

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4

April 11, 2022

BILL NO. 3281

By: Humphrey of the House

and

Bullard of the Senate

An Act relating to animals; creating the Endangered Ark Foundation Preservation Act; providing purpose; defining terms; exempting certain acts from cruelty to animals; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1685.2 of Title 21, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Endangered Ark Foundation Preservation Act".

B. The purpose of this act is to preserve the safety, health, and well-being of elephants in Oklahoma.

C. As used in the Endangered Ark Foundation Preservation Act:

1. "Free contact" means the use of tools and techniques such as a guide and tether to help elephants cope with certain conditions or as necessary during intensive procedures associated with treating chronic illnesses or animal reproduction; and

1 2. "Protected contact" means the contact between elephant and
2 handler through a barrier such as a chute or an elephant restraint
3 device.

4 D. It shall not be considered cruelty to animals as provided in
5 Section 1685 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes for licensed
6 operators of a nonprofit entity caring for elephants to practice
7 free contact and protected contact.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND WILDLIFE
10 April 11, 2022 - DO PASS
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24