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December 3, 2012

City of Los Angeles
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4801

Re: PLEASE DON'T BAN THE CIRCUS!

Dear City of Los Angeles:

I am opposed to any measure that would prevent circuses and other traveling exhibits with elephants from visiting Los Angeles.

All circuses are required to have a USDA exhibitor's license. The USDA conducts regular unannounced inspections of performing animals and their stable areas, and their inspection reports are a matter of public record.

Circuses and other animal exhibitors are also subject to state and local animal cruelty laws and permit requirements in Los Angeles and the state of California. Such regulations provide protection to all performing animals and allow for the prosecution of those who neglect or mistreat the animals in their care.

Millions of American families support and enjoy traditional circuses with elephants and other exotic animals, including many thousands who attend shows in Los Angeles. It is wrong to deprive these families of the right to choose to do so.

Circuses and other traveling exhibitors with performing animals contribute to the local economies of the communities in which they perform and thus support hundreds of jobs for local arena and other workers.

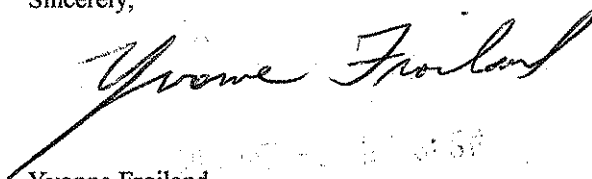
If any animal is being mistreated in any environment then the right answer is to enforce existing laws and regulations to punish bad actors as opposed to banning the circus which punishes the entire industry and the public who enjoy the circus.

Circus elephants and other performing animals are well cared for and it only makes sense that circuses would take good care of them. In fact, performing circus animals generally are healthier and live longer than their counterparts in zoos.

Proponents of performing animal bans mischaracterize or misunderstand the facts about the training and handling of circus animals. Most of the organizations that advocate such bans do so as part of a larger, animal rights agenda which opposes all or most all human interaction with animals.

Please keep the circus coming to Los Angeles!

Sincerely,



Yvonne Froiland
760-872-4505