STATE OF NEW YORK

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4840--B

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 16, 2021
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Introduced by Sen. BIAGGI -- read twice and ordered printed, and when
  printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation
  -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended
  and recommitted to said committee -- committee discharged, bill
  amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said commit-
  tee

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to
  prohibiting the issuance of permits authorizing the use of wild
  animals in circuses or traveling animal acts

  The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-
  bly, do enact as follows:

1   Section 1. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a
2   new section 11-0541 to read as follows:
3   **§ 11-0541. Prohibition on the issuance of permits authorizing the use of**
4   **wild animals in circuses or traveling animal acts.**
5   **1. The department shall not issue a permit or license, including, but**
6   **not limited to, an education or exhibition permit or an endangered or**
7   **threatened species license, authorizing the exhibition of a wild animal**
8   **in a circus notwithstanding a valid United States department of agricul-**
9   **ture license, or a traveling animal act.**
10   **2. Such a prohibition shall not apply to:**
11   **a. a facility accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums;**
12   **b. a wildlife sanctuary.**
13   **3. For the purposes of this section the following terms shall have the**
14   **following meanings:**
15   **(a) "traveling animal act" shall mean any performance of wild animals**
16   **where such animals are transported to, from, or between locations for**
17   **the purpose of such performance; and**
18   **(b) "performance" shall mean any exhibition or public showing in which**
19   **wild animals are required to perform tricks, give rides, or participate**
20   **as accompaniments for the entertainment, amusement, or benefit of a live**
21   **audience.**
22   § 2. This act shall take effect December 31, 2022.

     EXPLANATION--Matter in **italics** (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
                        [-] is old law to be omitted.

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