

Michael D. Morris, Jr.
Bob Dunn's Animal Services, Inc.
16001 Yarnell Street
Sylmar, CA 91342

April 4, 2017

Dear Committee on Personnel and Animal Welfare,

RE: **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 Michael D. Morris, Jr. I have worked professionally with exotic animals for the last 26 years. I am an Animal Trainer in the motion picture industry, and have been a studio union member of Local 399 in good standing for 25 years. I have worked on hundreds of productions over the passed three decades, for a company that has been providing animals since 1978.

In addition to studio work, we provide animals for educational presentations and special events. We can do this skillfully and safely. We take every opportunity to give information and answer questions regarding the animals they are encountering; it is our goal to have every guest leave knowing more than when they arrived, to feel a connection. Conservation starts with people who have empathy and regard for all life, which in part comes from personal experiences, education and a connection. Preventing people from having the freedom to be up close and personal with our animals and their knowledgeable trainers is a disservice to everyone.

Our facility is professional and well kept. Our animals are happy and well tended. We are properly permitted by the USDA, US Fish and Wildlife Services, California Fish & Wildlife Service, as well as Los Angeles City permits.

I **OPPOSE** the ordinance as written.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter,

Michael D. Morris, Jr
Animal Trainer
Bob Dunn's Animals Services, Inc.
Union Local #399 member