

Rt Hon David Cameron MP  
Prime Minister's Office  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014

Dear Mr Cameron,

We, the undersigned, call on the Government to support the Wild Animals in Circuses Bill, which will be introduced into Parliament by Jim Fitzpatrick MP on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, and ensure that sufficient time is made available for the provisions in the Bill to become law.

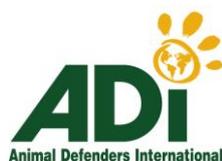
While we had hoped that the Bill would be included in the Queen's Speech earlier this year, there is still a chance for it to reach the statute book before the General Election. As the Bill has already been published in draft and scrutinised by a Select Committee of MPs, we hope that it will now be allowed to progress through Parliament in order to bring the suffering of wild animals in British circuses to an end.

This issue has been discussed for many years, even prior to the unanimous vote by the House of Commons in June 2011. Defra's own public consultation in 2010 found that 94.5% of respondents supported restrictive legislation, a move backed by vets, animal welfare experts and animal protection groups.

In the introduction to the draft Bill the Government notes "There is little or no educational, conservational, research or economic benefit derived from wild animals in travelling circuses that might justify their use and the loss of their ability to behave naturally as a wild animal." and in a personal letter to Animal Defenders International you stated that the use of wild animals in circuses was an "outdated practice".

In light of the Government's renewed commitment on this issue, as well as your personal support, we hope that this Bill can be given the chance to become law ahead of the General Election, ensuring that the planned implementation date of 1 December 2015 is met.

Yours sincerely



Jan Creamer  
President  
ADI



Julie Saunders  
Country Manager  
Four Paws



Libby Anderson  
Policy Director  
One Kind



Andrew Tyler  
Director  
Animal Aid



Suzi Morris  
UK Director  
WAP



Liz Tyson  
Director  
CAPS



David Bowles  
Head of Public Affairs  
RSPCA



Mimi Bekhechi  
Director  
PETA UK



Robin Hargreaves  
President  
BVA