

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 3 OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO ANIMAL REGULATION.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. Title 3 (*Animal Regulation*), Chapter 3-1 (*General Provisions*) Section 3-1-1 (*Definitions*) is amended to add two new definitions and to renumber accordingly:

(2) BULLHOOK means any instrument or device consisting of a spike, hook, or other pointed section, attached to a shaft or handle made of wood, fiberglass, metal, or other solid or flexible material.

(3) CIRCUS ANIMAL means any animal owned by, transported by, or in the custody of a circus, including but not limited to elephants, big cats, lions, bears, primates, tigers, camels, monkeys, leopards, horses, and dogs.

PART 2. Chapter 3-2 (*Restrictions on Animals*) is amended to add a new Section 3-2-7 (*Treatment of Circus Animals*), to read:

§ 3-2-7 – TREATMENT OF CIRCUS ANIMALS

(A) A person may not engage in abusive behavior towards a circus animal, and may not attempt to train or control the behavior of a circus animal by any of the following methods:

(1) Deprivation of food, water, or rest;

(2) Use of electricity;

(3) Physical punishment resulting in damage, scarring, or breakage of skin;

(4) Insertion of any instrument into any bodily orifice; or

(5) Use of a bullhook, baseball bat, axe handle, pitchfork, or any other similar instrument.

(B) It shall be unlawful for a person to restrain a circus animal using chains or other similar restraining device for any reason, including but not limited to transportation, performance, training, and behavior control.

1 (C) For the purposes of subsection (A), the term “use” shall include brandishing,
2 exhibiting, or displaying any device prohibited by this section in the
3 presence of a circus animal and for the purposes of training or controlling
4 the behavior of the animal.

5 **PART 3.** Chapter 3-7 (*Enforcement and Penalties*) Section 3-7-2 (*Offense and Penalty*)
6 is amended to add a new 3-7-2(H) to read:

7 (H) The minimum fine for an offense under Section 3-2-7 (*Treatment of Circus*
8 Animals) is \$200 for each use of a prohibited device, training method, or
9 animal control technique.

10 **PART 4.** This ordinance takes effect on _____, 2015.

11 **PASSED AND APPROVED**

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15 _____, 2015

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Steve Adler
Mayor

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20 **APPROVED:**

Anne Morgan
Interim City Attorney

21 **ATTEST:**

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk