



## PIJAC Welcomes New President

**P**IJAC's Board of Directors and staff recently welcomed our new President, Pamela Stegeman. Pamela joins PIJAC after several years as Vice President of the Grocery Manufacturers Association where she created marketing, sponsorship, and government outreach systems. While at GMA, Pamela led her team to become a primary resource in the consumer goods industry for knowledge, advocacy, and global issue leadership. Pamela's other previous experience includes positions with Procter & Gamble, Colgate Palmolive and Sprint.

With the addition of Pamela, the role of President of the Board, currently held by Elwyn Segrest of Segrest Farms, has been re-named Chairman of the Board, and

Marshall Meyers's title has been changed from Executive Vice President and General Counsel to CEO and General Counsel. There are no plans for Marshall to leave PIJAC, and he will continue leading PIJAC's government affairs activities with the expertise and skill he has lent to the pet industry for the past thirty-eight years. Elwyn noted, "Pamela's and Marshall's efforts will be complementary, building on our rich history to strengthen PIJAC as we move ahead."

Describing Pamela, Elwyn added, "In choosing Pamela, I strongly believe we have found a skilled, energetic leader who will invigorate our members and reinforce PIJAC's important role in our industry."

Marshall observed, "Pamela brings a much needed dimension to PIJAC. Her

strong background in marketing and management includes vast experience with a wide variety of issues facing the non-profit and profit arenas."

The PIJAC staff and Board of Directors are excited to have Pamela and welcome her to the team! ■



**Pamela Stegeman, PIJAC's New President**  
Photo: Jamie K. Reaser

### PIJAC: WORKING FOR YOU

## Pennsylvania: A Snapshot of Dog Legislation Trends

**P**ennsylvania has been in the legislative spotlight this year, due to an aggressive campaign by Governor Edward Rendell to establish new kennel requirements and enforcement powers. Receiving national media attention, this initiative's evolution from proposed regulation, to legislative bill, to signed law has a long history, and PIJAC was in the thick of it from the beginning, representing the entire pet industry throughout the almost two-year process and helping to defeat some of the most troublesome proposals in the process.

In late 2006, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture introduced major revisions to the Dog Law Regulations that included sweeping new standards that deviated from established federal law under the

Animal Welfare Act and gave the Department far-reaching authority. In response, PIJAC submitted detailed comments on behalf of the pet industry outlining our strong opposition to the proposals. Even animal shelters shared a number of our concerns and voiced similar objections to the proposals.

PIJAC's government affairs team joined with other concerned groups and formed a coalition to maximize influence in the process. Working with the American Kennel Club (AKC), the Pennsylvania Dog Breeders Association, the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, and the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs, PIJAC succeeded in having the proposed regulations withdrawn. PIJAC and other members of the coalition met

with several staff members in the Department of Agriculture and the independent regulatory review commission, as well as staff from both the House and Senate committees that oversee Dog Law regulations in Pennsylvania. PIJAC's written comments, testimony, and on-the-ground work with the legislators and regulators in Pennsylvania not only helped bring about withdrawal of the regulation but helped shape the legislation that followed. The independent regulatory review commission later issued a report criticizing the proposed regulation that included objections from PIJAC's submitted comments. PIJAC, working with our partners in Pennsylvania, eliminated

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## Dog Legislation Trends

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the threat of extreme provisions that were far worse than the final provisions in the signed law. These eliminated provisions included, among several others:

- allowing new administrative fines without the opportunity to correct cited deficiencies,
- inflexible mandates that would have required extensive renovations of facilities,
- unreasonably extensive record-keeping requirements, and
- authority for the Department of Agriculture to obtain a search warrant whenever they believe it is “necessary.”

Early in 2008, Governor Edward G. Rendell’s administration, working with the Department of Agriculture, introduced new legislation – House Bill 2525 – to replace the proposed regulations that had by that time become all but defeated. PIJAC was closely involved in reforming poor provisions of the initial drafts and integral to making further changes to the introduced bill; we, along with our coalition partners, worked with the bill sponsors to shape the text of the bill. Through these repeated and extensive meetings, PIJAC successfully addressed concerns we had and kept many provisions that would be detrimental to the industry out of the proposed bill. The administration insisted, however, on keeping some other provisions in the bill that PIJAC strongly opposed.

Once the new bill was introduced, PIJAC’s team met with various staff members of the House and Senate Agricultural Committees to discuss problems that still remained with the bill and proposed amendments to correct them. Over several months, we participated in meetings and discussions on all provisions of the bill affecting breeders. We worked with the other groups as well as a well-respected lobbyist who specializes in agricultural interests (Pugilese Associates). PIJAC has a retainer with Pugilese to work on issues in Pennsylvania, but this project demanded increased investment by PIJAC as it went well above and beyond the parameters of the retainer. PIJAC remained involved every step of the way, reviewing proposed amendments and revised versions of the bill.

Ultimately, timing threatened passage of HB 2525. The end of the legislative session was approaching and the bill was being held up due to specific objections from PIJAC and the other groups in the coalition. The coalition was ready to stipulate Governor Rendell’s administration either acquiesce on the breeder issues or be forced to start fresh with a new bill in the next session. On the brink of this success, our efforts were sabotaged by the actions of a lone breeder. A gentleman in Pennsylvania, feeling he had been harassed by the Department of Agriculture and concerned about legal repercussions, decided to euthanize 80 dogs by shooting

them. This garnered national media attention and outrage, demanding the Rendell administration force the bill’s passage. With elections coming soon and public focus on Pennsylvania from this incident, as well as the earlier Oprah Winfrey program investigating illegal breeding facilities in Lancaster County, legislators were fearful of the backlash they would receive if they were to vote against the bill. Governor Rendell quickly signed the bill into law on October 10, the same day it passed in the Pennsylvania state Senate. With one ill-informed act, the political leverage that was achieved through the groundwork PIJAC and the coalition had laid was lost. As a result, some provisions that PIJAC and its partners strongly opposed remained in the bill.

While the final bill was not what PIJAC hoped it would be, the long process leading up to it was not a wasted effort, as many of the egregious provisions that the coalition objected to were ultimately eliminated.

As other states take up the call to impose greater restrictions on the pet trade, PIJAC will continue to work for the interest of all constituents in the pet industry on these and the many other issues that impact your ability to do business. It is up to members of the pet industry, however, to act responsibly toward animals and their owners in order to give PIJAC the credibility it needs when going before legislative bodies and opposing bills that may put you out of business. ■

## PIJAC Applauds Rodie's Certified Avian Specialists

**P**IJAC is pleased to recognize the accomplishments of the staff at Rodie’s Feed and Country store in Clayton, California. Rodie’s currently has seven staff members who are PIJAC Certified Avian Specialists, well above the state requirement of two certified employees for a store its size.

Rodie’s, opened by Bob Rodenburg 28 years ago as a feed store, has grown exponentially under the leadership of co-owner Sarah Rodenburg. The 20-acre campus now includes an animal adoption center and a nursery for unweaned birds as well as the retail store. Mrs. Rodenburg began running the business two years ago, and immediately added an educational focus.

Ensuring professional handling of the birds at Rodie’s is paramount: they continually add care protocols, are retaining the regular services of veterinarian Deborah Aparicio, D.V.M., and have hosted several educational seminars.

When asked why they wanted to be PIJAC-certified, employees offered varied reasons. Staff member Ron Gray replied, “It’s a chance to learn more about the needs and characteristics of each individual bird. It’s a challenge and an ongoing learning experience, in addition to being fun and rewarding.” Michael Fuhrer added, “I have always wanted to work with animals. Now, working with the birds at Rodie’s, I am

truly inspired.”

Stephen Pedersen, a senior at Clayton Valley High School, began taking care of birds when he was 10 years old and views his PIJAC certification as the first step towards his goal of pursuing avian medicine in college. Denise Knight-Trevor came to Rodie’s already PIJAC-certified and is enjoying the opportunity to learn more in the hands-on environment Rodie’s provides. Other Certified Avian Specialists at Rodie’s include Monica Lowery, Rickie Słominski, and Mrs. Rodenburg.

Mrs. Rodenburg invests in those interested in working with animals early. Rodie’s offers an opportunity for local children to

# California Pet Store Animal Care Act Goes into Effect January 1

A landmark piece of legislation for pet retailers, California Assembly Bill 1347, goes into effect on January 1, 2009. This new law was developed through a strategic partnership between California state legislators and a cross-section of the pet industry, including PIJAC, PetSmart and PETCO, independent retailers, as well as breeders of birds and reptiles.

As of January 1, pet stores in California will need to comply with several new requirements intended to establish practical standards that best meet pet animals' needs. PIJAC recently published an Update summarizing the new requirements.

Every pet store that sells live companion animals and fish in California will need a documented program for:

- routine care;
- preventative care;
- emergency care;
- disease control and prevention;
- veterinary treatment; and
- euthanasia.

This program must be established and maintained in consultation with a licensed veterinarian employed by the pet store or a California-licensed veterinarian, to ensure adherence to the program with respect to each animal. The program shall also include a documented on-site visit to the

pet store premises by a California-licensed veterinarian at least once a year.

Pet stores will also have new recordkeeping requirements. Each pet store operator will be required to maintain written records of all veterinary visits to the pet store. Veterinary treatment records must be kept for each animal or group of animals that receives medications or immunizations while in the care of the pet store. The records must include summaries of direction received orally from a veterinarian, as well as the following:

- Identification of the animal or group of animals receiving medical treatment;
- Name of the medication or immunization used;
- Amount of medication used; and
- Time and date on which the medication or immunization was administered.

Pet stores must provide these records, upon request, to a person who purchases a cat or dog, or any individually housed animal. Records must also be kept for identification purposes of the person(s) from whom the animals in the pet store were acquired, including that person's name, address, and telephone number, and the date the animal was acquired. All records must be maintained by the pet store for two years from the date of disposition of the animal.

Pet stores will also be responsible for providing an animal return policy to purchasers at the time of sale, either through

in-store signs or handouts. If a store does not offer a return policy, it must inform the customer about no returns.

Husbandry issues are also covered in the new code sections. Pet stores will be expected to maintain and abide by written animal husbandry procedures that address the following:

- animal care;
- management and safe handling;
- disease prevention and control;
- routine care;
- preventative care;
- emergency care;
- veterinary treatment;
- euthanasia; and
- disaster planning, evacuation, and recovery that is applicable to the location of the pet store.

These procedures must be reviewed with employees who provide animal care and be present in writing, either electronically or physically, in the store and made available to all store employees.

This new law covers detailed standards for pet stores that sell live companion animals and fish. The new standards cover everything from caging to animal handling to enrichment, but they do not replace existing laws on unweaned birds, dogs and cats. PIJAC is preparing Best Management Practices that will be distributed to retailers in California to help ensure they are in compliance with the new law.

Please visit the Breaking News page at [www.pijac.org](http://www.pijac.org) to see the complete *PIJAC Update*, as well as the text of the new law. ■

play with the birds – giving the kids the benefit of learning about birds and how to care for them properly, and giving the birds the benefit of close human contact and socialization.

Nancy Knutson, PIJAC's Director of Administration and Certification, notes the Rodie's staff exemplifies how PIJAC's certification programs benefit the pet industry and the animals. "An educated staff creates an educated consumer," Knutson observes. "The Rodie's staff knows this well, and takes their task to heart, bringing PIJAC's mission to life for the pet industry, the customers, and the animals."

PIJAC congratulates Mrs. Rodenburg and all of the Certified Avian Specialists at Rodie's Feed and Country store for illustrating the great professionalism and pride of those in the pet industry. ■



**Certified Avian Specialists at Rodie's Feed and Country Store**  
Front: Sarah Rodenburg, Monica Lowery, Denise Knight-Trevor, Rickie Slominski  
Back: Stephen Pedersen, Michael Fuhrer, Ron Gray

# Education/Certification News

**Congratulations to the following people who recently earned PIJAC Animal Specialist Credentials. If you're interested in PIJAC's Certification program, please visit our website at [www.pijac.org](http://www.pijac.org). For additional information, please contact Nancy Knutson at 202-452-1525 or email Nancy at [Nancy@pijac.org](mailto:Nancy@pijac.org).**

## AVIAN (CAS)


Adams, Heather Oceanside, CA	Brandenburg, Alan M. Menifee, CA	Del La Cruz, Albert C. Oxnard, CA	Garcia, Christie Thousand Oaks, CA	Henderson, Emily Ventura, CA	Laurian, Everardo Daly City, CA
Adams, Westley J. Hollister, CA	Brewster, Tina Rialto, CA	Delao II, Gil A. San Juan Bautista, CA	Garcia, Daniel P. Hemet, CA	Hennig, Sherry Kay La Habra Heights, CA	Ledbetter, Niccole Marina, CA
Afzal, Zayn Long Beach, CA	Brodkorb, Geoff Anaheim, CA	Delgado, Josue Lompoc, CA	Garcia, Oscar Van Nuys, CA	Henry, Ryan Tustin, CA	LeDoux, Keith San Jose, CA
Ahlerich, Celes Grand Terrace, CA	Brooks, Marty Vallejo, CA	Dennis, Amber L. Dublin, CA	Garcia, Walter Los Angeles, CA	Hill, Shannon M. Riverside, CA	Lee, Rick Lake Forest, CA
Albrecht, Libby El Cajon, CA	Brown, Cynthia L. Beverly Hills, CA	Dichov, Jessica Concord, CA	Gardei, Ginger San Jose, CA	Hillman, Richard Mesa, AZ	Leithiser, Erin Ventura, CA
Alexopoulos, Pete Burlingame, CA	Brown, Hannah Northridge, CA	Diosdado, Marylou Montclair, CA	Gardin, Charlie San Jose, CA	Hillman, Sarah Mesa, AZ	Lemus, Jennifer Carolina San Pablo, CA
Allen, June J. Lincoln, CA	Burns, Kathleen Desert Hot Springs, CA	Diyarza, Gonzalo Canoga Park, CA	Gaytan, Rachel Stephanie Pasadena, CA	Holland, Melanie Lake Elsinore, CA	Leo, Warner San Miguel, CA
Allison, Duane Vista, CA	Byrd, Kevin Thousand Oaks, CA	Dobson, Denise N. Highlands, CA	Genjar, Rebecca San Ramon, CA	Homemann, Rebecca L. Santa Barbara, CA	Leone Joanne Salem, NH
Alzahir Soliman, Aminah Jacksonville, FL	Byrd, Shawna Richmond, CA	Dominguez Jr., Ignacio South Gate, CA	Gernacia-Brown, Jeremiah Scott Northridge, CA	Houston, David K. Oceanside, CA	Leonhardt, Lisa Marie Stanton, CA
Amesola, Blanca Los Angeles, CA	Cagle, Jacquelyn Salinas, CA	Dossey, Jeremy Antioch, CA	Gietz, Theresa Lynne Spokane, WA	Howard, Da'Shon Victorville, CA	Leopardo, Samuel Novato, CA
Anderson, Aaron Camarillo, CA	Campbell, Tim Clearlake, CA	Douglas, Ashley Roseville, CA	Gillihar, Jeff Pittsburg, CA	Huerta, Esmerelda Pomona, CA	Lewis, Cathrine Mission Hills, CA
Anderson, Lindsay Santa Rosa, CA	Cangiano, Jeff Vista, CA	Drake, Judy Ann Daly City, CA	Goettman, James R. Buena Park, CA	Iniego, Edward San Bruno, CA	Lien, Rebecca Glendale, CA
Avalos, Miguel Turlock, CA	Chafin, Larry Highland, CA	Drake, Sean Castro Valley, CA	Gomez, Andre San Jose, CA	Jackson, April Live Oak, CA	Lindsay, Chris Fullerton, CA
Baillie, Marie C. Citrus Heights, CA	Chicas, Jose C. Los Angeles, CA	Drummond, Laurel Pleasanton, CA	Gonzales, Andres E. Los Angeles, CA	Jessee, Vickey L. Mesa, AZ	Long, Stephanie C. Visalia, CA
Bailey, Jennie Lompoc, CA	Chittenden, Katie Palm Springs, CA	Dunlap, Crystal Lynn Palm Springs, CA	Gonzales, Justin M. Modesto, CA	Johnson, Sally Antioch, CA	Longwell, Jeffrey Anderson, CA
Balmes, Jason Carlsbad, CA	Clingenpeel, Jessica Petaluma, CA	Dye, Marvin Pacifica, CA	Grable, Ashley Montar Granada Hills, CA	Joslin, April M. Alta, CA	Lopez, David Van Nuys, CA
Barbella, Larry San Jose, CA	Coburn, Robert San Jose, CA	Ealba, Nattie Romead, CA	Grandstaff, Denae Santa Clara, CA	Joyner, Jimmie Indio, CA	Lopez, Sal Navarro Cudahy, CA
Bassett, Gerrett D. San Diego, CA	Collorafi, Christopher Scarsdale, NY	Edge, Barbara Hill City, SD	Greer, Catherine E. Vacaville, CA	Juarez, Susana Cudahy, CA	Lott, Kenneth San Pablo, CA
Beam, Katie Ann Danville, CA	Colmenares, Alberto Pinole, CA	Edwards, Toni San Miguel, CA	Grether, Fern San Jose, CA	Kapeliela, Gabriel Huntington Beach, CA	Luong, Minh San Jose, CA
Bermudez, Brian Santa Ana, CA	Colon, Darlene Fleitas Vallejo, CA	Estrada, John K. Irvine, CA	Griffith, Chris Huntington Beach, CA	Kennedy, Diana L. San Pedro, CA	Madison, Katherine Martell, CA
Bernard, Mary Jo San Jose, CA	Coppenbarger, Otto Rancho Santa Margarita, CA	Feeder, Bob Valencia, CA	Habersham, Terri Jo Camarillo, CA	Magee, Shana LaQuinta, CA	Magee, Shana LaQuinta, CA
Bierman, Colleen Glendale, CA	Cordova, Christian E. Lynwood, CA	Fitchett, Monica Noel Escondido, CA	Haertling, Dea Montclair, CA	Kiet, Sherry Y. San Jose, CA	Magallanes, Ashleigh X. Montclair, CA
Blackwell, William Fontana, CA	Cox, Jennifer San Diego, CA	Flanagan, Dolores Santa Barbara, CA	Hall, Rebecca Ann Palm Springs, CA	Kirksey, Natalie Marie Corona, CA	Makela, Phillip Ryan Santa Cruz, CA
Bleach, Carmen R. Hanford, CA	Crociani, Jason Susun City, CA	Flores, Marissa Los Angeles, CA	Hallberg, Justine West Hills, CA	Kirsch, Jennifer Renee Perris, CA	Manrique-Fowler, Joelle Antelope, CA
Boettcher, Nikki Lake Forest, CA	Crocker, Heather Vallejo, CA	Fortin, Lenni Huntington Beach, CA	Hamm, Kelly Ann Vacaville, CA	Kluch, Natalie Daly City, CA	Manzi, Marlene Vista, CA
Boldrini, Nancy J. Sacramento, CA	Curry, Brian Robert Ontario, CA	Fox, Shelly Rocklin, CA	Hansen, Carroll Santa Ana, CA	Kougher, Miranda A. Corona, CA	Marengo, Gabrielle Ben Lomond, CA
Bonner, Kristen Lake Elsinore, CA	Cushingham, Sherry Oroville, CA	Freer, Brittan Daly City, CA	Hanson, Joe Live Oak, CA	Kretowicz, Kalina Sanlee, CA	Marshall, Carmen Roxana Loudonville, NY
Bosche, Frank San Jose, CA	D'Auria, Angel East Orange, NJ	Fuhrer, Michael Concord, CA	Hassler, Kenneth Rohnert Park, CA	LaRuque, Richard San Jose, CA	Marshall, Kierstein Concord, CA
Boykins, Juanita D. Richmond, CA	Dalton, Lester San Rafael, CA	Galante, Daniela Reseda, CA	Helton, Brandi Jo Banning, CA	Landon, Brenda Vallejo, CA	Martinez, Richard A. Stockton, CA
	Danielecki, Kaitlin Hamden, CT	Galvins, Daniel Turlock, CA		Landry, Brady Dove Canyon, CA	Mason, Nanette Ontario, CA
				Laubach, Robert D. Hercules, CA	

Mather, Dale A. Huntington Beach, CA	Olsen, Karen Citrus Heights, CA	Rios, David Indio, CA	Swank, Cheryl Mt. Eden, CA	Waggoner, DeAnn K. Red Oak, TX
Matthews-Lopez, Kristine Oxnard, CA	Olsen, Ryan Citrus Heights, CA	Robles, Elisa Marie Fullerton, CA	Taylor, Lisa Huntington Beach, CA	Wallace, Dale Rancho Cordova, CA
Maulorico, Tracy L. Lake Forest, CA	Olszewski, Peter Rushland, PA	Robinson, Heath Pasadena, CA	Taylor, Marissa Thousand Oaks, CA	Wallace, Josh Stockton, CA
McAfee, Jesse Edward Stanton, CA	Oria, John Rudolph Los Angeles, CA	Rodriguez, Christine Watsonville, CA	Tercero, Sandra A. Long Beach, CA	Welker, Kathy Lompoc, CA
McCarthy, Kevin B. Garden Grove, CA	Ortiz, Melissa Middle Village, NY	Roe, Michael Upland, CA	Thaete, Robert Irvine, CA	Wenkel, Nancy G. Marina, CA
McBride, Lourene Atascadero, CA	Ostroff, Allyson L. Torrance, CA	Rosse, William T. Sacramento, CA	Tiede, Ashley K. Los Angeles, CA	Wiggins, Tabatha Manteca, CA
McKnight, Monica L. Los Gatos, CA	Paduano, Marge South Attleboro, MA	Rost, Marjorie Bakersfield, CA	Tigri, Matt Vacaville, CA	Wilbur, David Santa Maria, CA
Melanese, Brandon San Diego, CA	Pakdivichit, Amber Costa Mesa, CA	Ruelas, Heather Lake Elsinore, CA	Tobar, Ana Cecilia Lake Forest, CA	Wilkins, Donald L. Stockton, CA
Melero, Raymond Oswald, CA	Park Jr., Clyde Douglas Novato, CA	Ruffino, Susan Pleasant Hill, CA	Tonga, Isalei Atascadero, CA	Wilkinson, Jyl Napa, CA
Moi, Leah Concord, CA	Parker, Michelle Marysville, CA	Ruiz, Sharon San Diego, CA	Treto, David M. Bakersfield, CA	Williams, D. Ceabron Thomaston, GA
Monroy, Vanessa Mission Hills, CA	Pasero, Angelina San Francisco, CA	Russell, Thomas Montrose, CA	Triantafelo, Georgia West Allis, WI	Williams, Donovan Brad Redding, CA
Montalvo, Mark Joseph Watsonville, CA	Patterson, Annalyse Benicia, CA	Rygg, David Sacramento, CA	Trombero, Brittany A. Anaheim, CA	Wilson, Amanda Redwood City, CA
Montejano, Margarita Fremont, CA	Patterson, Sherry M. Torrance, CA	Saellee, Lourene Redding, CA	Trumbo, Teresa Northridge, CA	Wilson, Tiffany Napa, CA
Montoya, Raylene Riverside, CA	Pederson, Stephen Clayton, CA	Saldivar, Linda Woodland Hills, CA	Tuipulotu, Laurie Irvine, CA	Wolfard, Gerald Westminster, CA
Moore, Martina El Cerrito, CA	Perez, Mark Whittier, CA	Salgado, Francisco Santa Barbara, CA	Turrey, Georgina Los Angeles, CA	Wrightman, Lindsey Sacramento, CA
Morales, Andre Walnut Park, CA	Perkins, Sarah Fountain Valley, CA	Salizar, Sahari San Diego, CA	Vane, Carolyn Castro Valley, CA	Yap, Johnny L. San Francisco, CA
Moreci, Tony Foster City, CA	Person, Nicole E. Montclair, CA	Sands, Jill San Carlos, CA	Vaubel, Scott Montrose, CA	Young, Crystal Compton, CA
Morris, Monica Altadena, CA	Phoenix, Tamera M. Santa Barbara, CA	Sands, Margaret Sherman Oaks, CA	Vaughn, April San Diego, CA	Zaparinuk, Corey Kenneth Riverside, CA
Moseley, Carla J. Orangevale, CA	Piper, Judy Oceanside, CA	Sasaki, Jon Oxnard, CA	Vella, April Bakersfield, CA	Zeleny, Chris Citrus Heights, CA
Moser, Barbara Wilton, CA	Ponce, Jakelyn C. Santa Clara, CA	Schweikardt, Deborah Mesa, AZ	Vila, Glenis Cathedral City, CA	Zimmerman, Kim Elk Grove, CA
Munoz, Frank Chula Vista, CA	Pogany, Alyssa Marie Summerset, SD	Schumaker, Kevin Orange, CA	Villasenor, Eileen Jenette Oxnard, CA	
Murphy, Thomas San Diego, CA	Potter, Jovy Marie Vacaville, CA	Sessions, John San Ramon, CA	Wade Jr., Charles Pasadena, CA	<b>FELINE (CFS)</b> Carlton, Celena Bristol, WI
Muscarella, Kassie Newhall, CA	Prentise, Gayle Rene Santa Rosa, CA	Sipe, Alan Dallastown, PA	Wade, Marta Pasadena, CA	
Nassraway, Jennifer Marie Canoga Park, CA	Ramirez, Elizabeth Los Angeles, CA	Slavik, Alan T. Citrus Heights, CA		
Navarro, Andrea Goleta, CA	Reddell, Donna Aptos, CA	Smith, Lisa Napa, CA		
Neal, Tracy Goleta, CA	Redemer, Kristie K. Salinas, CA	Smithers, Brett Modesto, CA		
Nelson, Lori Oakland, CA	Refresca, Benito Lake Forest, CA	Sorrell, Amber Mission Viejo, CA		
Nevarez, Magdaleno Modesto, CA	Reginaldo, Joan Mountain View, CA	Spradling, Ellanore Lynn Bakersfield, CA		
Noss, Laura Victorville, CA	Reid, Monica Victorville, CA	States, Barbara San Mateo, CA		
Oashalim, Ninos Turlock, CA	Rensink, Jennifer Buena Park, CA	Stewart, Cherelynn El Cajon, CA		
Oesterle, Ted Antelope, CA	Repass, Tucker San Jose, CA	Strohm, Tiffany G. Pittsburg, CA		
Oh, Henry Goleta, CA	Rhoden, Nadine Waterford, VA	Stroup, Kit C. Banning, CA		
Olivas, Noemi San Bernardino, CA	Richardson, T.J. San Jose, CA	Sturgeon, Angeliq Riverside, CA		



# Legislative & Regulatory News


## FEDERAL NEWS



**Congress.** The House of Representatives has adjourned sine die and the Senate is in pro forma session (meaning it too is effectively adjourned). Federal legislation against which PIJAC testified, dubbed the **Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act**, has effectively died in the House Committee on Natural Resources. While PIJAC is not opposed to constructive legislation to rationally address invasive species concerns, **HR 6311** would have resulted in an outright ban on all nonnative species unless and until they were shown not to have invasive potential. This issue is one on which PIJAC has a long history. As noted in PIJAC's testimony, the approach proposed by this legislation was one that has failed in the past. It would have required a formal risk assessment on more than 10,000 species that can be found in the U.S. pet trade, and prevented trade in such species pending completion of the assessments. New legislation, though likely not the same bill, is expected in the next Congress.


Companion bills introduced in both houses of Congress would have imposed new requirements under the federal **Animal Welfare Act (AWA)**. **H.R. 6949** and **S. 3519**, known as the **Puppy Uniform Protection and Safety Act**, or **PUPS**, proposed a new definition for retail pet stores that would encompass "any person that (1) sells an animal directly to the public for use as a pet; and (2) does not breed or raise more than 50 dogs for use as pets during any one-year period." Retail pet stores are exempt from regulation under the Animal Welfare Act but typically regulated at the state level. PUPS would have limited this exemption. The measure also would have established specific statutory exercise requirements for dog dealers regulated by the AWA. The bill failed to make it out of either of the committees to which it was originally assigned, but will likely be reintroduced next year.

## STATE NEWS



**California.** **Assembly Bill 1634**, which in its original form would have mandated the sterilization of dogs and cats over four months of age, died in the Senate upon adjournment. PIJAC opposed this bill which, as introduced, established an "intact permit" requirement for pet owners not sterilizing their animals. The measure went through amendments a number of times and the general requirement for sterilization was removed in favor of a more limited restriction. Legislation targeting this issue has arisen in the past in this state and will again, though it is not clear at this point precisely what form it will take.


**District of Columbia.** In testimony before joint committees of the City Council, PIJAC testified in opposition to a proposal that would have imposed unprecedented liability on those who sell pets and pet products, deprived pet owners of fundamental rights under the law, and extended expansive powers to animal activists to invade private property and confiscate pets. As introduced, **B17-089** would have inserted the term "guardian" throughout numerous sections of the DC Code, created non-economic damages for "loss of society, companionship, comfort, protection, love affection and services" of companion animals, mandated sterilization of pets, and authorized any "nonprofit" claiming to be "concerned with humane treatment of animals" to legally enter private property, confiscate another person's animals, and "correct conditions giving rise to cruelty." This authority even exceeds that of sworn police officers. The measure underwent numerous amendments and was passed into law. In its final form, every single provision against which PIJAC testified was removed.



**Massachusetts.** In the closing days of the legislative session a bill regulating dangerous dogs was substituted with legislation that would prohibit ownership of any unsterilized dog over 12 months of age without an "intact dog permit." Such

a permit would cost as much as \$500 per dog, and would only be available to people meeting strict requirements, including membership in an approved purebred dog club. PIJAC opposed this measure, testifying that it was an inappropriate invasion of pet owners' rights, is contrary to the public's interests, and would establish excessive fees. The bill, **H 5092**, was sent to study.

PIJAC testified in opposition to legislation that would have created strict liability for pet stores selling dogs. Under **H 1941** anyone purchasing a dog would be entitled to reimbursement for any "medical condition" occurring in the dog up to six months after sale. Pet stores would be liable irrespective of what the condition was, and regardless of fault. This would be by far the most onerous pet warranty law in the country. Following a committee hearing it was sent to study. A new version of the warranty bill is likely to be introduced in the 2009 session.



**New Jersey.** A bill pending in the Assembly on Agriculture and Natural Resources would mandate extensive care standards for dogs and cats, and place a limit on the number of such animals that may be sold. It also establishes a 10 week minimum age requirement on dogs and cats delivered to pet stores and creates a state breeder registry with the Department of Health. Additionally, **Assembly Bill 1591** would impose a new pet warranty in the state, which already possesses one of the strictest. This 14-day warranty would entitle purchasers to an absolute right to a refund for any reason, and a 26 month absolute warranty right for any pedigreed animal certified by a veterinarian to have any congenital or genetic defect. Under the bill, any dog or cat that has remained in a pet store for more than 8 weeks would be forfeited without compensation. Though not likely to pass this year, the measure will carry-over to 2009.

**Assembly Bill 1965**, which established a right to recover damages for any companion animal that becomes ill, is injured, or dies from ingesting "adulterated pet food", has been withdrawn. The measure provided for various damages, including up to \$15,000 for "loss of companionship." ■

# Science & Medicine Update

Jamie K. Reaser, Ph.D. serves as PIJAC's Senior Advisor for Health and Environmental Stewardship. In this capacity she provides scientific and programmatic leadership (e.g., *Habitattitude*<sup>TM</sup>) in support of PIJAC's mission, and to the benefit of PIJAC members.

"Invasive species" (harmful, non-native organisms) and "zoonotic disease" (diseases transmitted between people and animals) constitute the two most pressing issues she addresses in her work; due to potential threats to the environment, economy, and human health, governments at all levels are looking to more tightly regulate the import, inter-state transport, and sale of "exotic" (non-native) species. Depending on the regulatory definition used, this could include species from goldfish to hedgehogs to Burmese pythons. While some of these species do constitute high-risk threats (e.g., African rodents carrying monkeypox virus), most species are not likely to become invasive.

By publishing articles on these and other topics in scientific journals, books, and magazines, Dr. Reaser helps provide science-based policy guidance to governments and lobbyists, clarify and correct

technical issues relevant to the pet trade, and improve the credibility of the industry. The following is a select list of publications and presentations Dr. Reaser authored in 2008. For a complete list (14 publications), please visit the Science & Medicine page of PIJAC's website at [www.pijac.org](http://www.pijac.org).

## Publications

Reaser, J. K., E. E. Clark, N. M. Meyers. 2008. All creatures great and minute: a public policy primer for companion animal zoonoses. *Journal of Zoonoses and Public Health* 55: 385-401.

Reaser, J. K. 2008. Under fire: a devastating fungus threatens amphibians. *REPTILES Magazine* 16: 62-69.

Reaser, J. K. and N. M. Meyers. 2008. *Habitattitude*<sup>TM</sup>: Getting a Backbone About the Pet Release Pathway. Pages 63-71 in Witmer, G. W., W. C. Pitt, and K. A. Fagerstone (eds.) *Managing Vertebrate Invasive Species: Proceedings of an International Symposium*. USDA/APHIS/WS, National Wildlife Research Center, Fort Collins, CO.

Reaser, J. K. Non-native wildlife risk assessment: a call for scientific inquiry. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 6:466.

Reaser, J. K. and J. Waugh. Biosecurity, international trade, and invasive species: improving US capacity to assess risk. *International Journal of Risk Assessment and Management*. (Accepted; In press)

Reaser, J. K., L. A. Meyerson, and K. F. Smith. Biological invasion: a realistic approach to policy making. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*. (In review)

## Presentations

Reaser, J. K. 2008. Pet industry campaigns to minimize the risk of reptile and amphibian bioinvasion. US Government/ Florida State Burmese Python Planning Team, 10 December, Stuart, Florida.

Reaser, J. K. 2008. Pet projects: pet industry initiatives to minimize the introduction of invasive species into natural areas. 35th Natural Areas Conference, 14-17 October, Nashville, Tennessee.

Reaser, J. K. 2008. Socio-economic considerations for pre-screening of live animal imports. Experts Meeting of the Pre-screening of Live Animal Imports, 8-10 April, South Bend, Indiana. ■

## PIJAC Receives Pet Care Trust Grants

PIJAC is proud to have been chosen to receive grants from the Pet Care Trust (PCT). The two grants, awarded by the PCT this fall, are in support of PIJAC's *Bd-Free 'Phibs* Campaign and the Pet Trade Pathway Toolkit. PIJAC thanks everyone at the Pet Care Trust for their support of these important programs!

For more information on these programs, please see PIJAC's website ([www.pijac.org](http://www.pijac.org)). ■



Pet Care Trust Executive Director Steve Hellem presents grant checks to PIJAC's President Pamela Stegeman and CEO/General Counsel Marshall Meyers.

THE 5th ANNUAL

Allan L. Levey



GOLF  
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7:45 am Shotgun Start  
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Look for the PIJAC team and meet our new President,  
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## Warm and Happy Holiday Wishes from Everyone at PIJAC!



# PetLetter

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