



MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA, INC.
15301 VENTURA BOULEVARD
SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91403
(818) 995-6600

April 13, 2015

To: Supervisor Katy Tang
Supervisor Scott Wiener
Supervisor Norman Yee

RE: Memorandum in Opposition – Wild or Exotic Animals in
Entertainment

From: Motion Picture Association of America, Inc.

The Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (MPAA) and its member companies*, which are the largest producers and distributors of motion pictures in the U.S., oppose the proposed ordinance prohibiting the performance of wild or exotic animals for public entertainment or amusement. If enacted, the bill would prevent animal performances in motion picture and television productions in San Francisco, even when the animal is accompanied by a handler who holds the appropriate permits from the United States Department of Agriculture and/or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

In 2014, the state enacted an expanded production tax incentive to attract motion picture production to California. The state has made a commitment to retaining motion picture and television production, and the good middle class jobs that are created by productions, and we are concerned that the draft ordinance would undermine that important public policy.

As you are no doubt aware, motion pictures and television shows have told countless stories about animals, with animals playing both leading and supporting roles. MPAA member companies take seriously their obligation to handle animals safely and responsibly. We urge the Board to amend the proposed ordinance to allow for the use of animals in motion picture and television productions.

*MPAA member companies are: Paramount Picture Corporation, Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal City Studios LLC; Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures; and Warner Bros. CBS Corporation is an associated member.