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OPPOSITION to agenda item #16-1357:

1 message

Squeeze <wjsharman53@gmail.com>

Sun, Apr 16, 2017 at 9:10 PM

To: Adam.Lid@lacity.org, David.ryu@lacity.org, Paul.koretz@lacity.org

Currently the L.A. City Council has a bill under consideration titled "Prohibition on the Exhibit of Wild or Exotic Animals for Entertainment or Amusement" agenda item #16-1357.

This bill is aimed at banning exotic animals for ALL use other than AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) facilities. This means that MANY credible organizations will NOT be able to:

- Host outreach events that reach school children, hospitals, veterans, and/or underprivileged youth.
- Entertain the public with informational shows and/or presentations at their facility.
- Educate the public on the environment and associated conservation efforts.

All of our students at EATM are inspired every day through the presentations, outreach, and interactions they have with the public on a daily basis here at America's Teaching Zoo. Upon graduating from the Exotic Animal Training and Management program they are looking to become educators, presenters, zookeepers, conservationists, veterinarians, but more importantly to become a bridge between wildlife and the public. With a bill like this in place we will see the END of outreach and wildlife education organizations in L.A. County and that's just start!

Thank you for considering the educated and industry perspective, rather than uninformed activist organizations.

Sincerely,
Bill "Squeeze" Sharman