

13-0002-S134



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February 4, 2014

LA City Council
200 S. Spring St
Los Angeles, CA 90012
VIA Email

Re: Urban Bee Keeping and Hive Protection (Council Files 12-0785; 13-0002-S134; 13-1660;)

To Honorable Councilmembers:

Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife, Inc. is a non-profit advocacy group whose mission is to promote educate and protect the fundamental importance of wildlife, wildlife corridors and wildlife habitats everywhere. That is why we are writing to urge you to initiate an ordinance that allows residents to raise their own honeybees, a practice that helps boost struggling honeybee populations and benefits the environment. We further support all protections for humane hive removal. Finally we would be delighted to see the passage of the resolution to sponsor/support "Saving America's Pollinator's Act of 2013."

Bees are essential building blocks of our food system and maintain ecological balance in the landscape. Helping bees is essential to our continued survival, health and well-being. These insects benefit us all because of the invaluable ecosystem services they provide to the environment and to our wildlife, forests and gardens. Not only do they pollinate most of our flowering plants, but they are also eaten by other wildlife and some of their ground-nesting behaviors aerate and enrich soils. In turn they enrich and sustain our lives.

By protecting bees and legalizing beekeeping, our City can demonstrate and implement the philosophy that bees are not pests but rather they are integral in the symbiotic relationship of Los Angeles wildlife interface and necessary to maintain our environmental heritage as well as our health and well-being.

Sincerely,

Alison Simard
Chairman of the Board

CC: Chelsea McFarland, (Chelsea@HoneyLove.org)