

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1329

To amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to treat nonhuman primates as prohibited wildlife species under that Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2005

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Mr. SIMMONS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to treat nonhuman primates as prohibited wildlife species under that Act.

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 Primate Safety
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) There may be as many as 15,000
9 nonhuman primates including chimpanzees, rhesus

1 macaques, capuchins, and other monkeys, owned by
2 private individuals in the United States.

3 (2) Primates can potentially transmit such dan-
4 gerous human diseases as yellow fever, monkey pox,
5 Ebola and Marburg virus, Foot and Mouth Disease,
6 tuberculosis, herpes-b, and Simian Immunodeficiency
7 Virus.

8 (3) Primates are highly intelligent and social
9 animals. Most captive environments cannot meet
10 their complex social and psychological needs, and pet
11 primates are often kept chained or confined in small
12 enclosures.

13 (4) A number of privately owned nonhuman pri-
14 mates have attacked humans and other animals, or
15 have escaped from their enclosures to freely and
16 dangerously roam the community.

17 (5) Over 40 percent of the 234 primate species
18 are now threatened with extinction, and primate pet
19 ownership does not contribute to the conservation of
20 the species.

1 **SEC. 3. ADDITION OF NONHUMAN PRIMATES TO DEFINI-**
2 **TION OF PROHIBITED WILDLIFE SPECIES.**

3 Section 2(g) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981
4 (16 U.S.C. 3371(g)) is amended by inserting before the
5 period at the end “or any non-human primate”.

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