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

- macaques, capuchins, and other monkeys, owned by
 private individuals in the United States.
- (2) Primates can potentially transmit such dangerous human diseases as yellow fever, monkey pox,
 Ebola and Marburg virus, Foot and Mouth Disease,
 tuberculosis, herpes-b, and Simian Immunodeficiency
 Virus.
 - (3) Primates are highly intelligent and social animals. Most captive environments cannot meet their complex social and psychological needs, and pet primates are often kept chained or confined in small enclosures.
 - (4) A number of privately owned nonhuman primates have attacked humans and other animals, or have escaped from their enclosures to freely and dangerously roam the community.
 - (5) Over 40 percent of the 234 primate species are now threatened with extinction, and primate pet ownership does not contribute to the conservation of 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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