

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance adding Section 53.39.2 to Article 3, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to prohibit harmful animal exhibition activities in the City of Los Angeles, amending LAMC Sections 53.50(a)(1) and 53.65(b) to remove references to a rodeo permit, and deleting LAMC Section 53.50(f)(8) to remove reference to a rodeo permit fee.

WHEREAS, certain animal exhibition activities, including those commonly performed at rodeos, involve the aggressive riding, roping, and/or wrestling of steers, calves, bulls, horses, and other animals for live public entertainment and often cause harm and injuries to the animals involved, including sprains and broken limbs; and

WHEREAS, the City has a compelling interest in ensuring the safety and welfare of animals by prohibiting animal exhibition activities that are harmful and cause injury to animals.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Section 53.39.2 is added to Article 3, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

SEC. 53.39.2. PROHIBITED ANIMAL EXHIBITION ACTIVITIES.

(a) **Definitions.** The following definitions shall apply to this section:

1. **Bareback Bronc Riding.** An activity in which a person attempts to ride and remain mounted on a bucking horse without the use of a saddle.
2. **Bull Riding.** An activity in which a person attempts to ride and remain mounted on a bucking bull.
3. **Calf Roping.** An activity in which a person chases and catches a calf with a rope, lasso, or similar device and restrains the calf by tying its legs together.
4. **Saddle Bronc Riding.** An activity in which a person attempts to ride and remain mounted on a bucking horse while seated in a saddle.
5. **Steer Wrestling.** An activity in which a person chases a steer and wrestles the steer to the ground.

6. **Team Roping.** An activity in which two or more persons work together to chase and catch a steer using ropes, lassos, or similar devices.

(b) **Prohibited Animal Exhibition Activities.** It shall be unlawful to organize or engage in any of the following activities for live public amusement or entertainment: Bareback Bronc Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bull Riding, Calf Roping, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, or any other activity that involves physically wrestling an animal to the ground, roping an animal, or attempting to ride and remain mounted on a bucking animal.

(c) This section shall not be construed to prohibit an equestrian, cultural, or other event, including an event described as a rodeo, that does not include any of the activities prohibited under Subdivision (b) and that is in compliance with all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations, including any permits required under Section 53.50 of this Code.

Sec. 2. Section 53.50(a)(1) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

1. It shall be unlawful for any person, without first obtaining a permit from the Department pursuant to this section, to operate or conduct a business or enterprise in the City of Los Angeles that involves keeping or exhibiting animals, including, but not limited to, a dog kennel, cat kennel, pet shop, Zoo, wildlife conservation center, animal rental establishment, animal grooming parlor, riding academy, livery stable, boarding stable, pony ring or pony ride, horse market, mule market, pet show, cat show, animal acts or exhibitions, wild animals, miscellaneous animal or reptile establishment, or carrier and homing pigeons which are to be liberated for exercise or racing. A permit obtained under this section does not allow the permit holder to exhibit a wild, exotic or Dangerous Animal anywhere except on the permitted premises, unless the permit is issued in compliance with Section 53.39.1 of this Code.

Sec. 3. Section 53.50(f)(8) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is deleted and all subsequent subdivisions are renumbered.


Sec. 4. Section 53.65(b) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

(b) No person shall use or work any animal in any theatrical, motion picture, television or other performance or production without first obtaining a permit from the Department under the procedures contained in Section 53.50 of this article. However, any person in possession of a permit for Animal Acts or Exhibitions or Circus under this article shall not be required to obtain a permit under this section for the same activities. The Department before investigating any applications for a permit under this section shall require the payment of a fee in the amount of \$160.00.

Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By  _____
STEVE R. HOUCHIN
Deputy City Attorney

Date 7/17/24

File No. _____

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The Clerk of the City of Los Angeles hereby certifies that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

Ordinance Passed _____

Approved _____