



## The Kerulos Center

for Animal Psychology and Trauma Recovery

Statement Prepared for The L.A. City Mayor and Councilmembers

The proposed L.A. Zoo Pachyderm Forest will not save Billy from his plight, nor will the use of inaccurate science. As one example, the L.A. Zoo website quotes Dr. Jeff Bronstein saying that he "observed nothing that suggests that Billy is being kept in an inhuman manor (sic)." Dr. Bronstein may be an expert in Parkinson's Disease and the molecular biology of movement disorders, however this does not apply to the psychophysiology of trauma. In light of what we know of Billy's history, neuroscience, psychology, and ethology, Dr. Bronstein's opinion is irrelevant. Billy's head bobbing is consistent with severe mental and emotional distress documented in caged animals and imprisoned humans. Accurate, decades-long research and science ethically compels a decision to send Billy to sanctuary and close the L.A. Zoo elephant exhibit.

G.A. Bradshaw Ph.D., Ph.D. Executive Director, The Kerulos Center, with expertise in psychological and physiological effects of stress and trauma in elephants and other animals. [bradshaw@kerulos.org](mailto:bradshaw@kerulos.org)

Lori Marino Ph.D Neuroscience & Behavioral Biology Program, Emory University with 18 years experience and expertise in comparative behavioral biology, neuroanatomy, intelligence, and self-awareness in other species. [lmarino@emory.edu](mailto:lmarino@emory.edu)