

**RESOLUTION #2—2024
Regular Winter Session**

Submitted by
Board of Directors

**REVISED POLICY ON SAFE NON-COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT OF PETS IN MOTOR
VEHICLES**

RESOLVED that the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) House of Delegates adopt the revised policy on Safe Transport of Pets in Motor Vehicles as noted below (additions are underlined; deletions are ~~struck through~~).

Safe Non-Commercial Transport of Pets in Motor Vehicles

The AVMA is committed to educating pet owners regarding the safety of pets in motor vehicles. There is limited scientific information available to determine the safety of individual animal transport products. Therefore, AVMA encourages development of evidence-based crash testing of ~~for kennels~~ animal enclosures and safety harnesses used for motor vehicle travel.

Open cargo area safety

Transport of pets, loose or tethered, in open cargo areas of motor vehicles is not safe and puts the animal's health and welfare at risk. Properly secured, size-appropriate kennels designed for use in open cargo areas need to be used when transporting pets in this manner. ~~that are~~ They should allow for appropriately ventilated ~~ion and allow~~ maintenance of climatic conditions suitable for the pet's species, breed, size, age, and conditioning ~~to be maintained are the preferred means of transport of pets when in open cargo areas of motor vehicles.~~

Interior vehicle safety

It is unsafe for pets to be loose inside motor vehicles. The preferred means of transport of pets within the confines of a vehicle is either ~~in a~~ securing them in a ~~ed~~ kennel, ~~other~~ species-appropriate enclosure of appropriate size, or fitted them with a properly designed, species-appropriate safety harness.

Statement about the Resolution

The Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) reviewed the policy. Revisions are proposed to clarify that there is currently limited scientific information available on the safety of transport products. Language was also added to emphasize risk to animals' health and welfare and the safety hazards of transporting animals loose whether that is in the interior or cargo area of vehicles.

Financial Impact: None

	Board of Directors	House Advisory Committee	Reference Committee #	House of Delegates
Recommend Approval	X	X	X (amended as noted below*)	X (amended as noted below*)
Recommend Disapproval				
Recommend Referral to...				
No Recommendation				
Recommend Postpone Indefinitely				

(use this space for additional narrative, if needed)

***Revised Policy on Safe Non-Commercial Transport of Pets in Motor Vehicles**

- 1 – Replace “kennels” with “enclosures” in the Open Cargo Area Safety paragraph.
- 2 – Replace “They” with “Enclosures” at the beginning of the third sentence in the Open Cargo Area Safety paragraph.