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“BIG CAT PUBLIC SAFETY ACT” HR 3546 IS NOT ABOUT PUBLIC SAFETY

Since 2007 (8.5 years), 5 people died in the USA (0.58 per year) by captive exotic & wild big cats. AZA zoos and sanctuaries that would be exempt by HR 3546 accounted for 80 % of human fatalities (4 people). Non exempt facilities accounted for 1 human fatality (20%), meaning:

4 out of 5 fatalities happened in facilities that would be exempt by HR 3546

DO NOT VOTE FOR HR 3546

USA: Captive Exotic & Wild Big Cats Related Human Fatalities by the big cat species since year 2007 (when the original CWSA, Captive Wildlife Safety Act, was implemented), until September 2015 (when another amendment, HR 3546, was introduced).

| BIG CAT FACILITIES | AZA ZOOS* | SANCTUARIES | NON AZA, NON SANCTUARY | PET OWNERS** | TOTAL |
|--|-----------|-------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| EXEMPT FROM HR 3546 BAN? | YES | YES | NO | NO | |
| HUMAN FATALITIES | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| PERCENTAGE OF FATALITIES | 40% | 40% | 20% | 0% | 100% |
| AVERAGE HUMAN DEATHS PER YEAR | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.12 | 0 | 0.58 |
| HUMAN FATALITIES IN FACILITIES EXEMPT FROM HR 3546 PROPOSED BAN | | | | | 4 (80%) |
| HUMAN FATALITIES IN FACILITIES NOT EXEMPT FROM HR 3546 PROPOSED BAN | | | | | 1 (20%) |

*AZA, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, is a private group accrediting big city zoos. It is expensive to join, but AZA accreditation so far guarantees these zoos an exemption from wild and exotic animal bans

** USDA, US Department of Agriculture, requires a federal license for anybody engaging in public display and/or in any commercial wild and exotic mammal breeding, selling, trading and exhibiting. USDA regulations do not require non commercial aka ‘pet’ owners to be licensed or registered federally

Captive Big Cat Related Human Fatalities by State/Year/Species 2007 – September 2015 4 out of 5 human fatalities happened in facilities exempt by HR 3546

| YEAR/ STATE | RELATIONSHIP TO CAT | COMMENTS |
|-------------|---|--|
| 2013 – OR | <i>Sanctuary</i> Cougars kill employee at Oregon sanctuary, USDA | Occupational hazard, no risk to uninvolved public |
| 2013 - CA | African lion kills a volunteer at California educational facility, USDA | Occupational hazard, no risk to uninvolved public |
| 2008 – OK | <i>Sanctuary</i> handler was killed by sanctuary liger, USDA | Occupational hazard, no risk to uninvolved public |
| 2007 – CA | <i>AZA Zoo</i> visitor was killed and 2 injured by a tiger out of her cage, but still on the Zoo property, USDA | The surviving victims and family of the man killed reached a settlement with the zoo. The zoo director resigned. |
| 2007 – CO | <i>AZA Zoo</i> keeper killed by a jaguar, USDA | Occupational hazard. It was not clear why she was in the jaguar’s cage which is against the zoo’s rules |

None of the deaths were the result of the exotic cats being unsupervised off the owners’ property. All victims were voluntarily on the property where the animal was kept, be it owner(s), handlers, employees, friends or visitors wanting to see the zoo animals

HR 3546 IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL: IT STRIPS AWAY STATES' RIGHT TO REGULATE THEIR WILDLIFE

The interstate commerce clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: "To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.") does not apply intrastate. This bill attempts to ban intrastate private commercial and non-commercial future ownership, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, breeding, possession, or purchase of an animal that is born in, never leaves and dies in the same state. HR 3546 would take the rights away from the individual states to regulate their own native and non native wildcats inside the state.

DO NOT VOTE FOR HR 3546

BIG CAT PUBLIC SAFETY ACT "HR 3546 " WILL HURT WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

There is NO proof that captive bred tigers from USA are being exported for international illegal wildlife trade.

Wild habitat disappearance is the number one threat to many species, including big cats. Captive breeding saves many species of big cats from extinction, and reduces the demand on the remaining wild populations.

BIG CAT PUBLIC SAFETY ACT "HR 3546 " IS NOT ABOUT ANIMAL WELFARE

The facilities exempted by HR 3546 would NOT be exempt based on what type of caging or experience they have. They would be exempt based on private club affiliation (AZA), or on whether they have a 501(c)3 non profit status and call themselves 'sanctuary'. Not paying taxes or having a 'pretty name' has nothing to do with conservation, animal welfare or public safety. This bill is a waste of taxpayers' money.

This open to public facility with millions of dollars in donations is in a heavily populated area. Animals have dirty green water tubs and rusty welded wire panels cages with big 4 inch holes (easy for cats to grab people, or for the public to put their arm in). This place is a major proponent of this bill, and they would be **EXEMPT FROM HR 3546** because they call themselves a 'sanctuary' and have 501©3 status.

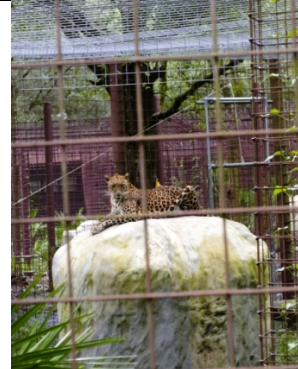
This, and similar rural or urban facilities, with clean water and superior, well maintained caging, would be **BANNED BY HR 3546** because they don't call themselves a 'sanctuary' and may or might not have 501©3 status. **HR3546 is NOT about public safety, conservation, or animal welfare. It is about animal rights, AR, political agenda of removing freedoms from Americans, and creating a special treatment for the exempt entities.**



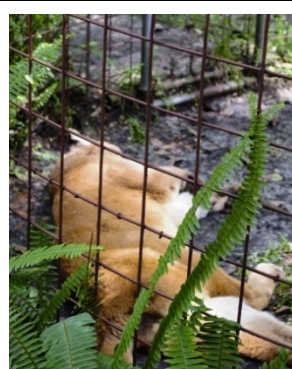
EXEMPT! Rusty or broken wires = public & animal safety risk



BANNED! Spacious, sturdy & clean exotic cat habitats



EXEMPT! Rusty cage with large mesh holes = public safety risk



BANNED! Spacious, clean, safe and well maintained strong chain link cages with very happy & healthy residents



EXEMPT! Dirty green water in the tubs = animal welfare risk



BANNED! Clean water tub to assure the animal welfare

