

***Private Members Bill 69,
An Act to Amend the Ontario Society
for the Prevention of Cruelty to
Animals Act to protect elephants***

Our Request

On behalf of AWAC, we ask that the Mayor and members of London's City Council write a letter of support for Bill 69, *Elephant Protection Act 2012* to Premier Dalton McGuinty and all Members of Provincial Parliament

Bill 69: What It Is

- Amends the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) Act
- Applies to elephants *only*
- Prohibits use of an electric prod, a bullhook (ankus), a pole or similar device to shock, poke, strike, hit, stab, pierce or pinch the skin of an elephant
- Prohibits use of a chain, rope or similar device to restrain an elephant
- Subject to certain exceptions: elephant is being physically examined/treated, or to load/unload onto/off of a vehicle

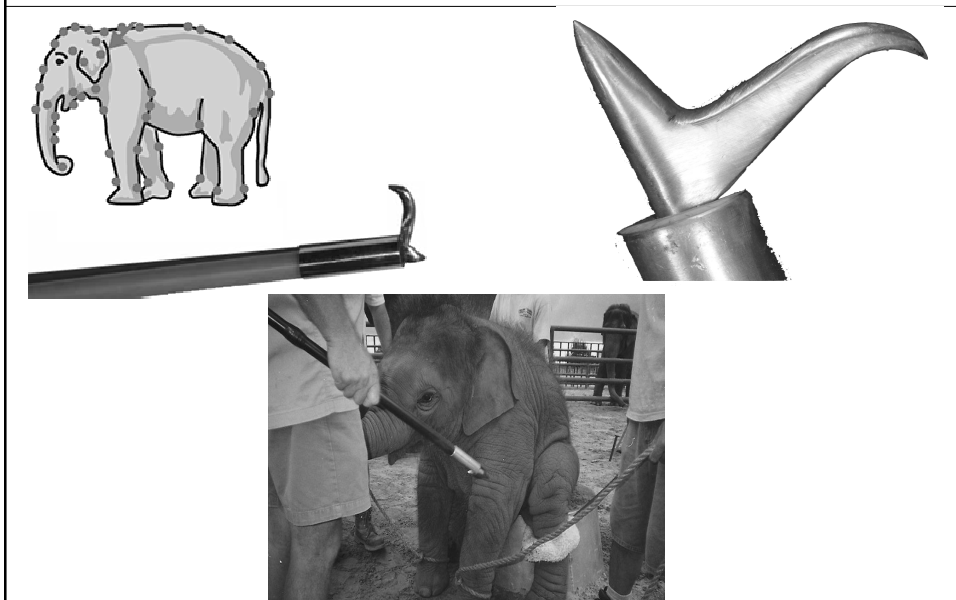
Bill 69: Why?

- Bullhooks, electric prods, and chaining are abusive & outdated disciplinary tools used by circuses/shows, and are designed to cause pain and invoke fear
- The elephants may also be chained by 1 or 2 legs for substantial periods of time, restricting movement to 1 or 2 steps
- These methods & tools are used to dominate elephants by breaking their spirit to make them more compliant
- Modern, progressive zoos have stopped using fear/dominance-based training; instead, they use a safer, more humane system such as "Protected Contact"
- Abusive training methods often result in life-long injuries to the elephants and a high risk to handlers (ie. escape and rampages that damage property and can cause injury/death of people)

Devices To Be Banned: Tethers



Devices To Be Banned: Bullhook



Video:
Use of the Bull hook

How Does It Apply to London?

- The circus comes each year
- As well, there are numerous circus corporations that may choose to come to London in the future

How Does It Apply to Ontario?

- Elephant-keeping businesses, such as the African Lion Safari, still use bullhooks in their elephant handling and training practices
- This facility and others could easily switch to the more modern method of handling elephants, “Protected Contact Management”

Protected Contact



What London Can Do For Bill 69

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