

April 10, 2017

Christopher Pollard

Hollywood Animals

P.o. Box 2088

Canyon Country, Ca 91386

Dear Committee on Personnel and Animal Welfare,

OPPOSITION to agenda item #16-1357: Please include this letter into public record to be included in any hearing, studies, and or reports pertaining to this issue.

My name is Christopher Pollard. I have worked professionally with exotic animals since 1996 and volunteered since 1993. I am a studio animal trainer for the motion picture industry. I am a member of good standing with the local union #399 since 2003. I work for a company that has over 30 years experience providing animals for film.

Along with film work, we have provided animals for events , parties and also educating people about the animals through seminars. We have been able to do this taking consideration of both safety of people and the animals. I love and am dedicated the animals that I take care. It takes a strong commitment to the animals to be an animal trainer. Our facility is properly permitted by USDA, Ca Fish and Wildlife Service, LA county and LA city. The care and well being of the animals is our top priority.

Whenever we come across other people when we have the animals, whether it be a film set, photo shoot, event, or party people ask questions about the animals. This is our chance to give them information about the animal and show them in person. When people see something in front of them, they retain the information better and it also opens up dialogue for them to ask more questions. This is the best way for people to learn when they are interested and engaged. The proposed ban does not benefit the animals. It will take away the opportunity for people to see and learn about the animals, regions where animals like the ones they are seeing live, and conservation efforts in place to keep them in our lives.

Thank you,

Christopher Pollard

Animal trainer

Union 399 member

