stop It!

A new "Dog and Cat Bill of Rights" being considered to be enacted into law in California is presently being opposed by the American Kennel Club, the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and the Animal Health Institute (AHI).

The three organizations joined together to make a joint public statement opposing the proposed California Assembly Bill 1881, also known as the "Dog and Cat Bill of Rights" which is authored by California State Representative Miguel Santiago and the Assembly Business and Professions Committee.

California Assembly Bill 1881 has the three groups concerned because the bill could affect a pet owner and the veterinarian's right to make healthcare decisions for their animals. The bill will create a shift in a pet's legal status in California that could cause future unintended consequences.

The bill is reputed to be a list of rights but the bill sets the stage for a shift in the legal status of animals in the state of California. Currently, pets are considered property which gives owners the responsibility for the animal's care and well-being.

The AKC has many concerns, including but not limited to:

- Vague statements in the bill that include protection of a dog's mental and emotional well-being. (terms that are unclear and not defined).
- Statements that dogs have the "right to be spayed or neutered" without consideration to exhibitors, responsible breeders or the health of every dog.
- Statements using the word, "guardian" which implies an intent to alter the legal status of animals by using terms usually reserved for use with people.

The AKC urges that dog owners contact the author of Bill 1881 with the below talking points:

- We agree that dog owners have a responsibility to care for their animals and ensure their health and safety. Instead of enacting more laws, the focus should be on education and enforcement.
 - Referencing "rights" will do nothing to promote responsible dog ownership or the health and wellness of dogs, but instead could undermine the current legal status of animals.
 - A goal to provide guidelines to new pet owners should be just that, a list of guidelines and responsibilities...not "rights" to be afforded to pets nor should guidelines be enforced as law.
 - Vague terms such as, "protecting a dog from anxiety and preserving mental well-being could imply that visits to the veterinarian are stressful to an animal. Those vague terms should be removed from the bill's language.
 - For a full list of talking points provided by the AKC, visit akc.org and search for "Bill 1881."
- California Assembly Bill 1881 passed on May 25, 2022 and is headed for the senate next. Please make your opinions count. For more information, contact the AKC at doglaw@akc.org

Hawaii loses Labrador Breeder, Sandra Scarr

Sandra Scarr, born August 8, 1936 and who was an active member of the National Labrador Retriever Club, has passed away last October 8, 2021.

Scarr, born in Washington, DC was the first female to be a full professor of professor of psychology at Yale University. Scarr was also a professor of psychology at the University of Minnesota, the University of Virginia and the University of Pennsylvania.

Scarr was a pioneer in the study of intellectual development. Scarr's research in twin and adoption studies examining the heritability of intelligence and the impact of family environment on IQ included the Minnesota Transracial Adoption Study and the Minnesota Adolescent Adoption Study, both co-led with fellow researcher Richard Weinberg.

Scarr was named the 1993's recipient of the APS James McKeen Cattell Award. Scarr retired to Hawaii in 1997 where she bred Labrador Retrievers until her passing in 2021 on her coffee farm in Holualoa, located on the big island of Hawaii.

Please feel
free to forward
our
newsletter to
interested
family and
friends

*We Support Studies and
Grants that benefit the
Labrador Retriever*

NLRC Membership -- Open Enrollment

Membership in the National Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. is open to all Labrador enthusiasts; however, to join you must be in good standing with the American Kennel Club, Inc. and should consider the guidelines set forth in the [NLRC Code of Ethics](#) when engaged in any activities involving the breeding, exhibiting and selling of Labrador Retrievers.

Two types of annual individual memberships are offered:

Full (voting member)	\$30
Associate (non-voting)	\$20

Click the below links for NLRC

Membership forms:

[NLRC Membership Application Form \(that can be printed and mailed in with your membership fee\)](#)

Or to both apply and pay online

[NLRC Membership Application](#)

Are you listed in our [NLRC Breeders Directory](#)?

NLRC Members with full membership rights can ap-

ply to participate on the NLRC website Breeder Directory by completing the applicable section on the PDF membership application and submitting a \$10 fee.

Any questions? Contact our Interim Membership Chair:
Sandra Underhill
Sandy@LabsToLove.com

New Members Welcomed
Apply Online Today

Checking Canine Sperm Counts—Do it at home kit available!

There could be numerous reasons why you'd want to do a sperm analysis on your stud dog's semen and sometimes there could be just as many reasons why getting your stud dog to the reproductive veterinarian's office in a timely manner may not be possible.

Now there's an economical way to pre-screen your stud dog's sperm for motility easily at home in minutes.

PetCount Sperm Quality Test for Dogs measures the progressive motile sperm cells per milliliter (mL).

A comparative look at the PetCount Sperm Quality test for dogs was done. First, a veterinarian evaluated a sperm sample from an 7-year-old dog, collected by the veterinarian without the use of a teaser. The dog provided 3.5ml of opalescent/thin ejaculate with 75% motility and a count of 335 million. The result is considered a low result.

Seven days later, the same dog was collected again for a comparative test using the PetCount Sperm Quality test. The sperm collected, also without a teaser, totaled 8ml of opalescent/thin ejaculate.

Following the instructions on the PetCount Sperm Quality Test for Dogs, the sperm sample containing only the first two fractions of the ejaculation was stirred 10x with the included syringe to get a homogeneous sample. With the test cassette on a horizontal surface, 0.5ml of the sperm collection was slowly added to well number 1. The slider on the test cassette was pushed forward to activate the device. The action window changed to indicate to the user that the next step was to wait 30 minutes.

After 30 minutes in a horizontal position, the slider was pulled back. The action window changed to a magnifying glass that prompts the user to check the result window, the result was a visible very light purple.

When the result window's color intensity is light purple, or LOW, the concentration of progressive motile sperm is determined to be less than 210million/ml. A result of LOW means that the progressive motile sperm count is below the normal level for fertile dogs.

The PetCount Sperm Quality Test for Dogs has two chambers in the test cassette. Sperm cells must be able to swim in a straight line so only PMSCs (Progressive Motile Sperm Counts) and morphologically "normal" sperm cells can successfully move from one chamber and into the second chamber of the test cassette.

Once in the second chamber of the test cassette, the PMSCs are stained with a dye that produces the color in the result window. The more PMSCs in the sample of the second chamber, the darker the purple color will be. The test cassette measures the number PMSCs per ml in the semen sample. This is called the concentration of PMSCs/ml. The PetCount Sperm Quality Test for Dogs result with the 7-year-old Dog's sperm was the lightest of purple; a low result which matches the veterinarians evaluation of the dog's previous sperm sample.

PetCount Sperm Quality tests are distributed and sold by www.CanineP4.com Click on SPERM ANALYSIS.





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The National Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. exists for the preservation and protection of the breed, to encourage education of the general public who may want to add a Labrador to their family and to meet a social responsibility to its members, the general public, and the Labrador world in particular. To this end, we adopted a Code of Ethics to serve as a guide.

Our Newsletter, The Labrador Connection, is published by the club periodically when sufficient material is received. The Labrador Connection's newest electronic issue is emailed to members when it is published and all issues may be viewed online at any time.

Visit our website online at www.NationalLabradorRetrieverClub.com

