

H.R. 2863 - Traveling Exotic Animal and Public Safety Protection Act

Use the sample letter below as a template to send to your legislator. It is always more effective to personalize the letter if you can. You may copy and paste this letter and email or message it to your federal legislators. *You can use the following link to search for your representative by zip code:*

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

SAMPLE LETTER TO SEND TO YOUR LEGISLATOR

Dear Representative (INSERT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE'S LAST NAME HERE),

I am contacting you to ask for your support of the Traveling Exotic Animal and Public Safety Protection Act (TEAPSPA) H.R. 2863, a federal bill that would ban wild animal acts.

The use of animals in circus performances is outdated, inhumane, and a matter of public safety. Local, state and federal regulations intended to protect these animals are not only expensive but are ultimately inadequate and rarely enforced. Oversight has not and cannot prevent chronically stressed, abused, and potentially dangerous wild animals from lashing out or escaping. Keeping captive wild animals in temporary, collapsible facilities is an unacceptable safety risk, especially in such close proximity to the public. Circuses have proven to be a public safety hazard as members of the public have been killed by circus animals. Additionally, disease transmission and the escapes of lions, tigers, and elephants, has been an ongoing issue.

Circuses with performing animals send the wrong messaging, especially to children, by trivializing the exploitation of animals for entertainment. These acts do not teach the public about these wild animals' real needs or the way they live, and performance animals have no proven role to play in education or conservation of any species.

Americans are increasingly turning away from this inhumane entertainment but without prohibitive legislation, the suffering continues. Congress has a responsibility to protect the welfare of animals and ensure public safety. A prohibition on the use of exotic and wild animals in traveling circuses is proportionate, responsible, and the least expensive solution to this problem.

As your constituent, I urge you to support H.R. 2863, the Traveling Exotic Animal and Public Safety Protection Act (TEAPSPA), to ban traveling animal acts. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

(INSERT YOUR FIRST & LAST NAME HERE)