

Press Information Sheet

SB 861 Facts:

- Allows counties to restrict dogs based solely on breed [any breed(s) counties wish]
- Has NO mandatory exceptions for legitimate show and working dogs
- Could be used as an attempt to exterminate breeds
- Has "dangerous or vicious" language in the first paragraph that can lead to an outright ban on breeds by causing insurance companies to blacklist breeds and cancel homeowners' coverage if they (or a tenant) owns a dog with the "wrong" appearance (purebred or mixed).
- Could cause persons with disabilities to lose their service dogs or search and rescue dog handlers to lose their dogs.

Pit Bull Facts:

- The term "Pit Bull" often refers to the following breeds: (a) The American Staffordshire Terrier (AKC); (b) The American Pit Bull Terrier (UKC); (c) The Staffordshire Bull Terrier (AKC and UKC); (d) The Bull Terrier (some times, though less frequently).
- The Pit Bull is essentially a bull and terrier mix (i.e., it originated through the combination of bulldogs with terriers).
- Pete the Pup of the Little Rascals was a Pit Bull
- Helen Keller owned a Pit Bull
- Stubby, America's First War Dog, was a Pit Bull and is one of the most highly decorated dogs in U.S. history.
- World War I and II posters feature Pit Bulls as mascots for the United States of America.
- Alaska's first certified hearing dog was a Pit Bull
- Dog Jack, a canine war hero during the Civil War, was a Pit Bull.
- Nipper, the famous RCA dog, was most likely a bull and terrier dog.
- Pit Bulls do NOT have locking jaws, nor can they bite down with 2500 pounds per square inch of pressure.
Dr. Brady Barr of National Geographic (*Dangerous Encounters: Bite Force*, 8pm EST 8/18/2005) measured bite forces of many different creatures. Domestic dogs were included in the test. His results are as follows:
 - a) Humans: 120 pounds of bite pressure
 - b) Domestic dogs: 320 LBS of pressure
(a GSD, APBT and Rottweiler were tested using a bite sleeve containing a computer instrument. The APBT bit down with the LEAST amount of pressure of the 3 dogs!)
 - c) Wild dogs: 310 lbs
 - d) Lions: 600 lbs
 - e) White sharks: 600 lbs
 - f) Crocodiles: 2500 lbs
- Pit Bulls have historically been bred to be people-loving, with strong bite inhibition toward humans. Pit Bulls with the proper breed temperament are the least likely, out of ALL other dog breeds, to bite a person.
- In England, Pit Bulls have such a widespread reputation as being great with children that they are nicknamed, "The Nanny Dog."
- In 2004, 93.3% of Staffordshire Bull Terriers and 83.4% of American Pit Bull Terriers passed the American Temperament Test Society's test. In comparison, the Basenji had a 66% pass rate, the Beagle a 78.2% pass rate, and the Golden Retriever an 83.6% pass rate.