What is the Legislative Committee?

I've received a few calls asking what the Legislative Committee is, and in all honesty, that's a good question. The current form of the Legislative Committee is a new endeavor for ARBA. Changing times, laws and even government make-up has made it necessary that we become more proactive in the legal arenas. Since we're new to this, a great deal is still being defined.

The Legislative Committee at this time--and this is subject to change as the committee matures over the next few years--serves as a conduit between the interests of ARBA and all levels of the US Government. What this means is we are here to speak to any official, at any level, on the members' behalf, or to help coach members in their endeavor's to speak to their officials. In addition, the committee is focusing on determining and organizing the legislative priorities affecting ARBA today.

As a 501(c) we cannot support publicly support or oppose bills or candidates. We can educate them, work with them to make informed choices regarding rabbits and cavies, and guide them in understanding the place our animals have in the United States culture. The <u>Legislative Committee</u> accomplishes this by reaching out and proactively setting meetings with government officials before problems arise with legislation. We also reach out once a problem occurs, but by then, it is often harder to impact the situation.

Finally, the Legislative Committee cannot give you legal advice. We can give research your laws for you--and this is often a great exercise for us as we become more familiar with the laws across the US. So do please contact us if you have any questions!

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