



Adam Lid &lt;adam.lid@lacity.org&gt;

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**opposition to agenda letter #16-1357**

1 message

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**kate wholey** <katewholey@yahoo.com>

Wed, Apr 26, 2017 at 8:26 PM

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To: "Adam.lid@lacity.org" &lt;Adam.lid@lacity.org&gt;, "David.ryu@lacity.org" &lt;David.ryu@lacity.org&gt;, "paul.kortez@lacity.org" &lt;paul.kortez@lacity.org&gt;

To whom it may concern

I am a student at the Exotic Animal Training and Management program (EATM) at Moorpark College. It is an extremely difficult, fun and rewarding program. My time there has taught me how to properly care for animals in human care. I have learned so much from public outreach and education to conservation work many zoological facilities participate in. Many graduates from the program go on to work at places including San Diego Zoo and the Los Angeles Zoo etc.. We are the next generation of animal care and if you spent some time with us you would come to learn that this bill is entirely one sided. Not only that, but it does not even touch upon the real issue. Making it illegal to exhibit exotic animals won't stop unqualified people from obtaining them. Nor will simply creating a law that prohibits the ownership of exotic animals (a very broad term) solve anything. There certainly does need to be more regulation.

More to the point, EATM is a remarkable program, but is not accredited through AZA or AAZK despite the fact that a multitude of alumni work for many facilities that are accredited. Again, EATM is the place where students learn to care for animals. This bill would stop one of the only programs in the world that sets forth the standard for excellent animal care and therefore unravels the purpose of the bill itself.

Thank You  
Kate Wholey