

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1202

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interstate-connected conduct relating to exotic animals.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 1997

Mr. BROWN of California (for himself, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. MANTON, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. WYNN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. STARK, Mr. FILNER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. LEACH, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. MILLER of California, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. CLAY, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. FOGLETTA, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. PORTER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. KLUG, Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut, Mr. SKAGGS, Mr. CASTLE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. RANGEL), introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interstate-connected conduct relating to exotic animals.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Captive Exotic Animal  
5 Protection Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. TRANSPORT OR POSSESSION OF EXOTIC ANIMALS**  
2 **FOR PURPOSES OF KILLING OR INJURING**  
3 **THEM.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 18, United  
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-  
6 ing:

7 **“§ 48. Exotic animals**

8 “(a) Whoever, in or affecting interstate or foreign  
9 commerce, knowingly transfers, transports, or possesses a  
10 confined exotic animal, for the purposes of allowing the  
11 killing or injuring of that animal for entertainment or the  
12 collection of a trophy, shall be fined under this title or  
13 imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

14 “(b) As used in this section—

15 “(1) the term ‘confined exotic animal’ means a  
16 mammal of a species not historically indigenous to  
17 the United States that in fact has been held in cap-  
18 tivity for the shorter of—

19 “(A) the greater part of the animal’s life;  
20 or

21 “(B) a period of one year;  
22 whether or not the defendant knew the length of the  
23 captivity; and

24 “(2) the term ‘captivity’ does not include any  
25 period during which the animal—

1           “(A) lives as it would in the wild, surviving  
2           primarily by foraging for naturally occurring  
3           food, roaming at will over an open area of at  
4           least 1,000 acres; and

5           “(B) has the opportunity to avoid hun-  
6           ters.”.

7           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
8           at the end of chapter 3 of title 18, United States Code,  
9           is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“48. Exotic animals.”.

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