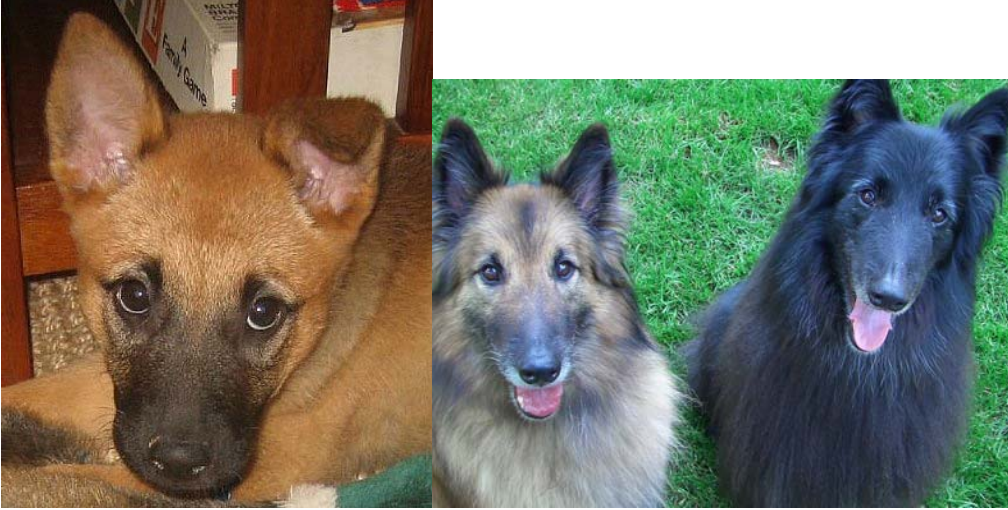


CONGRESSIONAL FRIENDS OF ANIMALS BRIEFING:
CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES AND THE PETS ACT
Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., February 13th, 2008
2200 Rayburn
ALL STAFF WELCOME



Dear Colleague:

The Congressional Friends of Animals Caucus invites you to an important briefing **Wednesday, February 13th at 1:30pm in 2200 Rayburn** to discuss the effectiveness of the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act passed in 2006.

Speakers from the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**, the **Humane Society of the United States**, and the office of **Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger** will share their stories of animal rescue from the recent wildfires in California.

Prompted by the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, the PETS Act was enacted to ensure that state and local emergency preparedness plans address the evacuation needs of household pets and service animals prior to, during, and following a major disaster or emergency. The California wildfires provided the first large scale test of the PETS Act, with the above stakeholders playing a vital role in the law's efficacy and performance. Their stories of rescue demonstrate the need for effective disaster planning and what the Federal government, utilizing the PETS Act, will play in future preparedness plans. We invite you to learn what steps the Federal government, State governments, and animal protection groups are taking to implement this important law.

If you have any questions or to RSVP, contact Sean Gallagher (5-0954) in Congressman Tom Lantos' office or Katie Brown (5-5541) in Congressman Christopher Shays' office.

Most Cordially,

TOM LANTOS, M.C.
Co-Chair, Congressional Friends
of Animals Caucus

CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, M.C.
Co-Chair, Congressional Friends
of Animals Caucus