

April 21, 2017

Denise Sanders  
32621 The Old Road  
Castaic, CA 91384

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 Denise Sanders. I have worked professionally with exotic animals for 24 years. I am a studio animal trainer in the motion picture industry and have been a studio union member of Local 399 in good standing for 24 years. I have worked on thousands of productions over the past 3 decades for companies that have provided animals for films even longer.

In addition to studio work, I work for companies that provide animals for educational shows, parties and meet and greets. We do this skillfully and safely. We love and care for the animals and take every opportunity to answer questions and provide the public with knowledge about the animals that they are encountering. Conservation starts with people who have empathy and regard for all life, which in part comes from personal experience and education. Cutting animals out of people's lives in not going to benefit the animals. I OPPOSE the ordinance as written.

Thank you,

Denise Sanders  
Professional Animal Trainer  
Union Local #399 Member