HOUSE BILL No. 4791

May 15, 1997, Introduced by Reps. Hanley, Brater, Murphy, Baird, Gubow, Olshove, Dobronski, London, Law, Rocca, Bodem, Kaza, Goschka, Wojno, Willard, Gire, Freeman, Brewer, LaForge, Palamara, Lowe, Bogardus, Price, Varga, Prusi, Bobier, Tesanovich, Cherry, Hale, Stallworth, Godchaux, Leland, Owen, Mans, Galloway and Jellema and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

A bill to provide regulations and prohibitions concerning certain dangerous exotic animals; to impose fees; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain federal, state, and local governmental entities and officials; to provide standards for the care of certain dangerous exotic animals; and to prescribe penalties and provide remedies.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
- 2 "dangerous exotic animal act".
- 3 Sec. 2. As used in this act:
- 4 (a) "Dangerous exotic animal" means any of the following:
- 5 (i) A cat of the Felidae family of a species that is
- 6 non-native to this state, whether wild or captive bred, including
- 7 a hybrid cross with such a cat. This subparagraph does not
- 8 include a domesticated Felis catus.

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- 1 (ii) A bear of a species that is non-native to this state,
- 2 whether wild or captive bred.
- 3 (iii) A nonhuman primate. This subparagraph does not apply
- 4 to a nonhuman primate possessed by a scientific research
- **5** facility.
- 6 (b) "Department" means the department of agriculture of this7 state.
- 8 (c) "Director" means the director of the department.
- 9 (d) "Facility" means a cage, pen, or enclosure where a dan-
- 10 gerous exotic animal is kept.
- 11 (e) "Law enforcement authority" means a law enforcement
- 12 officer of a local unit, including an animal control officer; an
- 13 officer of the department of agriculture or a representative of
- 14 the department of agriculture under section 14(3); a conservation
- 15 officer of the department of natural resources; or a law enforce-
- 16 ment officer of the federal government.
- 17 (f) "Local unit" means a city, village, township, or
- 18 county.
- 19 (g) "Permit" means a permit issued under section 4.
- 20 (h) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,
- 21 association, governmental entity, or other legal entity.
- (i) "Veterinarian" means a person licensed to practice vet-
- 23 erinary medicine under article 15 of the public health code, 1978
- 24 PA 368, MCL 333.16101 to 333.18838.
- 25 Sec. 3. A person shall not do any of the following:
- 26 (a) Possess a dangerous exotic animal except in compliance
- 27 with this act.

- 1 (b) Make or receive, or attempt to make or receive, a
- 2 conveyance of ownership of a dangerous exotic animal unless the
- 3 person is exporting the dangerous exotic animal to another state
- 4 or country in compliance with section 12 or the conveyance is in
- 5 compliance with section 18 or 19.
- 6 (c) Breed a dangerous exotic animal.
- 7 Sec. 4. (1) Subject to section 21, a person shall not pos-
- 8 sess a dangerous exotic animal unless the person was in posses-
- 9 sion of that individual dangerous exotic animal on the effective
- 10 date of this act and obtains a permit. The permit applies only
- 11 to that individual dangerous exotic animal and is
- 12 nontransferable. A person shall file an application for a permit
- 13 within 90 days after the effective date of this act with the
- 14 local unit where the dangerous exotic animal is kept.
- 15 (2) An applicant for a permit shall include with the appli-
- 16 cation all of the following:
- 17 (a) A nonrefundable permit application fee of \$100.00.
- 18 (b) An annual permit fee. The annual permit fee shall be
- 19 established by the local unit and shall be not less than \$200.00
- 20 or an amount necessary to cover the local unit's actual, reason-
- 21 able costs of enforcing this act, whichever is greater.
- (c) A photograph of the dangerous exotic animal's facility,
- 23 the dimensions of the facility, and a scale diagram of the prop-
- 24 erty where the dangerous exotic animal will be kept, including
- 25 the location of any residence on that property.
- (d) A notarized statement that the existing facility or the
- 27 construction of a facility as required by this act is not

- 1 prohibited by an ordinance of a local unit in which the dangerous
- 2 exotic animal will be kept.
- 3 (e) A description of the number and type or types of danger-
- 4 ous exotic animals possessed by the applicant, a description of
- 5 the property where the dangerous exotic animal is to be kept, a
- 6 detailed description of each dangerous exotic animal possessed by
- 7 the applicant, and, if requested by the local unit, a description
- 8 of when, where, and how the applicant came to possess each dan-
- 9 gerous exotic animal.
- 10 (3) A local unit shall not issue a permit unless it finds
- 11 that all of the following apply:
- 12 (a) The requirements of subsections (1) and (2) are met.
- 13 (b) The applicant is 21 years of age or older.
- 14 (c) The applicant has not been convicted of violating a
- 15 state or federal criminal law or a local ordinance substantially
- 16 corresponding to a state or federal criminal law.
- 17 (d) A court order has not been issued against the applicant
- 18 under section 18(2).
- 19 (e) The facility and conditions in which the dangerous
- 20 exotic animal will be kept comply with this act.
- 21 (4) A permit shall set forth all of the following:
- 22 (a) The name and address of the permit holder, the address
- 23 where the dangerous exotic animal will be kept, if different, and
- 24 the number of dangerous exotic animals possessed by the permit
- 25 holder.

- 1 (b) A statement of the terms and conditions under which the
- 2 export of the dangerous exotic animal is permitted under this act
- 3 subject to other requirements of state and federal law.
- 4 (c) The place and conditions of quarantine, if required.
- 5 (d) A statement of any tests, veterinary examinations,
- 6 observation periods, and quarantine periods required by the
- 7 department.
- 8 (e) The name and address of the veterinarian who will pro-
- 9 vide veterinary care to the animal.
- 10 (f) Proof that the owner of the dangerous exotic animal has
- 11 liability insurance coverage for the animal.
- 12 (g) Any other reasonable information as determined by the
- 13 local unit, which may include, but need not be limited to, a des-
- 14 ignation of permits required by a local unit, the department, the
- 15 department of community health, the department of natural
- 16 resources, the United States department of agriculture, or the
- 17 fish and wildlife service of the United States department of the
- 18 interior.
- 19 (5) A local unit that issues a permit shall notify the
- 20 department of the name and address of the permit holder and the
- 21 type of dangerous exotic animal possessed by the permit holder.
- 22 (6) A person in possession of a dangerous exotic animal
- 23 shall annually pay the local unit the annual permit fee estab-
- 24 lished under subsection (2)(b).
- 25 Sec. 5. A person in possession of a dangerous exotic animal
- 26 shall ensure all of the following:

- 1 (a) That the dangerous exotic animal is under adult
- 2 supervision and control so as to prevent injury to any animal or
- 3 human.
- 4 (b) That, except when the dangerous exotic animal's facility
- 5 is being cleaned as required under this section or the dangerous
- 6 exotic animal is being transported as provided by section 11, the
- 7 dangerous exotic animal is never tethered outdoors, or trans-
- 8 ported outside of a travel cage, such as on a leash or chain but
- 9 is constantly kept in a facility that meets all of the following
- 10 requirements:
- 11 (i) Is sufficiently secure to prevent the dangerous exotic
- 12 animal's escape and protect the animal from injury.
- 13 (ii) Subject to section 9, is constructed of cement blocks,
- 14 bricks, concrete, chain link fence, wires, or bars of a suitable
- 15 thickness, gauge, or diameter to prevent that particular danger-
- 16 ous exotic animal's escape and to protect the dangerous exotic
- 17 animal from injury.
- 18 (iii) Is well braced and securely anchored at ground level
- 19 and utilizes metal clamps, ties, or braces of a strength pre-
- 20 scribed for cage construction for the dangerous exotic animal.
- 21 (iv) Has a double-gated safety entrance with a lock.
- (v) Has safety barriers adequate to prevent a human from
- 23 coming into contact with the dangerous exotic animal.
- 24 (c) That the dangerous exotic animal is not mistreated or
- 25 neglected.
- 26 (d) That the conditions in which the dangerous exotic animal
- 27 is kept, including, but not limited to, the following, are safe

- 1 and conducive to the dangerous exotic animal's physical and
- 2 psychological health and comfort:
- 3 (i) Temperature.
- $\mathbf{4}$ (*ii*) Ventilation.
- 5 (iii) Humidity.
- 6 (iv) Drainage.
- 7 (v) Sanitation.
- **8** (*vi*) Diet.
- **9** (*vii*) Exercise.
- (e) That potable drinking water is provided daily in a
- 11 clean, accessible container, unless otherwise directed by a
- 12 veterinarian.
- 13 (f) That swimming or wading pools are cleaned as needed to
- 14 ensure sufficiently sanitary water quality.
- 15 (g) That there is adequate drainage of surface water from
- 16 the facility.
- 17 (h) That food is unspoiled and not contaminated with
- 18 insects, fecal material, or any other substance that may cause
- 19 the food to be unpalatable, that may decrease the nutrient value
- 20 of the food, or that may pose a health risk to the animal.
- 21 (i) That fecal and food wastes are removed from the facility
- 22 daily and stored or disposed of in a manner that prevents noxious
- 23 odors, insect pests, or risks to human health or the environment,
- 24 that hard floors are scrubbed and disinfected weekly, and that
- 25 large pens with dirt floors are raked every day and that the
- 26 raked waste is removed every day.

- 1 (j) That a shift cage is used to temporarily contain the
- 2 dangerous exotic animal while its primary facility is being
- 3 cleaned.
- 4 (k) That at the expense of the owner, care for a dangerous
- 5 exotic animal is provided by a veterinarian as needed, that such
- 6 care is documented, and that a veterinarian's necropsy report is
- 7 provided to the department promptly after the dangerous exotic
- 8 animal that dies.
- 9 Sec. 6. A person in possession of a dangerous exotic animal
- 10 that is a cat shall ensure that the cat's facility, in addition
- 11 to the other requirements of this act, meets all of the following
- 12 requirements:
- (i) Has a floor area of at least 800 square feet, plus an
- 14 additional 400 square feet for each cat in excess of 1 kept in
- 15 the facility.
- 16 (ii) Is at least 8 feet high.
- 17 (iii) For each cat, has a 2- by 8-foot shelf elevated 3
- 18 feet, 2 claw logs, and a den.
- 19 Sec. 7. A person in possession of a dangerous exotic animal
- 20 that is a bear shall ensure that the bear's facility, in addition
- 21 to the other requirements of this act, meets all of the following
- 22 requirements:
- 23 (i) Has a floor area of at least 1,000 square feet for each
- **24** bear.
- 25 (ii) Has at least 400 square feet of dry, shaded resting
- **26** area.

- 1 (iii) Is at least 12 feet high.
- 2 (iv) For bears other than polar bears, is equipped with a
- 3 pool the dimensions of which are at least 2 feet wide, 2 feet
- 4 long, and 18 inches deep with water spraying devices or a pool
- 5 the dimensions of which are at least 4 feet wide, 6 feet long,
- 6 and 3 feet deep.
- 7 (v) For polar bears, is equipped with a pool with at least
- 8 96 square feet of surface area and at least 8 feet deep.
- 9 Sec. 8. A person in possession of a dangerous exotic animal
- 10 that is a nonhuman primate shall ensure that the nonhuman
- 11 primate's facility, in addition to the other requirements of this
- 12 act, meets all of the following requirements as applicable:
- 13 (i) For marmosets:
- 14 (A) Has a floor area of at least 6 square feet, plus 3
- 15 square feet for each marmoset in excess of 2 adults.
- 16 (B) Is at least 4 feet high.
- 17 (C) Has at least 2 perching branches and 1 nest box, plus 2
- 18 perching branches and 1 nest box for each adult in excess of 2
- 19 adults.
- 20 (ii) For squirrel, titis, owl, and other new world monkeys
- 21 of a similar size as determined by the department:
- 22 (A) Has a floor area of at least 20 square feet, plus 4
- 23 square feet for each such dangerous exotic animal in excess of 3
- 24 adults.
- 25 (B) Is at least 5 feet high.

- 1 (C) Has at least 2 perching branches and 1 nest box, plus 2
- 2 perching branches and 1 nest box for each adult in excess of 3
- 3 adults.
- 4 (iii) For medium sized South American monkeys, including
- 5 capuchins, sakis, and other monkeys of a similar size as deter-
- 6 mined by the department:
- 7 (A) Has a floor area of at least 25 square feet, plus 6.25
- 8 square feet for each such dangerous exotic animal in excess of 2
- 9 adults.
- 10 (B) Is at least 6 feet high.
- 11 (C) Has at least 3 parallel swinging bars, plus 3 parallel
- 12 swinging bars for each adult in excess of 2 adults.
- 13 (iv) For large South American monkeys, including spider,
- 14 woolly, howler, and other monkeys of a similar size as determined
- 15 by the department:
- 16 (A) Has a floor area of at least 50 square feet, plus 12.5
- 17 square feet for each such dangerous exotic animal in excess of 2
- 18 adults.
- 19 (B) Is at least 8 feet high.
- 20 (C) Has at least 3 parallel swinging bars and 2 perching
- 21 areas, plus 3 parallel swinging bars and 2 perching areas for
- 22 each adult in excess of 2 adults.
- (v) For macaques, guenons, mangabeys, and langurs:
- 24 (A) Has a floor area of at least 40 square feet, plus 10
- 25 square feet for each such dangerous exotic animal in excess of 2
- 26 adults.

- 1 (B) Is at least 6 feet high.
- 2 (C) Has at least 3 perching areas, plus 3 perching areas for
- 3 each adult in excess of 2 adults.
- 4 (vi) For baboons and mandrills:
- 5 (A) Has a floor area of at least 60 square feet, plus 18
- ${f 6}$ square feet for each such dangerous exotic animal in excess of 2
- 7 adults.
- 8 (B) Is at least 6 feet high.
- 9 (C) Has 2 1-foot wide resting shelves or perches, plus 2
- 10 1-foot wide resting shelves or perches for each adult in excess
- 11 of 2 adults.
- 12 (vii) For gibbons:
- (A) Has a floor area of at least 72 square feet, plus 21.5
- 14 square feet for each gibbon in excess of 2 adults.
- 15 (B) Is at least 8 feet high.
- 16 (C) Has at least 3 parallel swinging bars, 1 1-foot wide
- 17 resting shelf, plus 3 parallel swinging bars and 1 1-foot wide
- 18 resting shelf for each adult in excess of 2 adults. Swinging
- 19 bars shall be at 4-foot intervals in the top 1/3 of the
- 20 facility.
- 21 (viii) For chimpanzees and orangutans:
- 22 (A) Has a floor area of at least 20-foot by 20-foot for each
- 23 such dangerous exotic animal under 50 pounds, plus 25-foot by
- 24 25-foot for each such dangerous exotic animal over 50 pounds.
- 25 (B) Is at least 6 feet high.
- 26 (C) Has at least 1 seating area, at least 1 perch, and at
- 27 least 1 swinging bar, plus 1 seating area, 1 perch, and 1

- 1 swinging bar for each such dangerous exotic animal in excess of 1
- 2 animal.
- 3 (ix) For gorillas:
- 4 (A) Has a floor area of at least 40-foot by 40-foot, plus
- 5 800 square feet for each gorilla in excess of 1 gorilla.
- 6 (B) Is at least 8 feet high.
- 7 (C) Has at least 1 seating area, at least 1 perch, and at
- 8 least 1 swinging bar, plus 1 seating area, 1 perch, and 1 swing-
- 9 ing bar for each gorilla in excess of 1 gorilla.
- 10 Sec. 9. A person in possession of a dangerous exotic animal
- 11 shall ensure that the dangerous exotic animal's facility, in
- 12 addition to the other requirements of this act, meets the follow-
- 13 ing requirements as applicable:
- 14 (a) For chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans, and similar
- 15 primates:
- 16 (i) For an outdoor facility, construction materials consist
- 17 of steel bars, 2-inch galvanized pipe, masonry block, or their
- 18 strength equivalent.
- 19 (ii) For an indoor facility, potential escape routes are
- 20 equipped with steel bars, 2-inch galvanized pipe, or their equiv-
- 21 alent as determined by the department.
- 22 (b) For drills and mandrills, baboons, gelada baboons, gib-
- 23 bons, siamangs, snow leopards, jaguars, tigers, lions, and
- 24 bears:
- 25 (i) For an outdoor facility, construction materials consist
- 26 of 9-gauge or a larger gauge chain link, or its equivalent.

- 1 (ii) For an indoor facility, potential escape routes are
- 2 equipped with wire or grating of 9-gauge chain link or a larger
- 3 gauge or its equivalent.
- 4 (c) For howler monkeys, uakaris, mangabeys, guenons, bearded
- 5 sakis, guereza monkeys, Celebes black apes, idris, macaques, lan-
- 6 gurs, douc langurs, snub-nosed langurs, proboscis monkeys, leop-
- 7 ards, clouded leopards, cheetahs, ocelots, servals, lynx, carac-
- 8 als, African golden cats, Temminck's golden cats, and fishing
- 9 cats:
- 10 (i) For outdoor facilities, construction materials consist
- 11 of 11-1/2-gauge chain link or a larger gauge or its equivalent.
- 12 (ii) For indoor facilities, potential escape routes are
- 13 equipped with wire or grating of 11-1/2-gauge chain link or a
- 14 larger gauge, or its equivalent.
- 15 Sec. 10. (1) A person in possession of a dangerous exotic
- 16 animal shall have an identification number placed on the danger-
- 17 ous exotic animal, at the owner's expense, by or under the super-
- 18 vision of a veterinarian, or of another person approved by the
- 19 department. The department shall assign an identification number
- 20 to the dangerous exotic animal, and the identification number
- 21 shall be listed in the department's records under 1939 PA 309,
- 22 MCL 287.301 to 287.308. An identification number shall be placed
- 23 on a dangerous exotic animal by marking the number with indelible
- 24 ink on the dangerous exotic animal's inner left thigh or by sub-
- 25 cutaneously injecting the dangerous exotic animal with a micro-
- 26 chip on which the number is stored.

- 1 (2) A person in possession of a dangerous exotic animal
- 2 shall, at his or her own expense, have the dangerous exotic
- 3 animal sexually sterilized by a licensed veterinarian at an age
- 4 deemed medically appropriate.
- 5 Sec. 11. A person transporting a dangerous exotic animal in
- 6 a vehicle shall comply with the standards of the international
- 7 animal transport association and with all of the following
- 8 requirements:
- 9 (a) The dangerous exotic animal shall be individually caged,
- 10 even while inside a passenger vehicle or in the open bed of a
- 11 truck. However, a female dangerous exotic animal and each of her
- 12 unweaned offspring, if any, shall be transported in the same
- 13 cage.
- 14 (b) The vehicle shall provide fresh air without injurious
- 15 drafts and provide adequate protection from the elements to the
- 16 dangerous exotic animal.
- 17 (c) The dangerous exotic animal cargo area shall be free of
- 18 engine exhaust fumes.
- 19 (d) Fecal and food wastes shall be removed from the danger-
- 20 ous exotic animal's quarters on at least a daily basis.
- 21 (e) The temperature within the dangerous exotic animal's
- 22 enclosure shall not be harmful to the dangerous exotic animal's
- 23 health.
- 24 (f) The dangerous exotic animal's cage shall be large enough
- 25 to ensure that the dangerous exotic animal has sufficient space
- 26 to stand erect, turn around, and lie naturally.

- 1 (q) The dangerous exotic animal shall not be placed in
- 2 enclosures over or next to other animals unless each enclosure
- 3 has a fitted floor or lateral partition that prevents excreta
- 4 from entering lower or adjacent enclosures.
- 5 (h) A dangerous exotic animal shall be given potable water
- 6 at least twice daily and fed in a manner appropriate for that
- 7 species of animal, unless otherwise directed by a licensed
- 8 veterinarian.
- 9 Sec. 12. A person shall not export or attempt to export a
- 10 dangerous exotic animal to another state or country unless all of
- 11 the following requirements are met:
- 12 (a) The export is approved by the department.
- 13 (b) The import and possession of the dangerous exotic animal
- 14 is lawful in the other state or country.
- 15 (c) The destination and proposed new owner of the dangerous
- 16 exotic animal have been approved by the regulatory agency in the
- 17 other state or country having authority to do so, if any.
- 18 Sec. 13. The department shall do all of the following:
- 19 (a) Provide each veterinarian, animal control shelter, and
- 20 animal protection shelter in this state with information on the
- 21 requirements of this act.
- (b) Together with the department of natural resources,
- 23 inform the public of the requirements of this act.
- Sec. 14. (1) A person who violates this act or an order
- 25 under section 18 is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or
- 26 more of the following:

- 1 (a) Imprisonment for not more than 90 days.
- 2 (b) Community service work for not more than 1,000 hours.
- 3 (c) A fine of not less than \$2,000.00.
- 4 (d) Revocation of a permit.
- 5 (e) Loss of privileges to own or possess any animal for any
- 6 period of time determined by the court.
- 7 (f) Payment of the cost of prosecution.
- 8 (g) Payment of the cost to law enforcement authorities to
- 9 care for, relocate, or euthanize any confiscated dangerous exotic
- 10 animal.
- 11 (2) This act may be enforced by any law enforcement
- 12 authority. A state or local law enforcement authority authorized
- 13 to enforce this act is authorized to issue an appearance ticket
- 14 as described and authorized by sections 9a to 9g of chapter IV of
- 15 the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 764.9a to
- 16 764.9g, for misdemeanor violations.
- 17 (3) The department may designate a person in this state to
- 18 serve as the department's representative under this act for a fee
- 19 established by the department.
- 20 (4) A person in possession of a dangerous exotic animal
- 21 shall present a permit upon the request of a law enforcement
- 22 authority.
- Sec. 15. (1) Locations where dangerous exotic animals are
- 24 kept in captivity are subject to inspection at reasonable hours
- 25 by a law enforcement authority.
- 26 (2) If a law enforcement authority finds that this act is
- 27 being violated, the law enforcement authority shall notify the

- 1 person in possession of the dangerous exotic animal in writing of
- 2 the violation. By not more than 30 days after the notice is
- 3 delivered, the person in possession of the dangerous exotic
- 4 animal shall correct the violation or convey the dangerous exotic
- 5 animal to a person approved by the department who is permitted
- 6 under this act or otherwise authorized by law to possess the dan-
- 7 gerous exotic animal, and shall notify the law enforcement
- 8 authority of the action taken. Notice that the dangerous exotic
- 9 animal was conveyed under this subsection shall include evidence
- 10 of the conveyance satisfactory to the law enforcement authority.
- 11 (3) Unless the person in possession of the dangerous exotic
- 12 animal notifies the law enforcement authority that the dangerous
- 13 exotic animal was conveyed to another person under subsection
- 14 (2), the law enforcement authority shall conduct an unannounced
- 15 second inspection at a reasonable time between not less than 30
- 16 or more than 60 days after notice of the violation was delivered
- 17 under subsection (2). When the second inspection is conducted,
- 18 the person in possession of the dangerous exotic animal shall pay
- 19 a reinspection fee of \$100.00 or actual, reasonable costs, which-
- 20 ever is greater, to the law enforcement authority. If, upon the
- 21 second inspection, the law enforcement authority finds that the
- 22 person in possession of the dangerous exotic animal has not cor-
- 23 rected the violation, the department shall revoke the person's
- 24 permit after an evidentiary hearing under the administrative pro-
- 25 cedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, and the
- 26 dangerous exotic animal shall be confiscated by the law
- 27 enforcement authority. The law enforcement authority shall

- 1 lawfully place the dangerous exotic animal in a nature preserve,
- 2 wildlife sanctuary, animal protection shelter, or a zoo accredi-
- 3 ted by the association of zoos and aquaria, where the dangerous
- 4 exotic animal will be safely and humanely cared for in compliance
- 5 with this act, or humanely euthanized. If such a placement is
- 6 not available, the law enforcement authority shall attempt to
- 7 place the dangerous exotic animal under section 18(2)(c), or have
- 8 the animal humanely euthanized at the owner's expense.
- 9 (4) Dangerous exotic animals housed in conditions constitut-
- 10 ing a clear and present danger to human safety shall, under the
- 11 direction of the department, be immediately placed in approved
- 12 facilities at the expense of the owner.
- Sec. 16. (1) A person who witnesses a dangerous exotic
- 14 animal attack any animal or a human, or who reasonably believes
- 15 such an attack is about to occur, may capture, repel, disable, or
- 16 kill the dangerous exotic animal that is attacking or about to
- 17 attack. A person is immune from civil or criminal liability for
- 18 actions authorized by this section.
- 19 (2) A law enforcement authority, the director, or the
- 20 department's representative may confiscate, or capture by means
- 21 of tranquilization or other humane methods, a dangerous exotic
- 22 animal to ensure the compliance with and enforcement of this
- **23** act.
- Sec. 17. (1) The owner or person in possession of a danger-
- 25 ous exotic animal is civilly liable for the death of or injury to
- 26 any animal, or a human, or for property damage caused by the

- 1 dangerous exotic animal, whether or not the person possesses a
- 2 permit.
- 3 (2) If a dangerous exotic animal escapes or is released,
- 4 intentionally or unintentionally, the owner shall immediately
- 5 contact a law enforcement officer of the local unit where the
- 6 escape or release occurred to report the loss, escape, or
- 7 release. An owner is responsible for all expenses associated
- 8 with efforts to recapture a dangerous exotic animal that is
- 9 released or escapes.
- 10 Sec. 18. (1) A district court may issue a summons to show
- 11 cause why a dangerous exotic animal should not be humanely eutha-
- 12 nized, securely confined, sexually sterilized, or confiscated if
- 13 the court is presented with a sworn complaint alleging 1 or more
- 14 of the following:
- 15 (a) The dangerous exotic animal is not maintained as
- 16 required by section 5(a).
- 17 (b) The dangerous exotic animal has destroyed property of
- 18 value, habitually caused damage while trespassing on the property
- 19 of a person who is not the owner of the dangerous exotic animal,
- 20 or injured other animals.
- 21 (c) The dangerous exotic animal has killed or seriously
- 22 injured any human or another animal.
- 23 (2) After a hearing, if the court finds that any of the
- 24 allegations under subsection (1) are true, the court may order
- 25 any of the following:
- (a) That the dangerous exotic animal be humanely
- 27 euthanized.

- 1 (b) That the dangerous exotic animal be securely confined
- 2 under this act on the owner's property, or sexually sterilized,
- 3 or both, as the court determines appropriate.
- 4 (c) That the dangerous exotic animal be permanently confis-
- 5 cated from the owner and transferred to a person approved by the
- 6 department to care for the dangerous exotic animal on a temporary
- 7 or permanent basis at a location where the dangerous exotic
- 8 animal will be safely and humanely cared for or humanely eutha-
- 9 nized in accordance with this act.
- 10 (3) If a dangerous exotic animal is confiscated under this
- 11 section, the owner of the dangerous exotic animal is responsible
- 12 for all costs associated with the confiscation and placement of
- 13 the dangerous exotic animal.
- 14 Sec. 19. (1) A permit may be revoked by the department
- 15 after an evidentiary hearing under the administrative procedures
- 16 act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, if the department
- 17 finds that 1 or more of the following have occurred:
- 18 (a) The permit holder has been convicted of cruelty to
- 19 animals.
- 20 (b) The permit holder has violated this act.
- 21 (c) A court order has been issued against the applicant or
- 22 permit holder under section 18(2).
- 23 (d) The dangerous exotic animal has seriously injured or
- 24 killed a human or another animal.
- 25 (2) In addition to the sanctions provided in subsection (1),
- 26 a person who possesses a dangerous exotic animal and who does not
- 27 obtain a permit for that dangerous exotic animal as required

- 1 under this act shall by not more than 14 days after delivery of
- 2 written notification by the department transfer the ownership of
- 3 the dangerous exotic animal to a person authorized under this act
- 4 to possess the dangerous exotic animal. A person who violates
- 5 this subsection is responsible for all costs associated with the
- 6 confiscation of the dangerous exotic animal and the attempt to
- 7 place the dangerous exotic animal in a lawful situation.
- 8 Sec. 20. (1) A local unit may adopt an ordinance governing
- 9 dangerous exotic animals that is more restrictive than the provi-
- 10 sions of this act.
- 11 (2) The requirements of this act are in addition to other
- 12 requirements governing dangerous exotic animals under state and
- 13 federal law.
- 14 Sec. 21. The permit requirements of section 4 of this act
- 15 do not apply to the possession of a dangerous exotic animal by a
- 16 facility licensed or approved by the association of zoos and
- 17 aquaria, the United States department of agriculture, or the fish
- 18 and wildlife service of the United States department of the
- 19 interior.

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