

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**
4 **By: Senator Todd**

A Bill

SENATE BILL

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC_S SAFETY AND HEALTH BY
9 REGULATING THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH WILD ANIMALS MAY BE
10 KEPT IN CAPTIVITY, AND TO PROTECT THE WELFARE OF WILD
11 ANIMALS BY PERMITTING ONLY QUALIFIED PERSONS TO HOLD THEM
12 IN CAPTIVITY WHEN IT IS NECESSARY TO DO SO; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES."

Subtitle

16 "AN ACT CONCERNING WILD ANIMALS IN CAPTIVITY."

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

20 SECTION 1. Findings.

21 The Arkansas legislature finds and declares that unrestricted holding of
22 wild animals in captivity often poses a serious threat both to human health
23 and safety and to the welfare of the wild animals. Wild animals have very
24 specific biological requirements which are best met in their natural habitat.
25 When it is necessary to confine them in captivity, they should be under the
26 supervision of qualified zoological or otherwise competent professional
27 caretakers. And, because these animals can be a threat to human health and
28 safety and cause a local community much expense and inconvenience if they are
29 inadvertently set free, they should be held in captivity only under conditions
30 established by qualified zoological or other competent professional
31 caretakers, and their presence in a community must always be made known to all
32 local government officials. Furthermore, it is unsuitable and cruel to
33 involve wild animals in any display, act, or exhibit which forces them to
34 engage in unnatural behavior.

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1 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
2 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
3 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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5 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
6 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
7 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
8 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
9 act are declared to be severable.

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11 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
12 hereby repealed.

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