

[Senate Bill 54](#) makes several changes to the consumer protection laws, including:

- Changing the timeline from 10 days to 14 days for a dog to be determined to be clinically ill or to have died from an illness that renders the dog unfit for purchase.
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- Changing the timeline from 30 days to 90 days for a dog to have (or have died from) a congenital or hereditary defect that renders it unfit for purchase.
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- Clarifying that a dog *may not* be found unfit for purchase if:
 - The dog has intestinal or external parasites unless the dog is clinically ill or dies
 - The dog has an injury or illness likely contracted subsequent to the date of sale
 - The dog has a health problem that is disclosed by the seller in writing prior to the time of sale. This disclosure must be signed by both the seller and purchaser.
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- Requiring "releasing agencies" (shelters, pounds, humane societies, rescues, etc.) to provide health certificates to new owners that would include a list of all vaccinations that have been administered to the dog (if known), a record of any known disease or illness the dog is currently or has ever been afflicted with and records of veterinary treatment, and information on any parasitological medicine that has been administered to the dog (if known). The certificate must be signed by an authorized person from the releasing agency and include their name and address

The AKC believes the timeline changes are reasonable, and appreciates the clarifications on how a dog should be determined as "unfit for purchase." These clarifications will protect sellers from being forced to provide restitution for minor, treatable health issues, or for situations disclosed in writing before the purchaser agrees to buy the dog. It also allows for recourse should someone purchase a puppy that is severely ill or dies from an illness or defect that the puppy had prior to sale