

**RESOLUTION #1—2023  
Regular Winter Session**

Submitted by  
Board of Directors

**SUPERSEDE POLICY ON RESPONSIBLE BREEDING OF COMPANION ANIMALS**

**RESOLVED** that the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) House of Delegates adopt the policy on Responsible Breeding of Companion Animals ([attachment 1](#)), which will supersede the current policy ([attachment 2](#)).

**Statement about the Resolution**

The Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) believes the veterinary profession, and by extension the AVMA, should publicly support the responsible breeding of companion animals and advocate against deliberate or careless breeding of genotypes that are known to produce serious disability, suffering, or premature death.

As with the current policy, which was adopted in 2017, the AWC was clear during their discussion that the proposed policy should not target specific breeds, but instead focus on individual animals carrying or exhibiting inherited characteristics that negatively affect their health and welfare. As such, the recommended changes are conservative when compared with similar policies issued by other veterinary associations. The proposed policy continues to support productive collaborations between the AVMA and other veterinary, breed, and pet industry groups to encourage thoughtful management of inherited disorders, discourage faddish extremes of confirmation, and promote the appreciation and responsible care of sound and suitable household pets. The [American Kennel Club \(AKC\)](#) has been advised as to the recommended revisions to the policy.

**Financial Impact: None**

	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>House Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Reference Committee #2</b>	<b>House of Delegates</b>
<b>Recommend Approval</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>Recommend Disapproval</b>				
<b>Recommend Referral to...</b>				
<b>No Recommendation</b>				
<b>Recommend Postpone Indefinitely</b>				

(use this space for additional narrative, if needed)