



For Immediate Release
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The Pet Industry Joins Congress for Pet Night on Capitol Hill
PIJAC sponsors Animal Health Institute's 18th Annual Event

Washington, DC – Even in an election year, the love of pets can bring Democrats and Republicans together. This Thursday, September 18th, Members and staff from both sides of the aisle will gather for the 18th annual Pet Night on Capitol Hill, organized by the Animal Health Institute (AHI). Competition for the Cutest Pets on Capitol Hill has been fierce and winners in the dog, cat and exotic animal categories will be announced.

Members of Congress, congressional staffers and special guests from the animal health and pet communities gather annually to celebrate healthy pets. One of the biggest annual draws at Pet Night are the photo opportunities celebrity pets; this year, attendees will meet Marti, the dog who portrays “Sandy” in this year’s remake of “Annie,” and Orion, the cat who plays “Buttercup” in the über-popular “Hunger Games” series. The red carpet and pup-a-razzi round out the evening’s events while guests get their photos taken with the celebrity pets.

“PIJAC supports the Animal Health Institute and this annual event because we seek to elevate the pet-ownership experience - one way we do that is through support of healthy pet initiatives, wellness programs and education,” says Ed Sayres, president and CEO of the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC).

A Media Briefing with AHI President and CEO Alexander Mathews, the pet trainers and their celebrity pets will be held for members of the media beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Immediately following the media briefing, U.S. Congressman Jeff Denham (R-CA), the owner of the 2013 cutest dog winner “Lily,” will unveil winners of the 2014 Cutest Pets on Capitol Hill during Pet Night.

Who: Animal Health Institute

When: Thursday, September 18, 2014

4:30 PM – Media Briefing

5:00 PM – Unveiling of the 2014 Cutest Pets on Capitol Hill

5:00 - 7:00 PM – Pet Night

Where: Cannon Caucus Room #345
1st Street and Independence Ave. SE
Washington, D.C.

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About AHI

Since their inception in 1941, the Animal Health Institute has worked to create an environment that fosters research and development of innovative and veterinary medicines. AHI member companies further the discovery, development and approval of medicines that promote animal health in a research-driven industry.
www.ahi.org

The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) provides its members a voice in state and national legislative issues through advocacy and timely information regarding upcoming policy issues that affect the pet industry, pet owners, and the animals they care for. PIJAC has supported pro-pet legislation and regulations for forty years. With over \$183 million donated in the form of food and general supplies, as well as direct monetary aid, the pet industry and has helped more than 7.5 million homeless and shelter pets in the last two decades. More information can be found at www.pijac.org.