

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Release, 1 February 2018

Petition: To prohibit circuses featuring wild animals to trade in TRC jurisdiction

Humane Society International (HSI), aided by Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE), are circulating a petition "asking Toowoomba Regional Council to prohibit all future circuses using animals in the Toowoomba Regional Council area." We ask this based upon the inhumane conditions that the animals are kept in, the conditions under which the animals are transported, and the inappropriate messages conveyed to children by forcing wild animals to perform circus tricks.

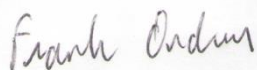
Humane Society International spokesperson Ms Virginia Breen said "HSI has therefore decided to petition your Council and try to change their policy of allowing such circuses on council land, as part of an Australia-wide campaign. We have found the majority of Councils when approached on this issue do ban these circuses, as most were previously unaware of the exploitation and cruelty involved."

"Working in conjunction with other concerned groups and individuals, we have had many successes - thanks to the hard work and support of our members," said Ms Breen.

Persons interested in supporting this petition and collecting signatures are asked to contact the HOPE office by email office@hopeaustralia.org.au to request a petition form.

The completed petition sheets should then be returned to **Humane Society International, PO Box 439, Avalon NSW 2107** so that they may be collated and lodged with Toowoomba Regional Council.

Regards,



Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135n