

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-002

PROHIBITING WILD OR EXOTIC ANIMAL SHOWS AND EXHIBITS IN SALT LAKE COUNTY FACILITIES

WHEREAS, Section 17-53-316 of the Utah Code grants authority to the Salt Lake County Mayor, as County Executive, to issue executive orders to establish and implement an executive policy and practice;

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Mayor, as County Executive, is charged by the Utah Code and the Optional Plan for Salt Lake County Government with the duties of: (i) managing and directing the activities of the County; (ii) directing and supervising County departments, divisions and activities; (iii) reviewing, negotiating and executing all contracts for and on behalf of Salt Lake County; and (iv) otherwise exercising all executive powers and duties as provided by law;

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Mayor finds that traveling circuses, wild or exotic animal shows and exhibits, and similar events involving wild or exotic animals are detrimental to animal welfare due to the adverse effects of frequent transport, extended periods of confinement, and often physically abusive training techniques, and specifically finds that the extended periods of time that animals are in vehicles, temporary housing structures, or in performance or on display in such events restricts natural behaviors and may cause animals to suffer from or be prone to health, behavioral, and psychological problems;

WHEREAS, this physical and mental confinement or coercion inevitably causes extraordinary stress and compromises the welfare of animals, which can lead to abnormal behavior and increased risk to the safety of the public who might attend such events;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jennifer Wilson, Mayor of Salt Lake County, State of Utah, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the laws of the State of Utah, do hereby order the following:

1. No exhibition hall, building, arena, theater, park, or other facility owned by Salt Lake County may be used, by contract or other means, to house, host, or present traveling circuses, wild or exotic animal shows or exhibits, or similar events involving wild or exotic animals as listed below.
2. As used in this Executive Order, “wild or exotic animals” means and includes alligators, apes, bears, chimpanzees, cougars, crocodiles, dolphins, elephants, foxes, giraffes, gorillas, hippopotamuses, hyenas, jackals, jaguars, kangaroos, lemurs, leopards, lions, monkeys, mountain lions, ostriches, rhinoceroses, sea lions, seals, tapirs, tigers, walruses,

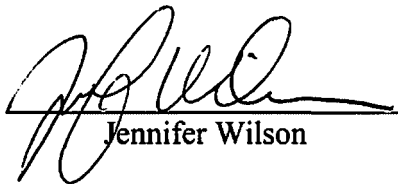
whales, wolves, zebras, or any other animal commonly considered as wild, exotic, or non-domesticated.

3. As used in this Executive Order, "wild or exotic animals" does not mean or include domesticated or farm animals such as alpacas, camels, cats, dogs, donkeys, goats, horses, llamas, mules, poultry, sheep, swine, or any species of cattle.
4. As used in this Executive Order, "wild or exotic animal shows or exhibits" does not mean or include any function or presentation by or in cooperation with professional scientific association conventions and events or the Informal Science Education Enhancement (iSEE) program, a collaboration among non-profit informal science education organizations in Utah, including HawkWatch International, Loveland Living Planet Aquarium, Thanksgiving Point, and Utah's Hogle Zoo.

This Executive Order is effective on execution and supersedes all prior Executive Orders on this issue.

SIGNED and APPROVED this 2nd of June, 2020.

SALT LAKE COUNTY MAYOR

By: 
Jennifer Wilson

Approved as to form:

/s Darcy M. Goddard
Deputy District Attorney