

Our Australian Zoos Exhibit less than 20 percent of our indigenous species now, this will simply allow for the continued decline in species and knowledge of Australian Animals.

As we have seen in so many areas in Australian commerce once the large corporations swallow up the smaller ones it will result in job losses. The small business sector is the greatest employer in this Country.

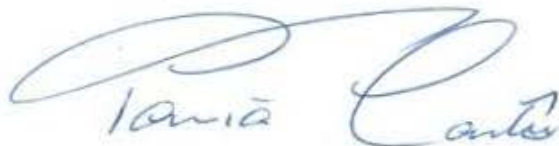
With the amount of red tape that is being proposed in section 37 many Demonstrators will simply be wiped out. There are literally hundreds of hours needed to supply the risk assessments, husbandry manuals, enclosure measurements and on and on it goes.

Surprisingly this section of the animal industry is not responsible for even one tenth of the notifiable animal mishaps. Why then are we being punished?

To conclude - we now have two Government Departments being paid to do what was achieved by one.

If any Government is serious about saving money then put us all back under the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. This department still covers Commercial Premises such as Pet Shops and can and do still issue Demonstrator licences at no charge. In fact all licences are still issued by the permit and licence management section of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

Lets try and save money, save jobs and save animals.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tania Carter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning of the first name.

Tania Carter
Cool Companions

Submission RE Exhibited Animals Bill 2015

I have several concerns regarding this Bill.

First and foremost is the seemingly "anticompetitive" behaviour being encouraged by way of writing and submitting this Bill as presented in the hope it will be legislated by this Government.

There are 63 small business people operating as Demonstrators/Mobile Exhibitors in Queensland, yet this Bill is written for the vastly smaller though more powerful group of some 12 Government/Corporate run Zoos.

My first example of this "anticompetitive behaviour" is the changing of the meaning of the word "Exhibit". In section 73 it is proposed the word "Exhibit" will only apply on ones own premises when open to the public every day. No longer will the display of animals at Shopping Centres, Schools or on any other Private Property be called Exhibiting. As Demonstrators are called "Mobile Exhibitors" in other States of Australia this beggars belief.

I feel this rule is to limit the competition to the comparatively small group of Zoos belonging to ZAA (Zoo and Aquarium Association). With the change of the definition of the word "Exhibit" Demonstrators will be limited in the number of Australian Species available for them to keep. This new meaning will inhibit Queensland Demonstrators from keeping exotic species, though it will not restrict Zoos from taking their exotic animals on the road. This restriction will come by way of a set number of hours animals will need to be "Exhibited".

I might add that interstate Demonstrators will not be able to be stopped from working in Queensland in direct competition to us.

This minimum number of hours of display will impact on acquiring new species as waiting for offspring to be born and raised for being suitable educational animals will require more time than will be allowed.