

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jamie Ward

**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 11:33 AM

**Council File No:** 16-1357

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose the ordinance as it is currently written: \*No Exemption for Filming \*Performing Animal Show definition must be changed. \*Conservation and Education are vital to our existence with beautiful animals in our world.

To Whom It May Concern:  
Re: **Council File Number**: 16-1357

February 14, 2020

My name is Jamie Ward and for the past 8 years I have been an animal coordinator and office manager for the film industry. The ordinance that is currently going to be voted upon is going to have a severe and negative impact on my job, as well as many others. The animals that are owned by reputable, USDA and Fish and Wildlife licensed facilities, should not be prohibited from being able to work in the film industry, and in educating the public.

The animals are well-cared for, often 24 hours a day. The trainers and caretakers put the animals' welfare first, above all else.

The entertainment industry often casts animals in commercials, tv shows and films. This does not just employ animal trainers it employs whole entire crews. There could be a very negative impact not just on the trainers, but on all people involved in the film industry. The animals that are used in education have a positive impact on school children and others that learn empathy for animals and a stronger level of care and consideration for our earth (that we are rapidly destroying). By having animals be a part of presentations at fairs, shows, parties, we are able to reach more people and help save the environment by teaching about conservation.

I oppose the ordinance as it is currently written:

\*No Exemption for Filming

\*Performing Animal Show definition must be changed.

\*Conservation and Education are vital to our existence with beautiful animals in our world.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

*Deborah L. Delosso*

Jamie Ward  
Office Manager & Animal Coordinator  
Studio Animal Service

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tracy Kelly

**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 11:34 AM

**Council File No:** 16-1357

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose the ordinance as it is currently written: No Exemption for Filming Performing Animal Show definition must be changed. Conservation and Education are vital to our existence with beautiful animals in our world.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ute Braun  
**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 12:19 PM  
**Council File No:** 16-1357  
**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose the ordinance as it is currently written.

To Whom It May Concern:  
2020

February 15

Re: **Council File Number:** 16-1357

My name is Ute Braun and for the last 4 years I have been a trainer for the film and television industry with reputable facilities licensed by Fish and Wildlife and USDA. These facilities are doing important work educating the public and the animals are cared for by animal professionals with degrees who love each animal they are caring for and have devoted their life's to taking care of them.

I oppose the ordinance the way it is currently written since it will have a very negative impact on the film industry. Animals employed in the industry are enjoying their work and have a strong bond with their trainers with a majority of these animals being rescues from shelters and exotics are most of the time rescues that needed homes coming out of illegal pet ownership or confiscated animals by fish and wildlife for various reasons and animals that have been deemed non releasable by rehabilitation centers. If these animals are not able to work, hundreds will be left in shelters and without homes.

The animals used in educational outreach programs are also incredibly well taken care of by licensed facilities with professional caretakers and trainers. It is important to have children experience animals close up to teach them to care for the environment and other living beings we share this planet with. Animal ambassadors are the most important aspect of reaching children and adults and help save the environment by educating about conservation.

I oppose the ordinance as it is currently written:

No Exemption for Filming

Performing Animal Show definition must be changed

Conservation and Education are vital to our existence with beautiful animals in our world.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Ute Braun  
Animal Trainer  
Studio Animal Services  
Benay's Birds and Animals

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michael Morris Jr  
**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 03:26 PM  
**Council File No:** 16-1357

**Comments for Public Posting:** I OPPOSE the ordinance as it is currently written: There is no exemption for filming. It needs to be stated so there is no question that it is and should be exempt. This specifically effects how I earn my living and support my family. I feel concerned that this is not being addressed. Wild and/or exotic animals are grouped together and labeled as the same as dangerous animals. “Wild/exotic animals” and “dangerous animals” are not mutually exclusive; it is not all or none. The ordinance should be drafted by the lawmakers, of course but with the help and expertise of the people who work and live with these animals every day. It should be welcomed and sought out! The definition of a live animal show is a blanket exclusion of all animal programs. What the ordinance claims to do is fine, but what it will actually do if left as written will be very harmful to the tax paying businesses who earn their livelihoods this way in the city. We respect the fact that there are people who have concerns about their peaceful and safe neighborhoods; We are also sure that they want their peace of mind without stomping all over other peoples rights and freedoms. Sincerely, Michael Morris Jr member, local 399 Teamsters

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 03:49 PM

**Council File No:** 16-1357

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear esteemed Council Members, New language has been added to this proposed ordinance that would greatly harm many of each of your constituents and their businesses. It would also eradicate the large conservation organization events that spend a huge amount of money in the City, educating and fundraising for all animals. This will literally devastate the efforts by real animal folks to educate the greater population of Los Angeles. I respectfully ask that you task the Attorney's office with discussing these issues with the very people that would be hurt by them. In our quest to treat wild and exotic animals with the reverence they deserve, lets not destroy the process that makes it financially possible. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** William Warden

**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 03:56 PM

**Council File No:** 16-1357

**Comments for Public Posting:** To whom it may concern, I'm in opposition of this bill as it is written. I am a professional animal caretaker who specializes in outreach. I am able to take animals to schools, libraries and even to birthday parties. As this bill is written I would no longer be able to take animals to schools due to them already not able to afford field trips so we bring our animals to them. Asking them to get a special permit to have us there will mean they will not be able to afford our services. Libraries will be in the same situation. I understand your concern over animals being where alcohol is served. But those parties are where I have often been able to reach adults who can make positive change in the world as well as financial. I have done multiple parties where I later ran into some of the guest and they told me how my presence got them to change their habits of not recycling or even made financial donations towards conservation organizations. This bill will remove all of these possible positive influences that do make an impact on the world around us. I ask that you please postpone the vote and/or rewrite the bill so as to allow the animal professionals to continue their positive impact towards conservation. Thank you, William Warden AAZK Professional Member

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kostas Papagiannopoulos

**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 04:05 PM

**Council File No:** 16-1357

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose the ordinance as it is currently written: There is no exemption for filming. Performing Animal Show definition must be changed. Conservation and Education are vital to our existence and teach people to respect the earth and the animals. Education with animals helps reach an audience that might never have a chance to connect with certain animals and foster compassion and caring for the planet and the species that are constantly being threatened in the wild due to habitat loss, poaching, global warming etc. There has been new language added to this ordinance that would greatly harm many of each of your constituents and their businesses. It would also eradicate the large conservation organization events that spend a huge amount of money in the City. This will literally devastate the efforts by real animal folks to educate the greater population of Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Hillary Hankey, Avian Behavior International  
**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 05:12 PM  
**Council File No:** 16-1357  
**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose the ordinance as it is currently written: There is no exemption for filming, the definition of "performing animal show" must be changed. I believe that conservation and education are an absolute necessity to the our existence as well as biodiversity that is crucial for all living things to function. We need everyone on board.

Conservation education is one of the most important platforms facing every corner, every demographic, every person no matter what our background is. The need to protect, conserve, and understand the unique biodiversity that we share the planet and be humbled by it knows no stranger, judges no criminal, and unites us all in its dire warning to take action now.

The love and understanding of animals may not be shared equally by everyone, but there is no doubt that animals can spark enthusiasm and appreciation. Conservation education programming as it exists with animals trained with positive reinforcement with competent and compassionate behaviorists and handlers, animals that are trained to normalize the life of ambassadorship that comes with the territory.

We think little of the next gadget, the newest suburb, the latest TV series that takes away our time, our bandwidth, and our greenspace, removing us further from the pressures faced by wildlife. According to the World Wildlife Fund Global, since 1970, wildlife populations *have dropped by one half*. If there is ever a need for wildlife education, connection with animals, and innovative ways to keep the face of conservation and biodiversity in people's faces, it is now. Not through CGI, not through cartoons, not through pictures, but through the ability to see, smell, watch, and appreciate. For this reason, I am firmly opposed to this ordinance as written.

Hillary Hankey,  
Avian Behavior International

## Communication from Public

**Name:** wendy debbas

**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 06:12 PM

**Council File No:** 16-1357

**Comments for Public Posting:** New language has been added to this ordinance that would greatly harm many of your constituents and their businesses. It would also eradicate the large conservation organization events that spend a huge amount of money in the City. This will literally devastate the efforts by real animal folks to educate the greater population of Los Angeles. I recently attended a fund raiser for CLAW (Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife)- a non-profit group that advocates for wildlife and wildlife habitat in Los Angeles. There was food, alcohol, music, silent auction, speakers (Including councilman of district 5, Paul Koretz), an artistic dance and more. The fund raiser was held in Belair. I work with exotic cats and was asked if I would be able to bring a cat to a future fundraiser for wildlife but because of the proposed language change, this is now impossible. Any education conservation fund raiser is going to have music, food and drinks. This does not make it a "party" atmosphere. The event I attended was serious, no one was drunk and the focus was on education and conservation. A live animal ambassador would help to raise awareness and funds for groups such as CLAW. This is just one example of good work that will be eliminated by the language change. So unnecessary.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** wendy debbas

**Date Submitted:** 02/14/2020 06:12 PM

**Council File No:** 16-1357

**Comments for Public Posting:** New language has been added to this ordinance that would greatly harm many of your constituents and their businesses. It would also eradicate the large conservation organization events that spend a huge amount of money in the City. This will literally devastate the efforts by real animal folks to educate the greater population of Los Angeles. I recently attended a fund raiser for CLAW (Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife)- a non-profit group that advocates for wildlife and wildlife habitat in Los Angeles. There was food, alcohol, music, silent auction, speakers (Including councilman of district 5, Paul Koretz), an artistic dance and more. The fund raiser was held in Belair. I work with exotic cats and was asked if I would be able to bring a cat to a future fundraiser for wildlife but because of the proposed language change, this is now impossible. Any education conservation fund raiser is going to have music, food and drinks. This does not make it a "party" atmosphere. The event I attended was serious, no one was drunk and the focus was on education and conservation. A live animal ambassador would help to raise awareness and funds for groups such as CLAW. This is just one example of good work that will be eliminated by the language change. So unnecessary.