

April 12, 2017

Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Opposition to a Ban on Exotic Animals in the City of Los Angeles

Please make this letter a matter of public record to be included in any hearing, studies and/or reports pertaining to this issue.

Dear Chairman Koretz and Committee Members Ryu and Harris-Dawson,

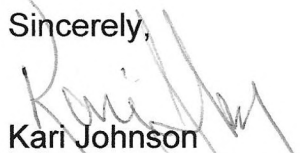
As an animal trainer with four decades of experience working in the City of Los Angeles with animals for movies and commercials, special events and educational displays I am opposed to a ban on exotic animals.

Animals coming into the city are well protected and cared for. In order to bring an animal into Los Angeles for any type of exhibition we are required to have a license from the United States Dept. of Agriculture/Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, which enforces the Animal Welfare Act, a California Fish and Wildlife Permit and a L.A. Animal Services permit. The American Humane Association or similar animal welfare organization monitors animals on film sets. There is abundant oversight concerning animal welfare.

If there is concern regarding animals presence being a nuisance to neighbors the remedy would be to regulate where animals may be displayed. There is no need to ban animals altogether. I am not aware that there has been a rash of exotic animal incidents in the city, certainly not compared to the amount of dog bites and attacks.

I respectfully ask that you take my letter into consideration and that you do not implement a ban on exotic animals in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,


Kari Johnson
27455 Peach Street
Perris, CA 92570