



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

Opposition to agenda item #161357

1 message

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Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 5:17 PM

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Please include this email content into public record to be included in any hearing, studies, or reports pertaining to this issue.

Dear Council Members,

The Southwestern Herpetologists Society is writing to express our opposition to agenda item #161357.

We volunteer to exhibit our animals at many schools, parks, and events organized by the LA County Natural History Museum, the National Park Service, STEM nights and other events at local schools. We ask that you allow us to continue to exhibit and teach our youth about wildlife and give them the opportunity to interact in a safe and humane way. The community is inspired through the presentations and interactions with our Education Outreach Program. With a bill like this in place we will see the END of outreach and wildlife education organizations in Los Angeles County.

We ask that the Council address and clearly define four words within this agenda item: "use, "misuse", "wild", "exotic". And to clarify the motion to include their precise meaning in this motion, before any further action is taken and to submit the revised motion for public clarification. We call for real statistical evidence that a majority of animal handlers are, as one example from the above text, using "inhumane training techniques".

The City of Los Angeles need not take any action on this matter. Citizens can always call the police or other city agencies if animals are seen being treated disrespectfully or have evidence that a handler is mistreating an animal.

We sincerely ask that the council dismiss this motion entirely.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

The Southwestern Herpetologists Society
Board of Directors