



# **BULLDOG CLUB OF AMERICA**

## **Position Statement**

### **BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION**

BCA believes that dog owners should be responsible for their dogs. Although our breed is not typically targeted by breed specific discriminatory legislation, BCA recognizes the danger in singling out one breed or another as inherently vicious. Such sweeping generalizations do little to increase public safety; they encourage unwarranted and unrealistic urban myths; and ignore the legions of families who own these targeted breeds without incident

BCA strongly opposes any legislation that determines a dog to be “dangerous” based on its breed or physical appearance. While we oppose breed-specific legislation in any form, we support reasonable laws to protect the public from dangerous dogs. BCA believes that breed-specific laws target good dogs and responsible owners along with the bad. It is like banning a model of car because it is capable of exceeding a certain speed, rather than punishing those who drive it at an excessive speed.

BCA supports reasonable, enforceable, non-discriminatory laws to govern the ownership of dogs. We support laws that: 1) establish a fair process by which specific dogs are identified as “dangerous” based on stated, measurable actions; 2) impose appropriate penalties for reckless or irresponsible actions by owners of such dogs; and 3) establish a well-defined method for dealing with dogs proven to be dangerous.

We believe that, when necessary, dogs proven to be “dangerous” may need to be humanely euthanized. However, we also believe that dogs should be evaluated for temperament and retraining prior to euthanasia, when feasible.