



## **Lions Tigers & Bears Applauds Reintroduction of the Captive Primate Safety Act, Urges Swift Congressional Action**

**Alpine, CA June 18, 2025** — Lions Tigers & Bears, an accredited big cat and exotic animal sanctuary, proudly endorses the reintroduction of the *Captive Primate Safety Act* (CPSA) in the 119th Congress. This crucial federal legislation would put an end to the private ownership and pet trade of nonhuman primates across the United States, protecting both animals and the public from unnecessary suffering and risk.

For decades, Lions Tigers & Bears has worked on the frontlines of wildlife rescue, witnessing firsthand the lasting trauma that comes from keeping wild animals in private homes. “We know all too well the heartbreaking results of the exotic pet trade,” said **Bobbi Brink**, Founder and Director of Lions Tigers & Bears. “The CPSA is long overdue. Primates are not pets. They are intelligent, social animals with highly complex needs—needs that cannot be met in a cage, a basement, or a backyard.”

The *Captive Primate Safety Act* aims to address a rampant and underregulated industry. In the US, thousands of primates are kept as pets, torn from their mothers as infants, often sold via online marketplaces or exotic animal auctions. When they grow stronger and more unpredictable, these animals are often mutilated to make them more “manageable,” undergoing painful tooth extractions or confinement to tiny cages, leading to lifelong physical and psychological harm.

But the issue goes beyond animal welfare. Pet primates have attacked owners, neighbors, and even law enforcement officers. Hundreds of injuries have been reported over the past few decades. Furthermore, primates can carry and transmit dangerous diseases to humans, including herpes B, tuberculosis, and hepatitis, posing a serious and avoidable public health risk.

“The CPSA is about compassion, yes, but it is also about common sense public safety,” Brink added. “No family should have to deal with a primate on the loose in their neighborhood, and no animal should suffer just to satisfy someone’s misguided desire for an exotic pet.”

The legislation would not affect accredited sanctuaries, zoos, research facilities, or universities. Instead, it would halt the cruel, unregulated trade that fuels both domestic breeding and international wildlife trafficking. The demand for pet primates in the US has also led to the slaughter of mother primates in the wild and the smuggling of infants into the country, further devastating already vulnerable species and ecosystems.

At Lions Tigers & Bears, we stand firmly in support of this bill and encourage our supporters and fellow animal advocates to contact their senators and representatives and urge them to cosponsor and support the *Captive Primate Safety Act*.

**Take Action Now:** [Find your members of Congress](https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member) and ask them to support this important bill.  
<https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>

### **About Lions Tigers & Bears**

Lions Tigers & Bears is a federally and state licensed nonprofit exotic animal sanctuary and educational facility located in Alpine, California. As one of the few true accredited sanctuaries in the country, we are dedicated to providing a safe and permanent home to abused and abandoned exotic animals while inspiring compassion and advocating for laws that protect them. Our sanctuary is home to more than 65 animals, including lions, tigers, bears, and primates, each with their own story of rescue and resilience.