

## **Resolution in Support of Ending the Elephant Exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo**

**WHEREAS**, many zoos in the United States and Europe have closed their elephant exhibits, citing lack of space, inadequate social groupings, chronic health problems, anxiety, agitation and premature death suffered by captive zoo elephants, while acknowledging the Scientific American Board of Editors' conclusion that keeping elephants - intelligent and emotionally complex animals - confined zoos is wrong and must stop; and

**WHEREAS**, elephants in the wild typically roam 50 miles each day, even when food is abundant, and depend on vast amounts of space to maintain their physical well-being and strong social bonds with extended family networks, but at the Los Angeles Zoo, three elephants - Billy, Tina, and Jewel - are confined to only a few acres while Billy, the male elephant has lived over a quarter century in virtual isolation; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party urges the City of Los Angeles to end its captive elephant breeding program, transfer Billy, Tina, and Jewel, at the earliest possible opportunity, to an existing sanctuary recognized for offering humane living conditions for these majestic animals; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The Los Angeles County Democratic Party shall communicate this resolution to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, the Los Angeles City Council, the Director of the Los Angeles Zoo, the Los Angeles Zoo Commission and to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Written by Marcy Winograd, member, West LA Democratic Club

Sponsor: Tony Hale, AD 66

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