

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PERFORMING ANIMALS PROTECTION AMENDMENT BILL

*(As amended by the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
(National Assembly))
(The English text is the official text of the Bill)*

(MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES)

[B 9B—2015]

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Functions of National Licensing Officer

3C. (1) The National Licensing Officer may, in a manner that is not inconsistent with this Act or the regulations—

- (a) grant a licence; 5
- (b) refuse a licence;
- (c) amend a licence;
- (d) suspend a licence;
- (e) reinstate a licence;
- (f) cancel a licence;
- (g) withdraw a licence; 10
- (h) attach terms, conditions or limitations to a licence, additional to those provided for in any regulation made under this Act; or
- (i) request from any person or organisation, subject to the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000), any information that may be required to enable the National Licensing Officer to consider an application for a licence. 15

(2) The National Licensing Officer may, in respect of a licence granted in terms of subsection (1)(a)—

- (a) suspend, for such period as it may determine, or cancel a licence for non-compliance with this Act or any regulations made under this Act, or with any terms, conditions or limitations attached to a licence in terms of section 3C(1)(h): Provided that the licence holder has been informed of the non-compliance and given a reasonable opportunity to rectify the non-compliance. 20
- (b) declare such licence to be subject to such conditions as contained in this Act and the regulations made under this Act, and further conditions specific to the application concerned; or 25
- (c) withdraw the suspension of such licence or of any right or privilege that is attached thereto, subject to such conditions as contained in this Act and the regulations made under this Act. 30

(3) The National Licensing Officer must perform such other functions as may be assigned to him or her in terms of this Act.

Appointment of experts

3D. The Director-General may, at the request of the National Licensing Officer, and subject to the laws regulating the public service, appoint such experts or other persons as may be necessary to implement this Act. 35

Delegation of powers and functions

3E. (1) The National Licensing Officer may delegate any of his or her functions under this Act to—

- (a) an officer, in consultation with the relevant head of department; or 40
 - (b) an expert or other person appointed in terms of section 3D.
- (2) A delegation in terms of subsection (1) must—
- (a) be in writing; and
 - (b) state the nature and extent of the delegation.

(3) A person contemplated in subsection (1) must comply with the qualifications set out in section 3B. 45

Application for licence

3F. (1) Any person who—

- (a) intends to exhibit an animal;
 - (b) trains an animal to be exhibited; or 50
 - (c) uses an animal for safeguarding,
- must apply to the National Licensing Officer for the district in which the permanent address of the applicant is situated and must pay the prescribed fee.

(2) An application for a licence in terms of this Act must be in writing and must include the following information:

- (a) A detailed description of the animal that the applicant intends to exhibit or train for exhibition or use for safeguarding; 5
- (b) a detailed description of the general nature of the performances in which the animal is intended to be exhibited or trained to be exhibited; 5
- (c) a detailed description of the general nature of the safeguarding in which the animal is intended to be used;
- (d) a detailed description of the type of living quarters that will be provided to the animal when performing or not performing, being exhibited or trained to be exhibited or for safeguarding; 10
- (e) meal plans and general practices that the applicant will follow to maintain and ensure the health and wellbeing of the animal;
- (f) the number of hours per day that the animal will be required to perform, be exhibited, trained to be exhibited or safeguarded; 15
- (g) written motivation for the granting of the licence;
- (h) information as to whether the applicant has ever held or been refused a certificate or licence in the past; and
- (i) proof of payment of the prescribed fee. 20

(3) The National Licensing Officer may, with the consent of the applicant, visit the premises under the lawful control of the applicant to assess the suitability thereof for the intended exhibition, training or safeguarding of animals. 20

Consideration and granting of applications for licences by National Licensing Officer 25

3G. (1) The National Licensing Officer may grant an application for any licence if he or she is satisfied—

- (a) with the information furnished by the applicant as contemplated by section 3F(2); and
- (b) that the premises, accommodation, equipment and facilities that are utilised for the training, exhibition or performance of the animal are safe and will not cause harm to the animal. 30

(2) The National Licensing Officer must consider and decide on an application within 45 days after receipt of the application.

Hearing of applications 35

3H. (1) The National Licensing Officer may make a determination whether to grant, refuse, or amend a licence on the basis of the documents submitted by the applicant.

(2) If the National Licensing Officer cannot make a determination on the documents submitted by the applicant he or she may convene a hearing to consider any application on such date, time and place as determined by him or her. 40

(3) The applicant and any interested person that the National Licensing Officer may request to be present at the hearing must be notified of the date, time and place of the hearing, in writing, at least 10 days before the date of the hearing. 45

(4) The National Licensing Officer may permit the applicant and any interested person to make further oral or written representations as to whether a licence should be granted, refused or amended.

Issuing of licence 50

3I. The National Licensing Officer must, within 7 days after making a decision, inform the applicant in writing of the granting, refusal or amendment of a licence and notify the applicant of the date, time and place for collection of such licence.

Duration of licence

3J. A licence is valid for a period of 12 calendar months from the date of issue thereof.

Validity of licence

3K. A licence is valid for use anywhere within the Republic of South Africa, unless the exhibition, training for exhibition of any animal or use of an animal for safeguarding is specifically prohibited in terms of any Provincial law or Municipal by-law in force within that specific jurisdiction.

Suspension, withdrawal or amendment of licence

3L. (1) The National Licensing Officer may suspend, withdraw or amend a licence if the applicant no longer complies with any condition subject to which the licence was issued.

(2) The National Licensing Officer may not suspend, withdraw or amend a licence, unless the licence holder in question has been—

- (a) informed of the intended suspension, withdrawal or amendment and the grounds upon which it is based; and
- (b) afforded a reasonable opportunity to make written representations or to rectify any deficiency within the period specified by the National Licensing Officer.

(3) If a licence is refused, suspended, cancelled or withdrawn, an applicant must cease the training, exhibition or use of an animal for safeguarding.

Right to appeal

3M. A person who feels aggrieved by any decision or action by the National Licensing Officer in terms of this Act may appeal in the prescribed manner to the Minister against such decision or action.

Appeal Board, composition and membership

3N. (1) The Minister may constitute a board known as the Appeal Board to investigate and consider any appeal referred to it in terms of section 30(1).

(2) The Board must consist of at least three members appointed by the Minister, of whom—

- (a) one person must be appointed on account of his or her knowledge in the relevant fields of the law; and
- (b) two or more persons must have expert knowledge of the subject of the appeal.

(3) The person referred to in subsection 2(a) must be designated as the chairperson.

(4) The remuneration of a member of the Board must be prescribed.

(5) Any person appointed in terms of subsection (2) must recuse himself or herself as a member of the Board if he or she has any direct or indirect personal interest in the outcome of the appeal.

Investigation and consideration by Board

3O. (1) The Minister may refer an appeal to the Board.

(2) An appeal must be heard on the date, time and place determined by the chairperson.

(3) The chairperson must inform the appellant and any other party that has an interest in the appeal in writing of the date, time and place of the hearing.

- (4) The chairperson may, for the purposes of the hearing of an appeal—
- (a) summon any person who may have material information concerning the subject of the hearing or who has in his or her possession or custody or under his or her control any document which has any bearing upon the subject of the hearing, to appear before the Board at a date, time and place specified in the summons, to be questioned or to produce that document, and the chairperson may retain for examination any document so produced; and
 - (b) administer an oath to or accept an affirmation from any person called as a witness at the hearing.
- (5) A person who appeals in terms of section 3M and the National Licensing Officer may be represented.
- (6) If a member of the Board—
- (a) dies during the investigation of the appeal or so soon before the commencement of the investigation that the vacancy cannot be filled in time;
 - (b) is unable to act and another person cannot be appointed in time; or
 - (c) is, after the investigation has commenced, unable to continue therewith,
- the parties may agree that the investigation be continued by the remaining members of the Board.
- (7) Where the member of the Board who has died or has become incapacitated as envisaged in subsection (6) was or is the chairperson of the Board, the Minister must designate one of the remaining members of the Board to act as chairperson.

Consideration of appeal by Minister

- 3P.** (1) Where the Minister has referred an appeal to the Board in terms of section 3O(1), he or she may—
- (a) confirm or set aside the recommendations of the Board; and
 - (b) order the National Licensing Officer to execute the decision in connection therewith.
- (2) Where the Minister considers an appeal, he or she may—
- (a) confirm, set aside or vary the decision of the National Licensing Officer; and
 - (b) order the National Licensing Officer to execute the decision in connection therewith.
- (3) The decision of the Minister must be in writing and a copy thereof must be furnished to the National Licensing Officer, appellant and any other party that has an interest in the appeal.
- (4) If the Minister—
- (a) sets aside any decision or action by the National Licensing Officer, the prescribed fee paid by the appellant in respect of the appeal must be refunded to him or her; or
 - (b) varies any decision or action by the National Licensing Officer, the Minister may direct that the whole or any part of such fee, be refunded to the appellant.

Amendment of section 4 of Act 24 of 1935, as substituted by section 4 of Act 7 of 1991

4. The following section is hereby substituted for section 4 of the principal Act:

“Right of entry

4. In addition to the powers conferred by any other law, any police officer may—
- (a) at any reasonable time enter upon any premises, place or vehicle in which animals are maintained, or kept or confined for the purposes of exhibition or of being trained or of being transported or in which [dogs] animals used for safeguarding are maintained, kept, confined or conveyed;

- (b) inspect any such animals, **[dogs,]** premises, places or vehicles and may fully enquire into the measures and methods by which such animals **[or dogs]** are controlled, restrained, trained or used and the course of feeding such animals **[or dogs]**; and
- (c) during any exhibition of trained animals, or during the use of **[dogs]** animals for safeguarding, or at any other time, enter upon any premises, place or vehicle or portion thereof used in connection with such exhibition or use in order to inspect such premises, place or vehicle, the animals **[or dogs]** present therein and the conditions under which such animals **[or dogs]** are maintained, controlled and fed during such exhibition or use and at other times.”.

Amendment of section 5 of Act 24 of 1935, as substituted by section 2 of Act 20 of 1985 and amended by section 5 of Act 7 of 1991

5. The following section is hereby substituted for section 5 of the principal Act:

“Obstruction of police officer

5. Any person who wilfully obstructs, delays or otherwise interferes with a police officer in the exercise of the powers herein granted, or who conceals any animal with intent to defeat the exercise of such powers, or otherwise hampers or impedes the exercise of such powers **[shall be, is]** guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding **[R4 000] R20 000** or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding **[twelve months] five years** in addition to any other penalty imposed for the contravention of any provision of this Act or any regulation made thereunder.”.

Amendment of section 7 of Act 24 of 1935, as amended by section 4 of Act 7 of 1972, section 1 of Act 54 of 1983, section 3 of Act 20 of 1985 and section 6 of Act 7 of 1991

6. The following section is hereby substituted for section 7 of the principal Act:

“Regulations

7. The Minister may, in addition to any other power specially given herein, make regulations not inconsistent with this Act for prescribing any or all of the following matters[—]:
- (a) **[the] The** form of application, **[and]** information to be supplied and the fee to be paid upon application for the granting of a licence; **[and for the renewal thereof;]**
 - (b) (i) the form of **[certificate] licence** which **[shall] must** be issued in respect of licensed animals **[or dogs]** and the form of amendments which may be made on such **[certificates] licences**;
 - (ii) the information to be supplied for the issuing of a **[certificate] licence** referred to in subparagraph (i), which includes the manner of identification of an animal; **[or dog;]**
 - (c) the method and form of confinement and accommodation of any animal class, species or variety of animals in respect of which a **[certificate] licence** has been issued, whether travelling, or being transported or stationary;
 - (d) any other reasonable requirement which may be necessary to prevent cruelty or suffering in the exhibition, training, maintenance, use or travelling of animals in respect of which a **[certificate] licence** has been granted; **[and]**
 - (dA) the manner in which a person may appeal against a decision or action taken by the National Licensing Officer;
 - (dB) the fee to be paid by a person who appeals a decision or action taken by the National Licensing Officer;
 - (dC) the remuneration to be paid to a member of the Board; and

(e) a penalty of a fine not exceeding [R4 000] R20 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding [twelve months] five years for a contravention of any regulation, and generally for the better carrying out of the objects and purposes of this Act.”.

5

Amendment of section 8 of Act 24 of 1995, as amended by section 5 of Act 7 of 1972, section 2 of Act 54 of 1983, section 4 of Act 20 of 1985 and section 7 of Act 7 of 1991

7. The following section is hereby substituted for section 8 of the principal Act:

“Penalty

8. (1) Any person contravening the provisions of this Act or any regulation made thereunder for which a penalty has not been prescribed or any condition of a licence [or certificate shall be] is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding [R4 000] R20 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding [twelve months] five years.

(2) In addition to the penalty provided for in subsection (1) it shall be lawful for a magistrate to suspend for such period as he may determine not exceeding one year the licence of any person convicted of a second or subsequent offence under this Act or any other law relating to the prevention of cruelty to animals.

(3) Every magistrate shall endorse upon the licence of every holder the particulars of every offence of which such holder has been convicted and the penalty imposed.]”.

Amendment of section 11 of Act 24 of 1935, as amended by section 7 of Act 7 of 1972 and section 9 of Act 7 of 1991”

8. Section 11 of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(a) by the substitution for the definition of “animal” of the following definition:

“ ‘animal’ [has the meaning assigned to it by the Animal Protection Act, 1962 (Act No. 71 of 1962), but does not include any reptile] means any equine, bovine, sheep, goat, pig, fowl, ostrich, dog, cat or other domestic animal or bird, or any wild animal or wild bird which is in captivity or under the control of a person;”.

(b) by the insertion after the definition of “animal” of the following definitions:

“ ‘Animal Scientist’ means a person registered as a professional natural scientist in the field of Animal Science in terms of section 20(3)(a) of the Natural Scientific Professions Act, 2003 (Act No. 27 of 2003);”.

“ ‘Board’ means the board referred to in section 3N(1);”.

(c) by the deletion of the definition of “certificate”;

(d) by the insertion after the definition of “exhibit” of the following definition:

“ ‘head of department’ means a head of department as defined in the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation 103 of 1994);”.

(e) by the insertion after the definition of “Minister” of the following definitions:

“ ‘National Licensing Officer’ means the officer designated in terms of section 3A;

‘officer’ means a person appointed in terms of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation 103 of 1994), and employed in a national or provincial department.”;

(f) by the substitution for the definition of “use for safeguarding” of the following definition:

“ ‘use for safeguarding’ means the training, use or placing at disposal for gain, or the letting, of [a dog] an animal, with a view to or for the protection of persons and property[.]”; and

(g) by the insertion after the definition of “use for safeguarding” of the following definition:

“ ‘Veterinarian’ means a person registered in terms of the Veterinary and Paraveterinary Professions Act, 1982 (Act No. 19 of 1982), to practise a veterinary profession as defined in section 1 of that Act.”.

Insertion of section 11B in Act 24 of 1935

9. The following section is hereby inserted in the principle Act after section 11:

“Transitional arrangements

11B. (1) A licence issued in terms of the repealed section 2 of this Act or a certificate issued in terms of the repealed section 3 of this Act is deemed to have been issued in terms of section 3I of this Act and remains valid until the licence or certificate expires or is suspended, cancelled, withdrawn or amended by the National Licensing Officer. 5

(2) Anything done or any decision taken in terms of the repealed section 2 or 3 of this Act is deemed to have been done or taken by the National Licensing Officer. 10

(3) Any application for a licence or certificate made before the commencement of the Performing Animals Protection Amendment Act, 2015, must be processed by the National Licensing Officer in accordance with any criteria contained in the repealed sections 2 and 3 of this Act. 15

(4) Any investigation conducted or criminal proceedings pending before a court before the commencement of the Performing Animals Protection Amendment Act, 2015, must be processed and finalised as if sections 2 and 3 of this Act had not been repealed.”

Amendment of certain expressions in Act 24 of 1935 20

10. The principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the expression “*a dog for safeguarding*”, “*any dog for safeguarding*” or “*dogs for safeguarding*”, wherever it occurs, of the relevant expression of “*an animal for safeguarding*”, “*any animal for safeguarding*” or “*animals for safeguarding*”.

Short title 25

11. This Act is called the Performing Animals Protection Amendment Act, 2015, and comes into operation on a date fixed by proclamation in the *Gazette*.

MEMORANDUM ON THE OBJECTS OF THE PERFORMING ANIMALS PROTECTION AMENDMENT BILL, 2015

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The constitutionality of sections 2 and 3 of the current Performing Animals Protection Act, 1935 (Act No. 24 of 1935) (“PAPA”), was challenged by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals during 2013. The Constitutional Court of South Africa subsequently, in the matter of *National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals v Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Others 2013 (5) SA 571 (CC)*, declared sections 2 and 3 of the PAPA to be unconstitutional insofar as they related to magistrates deciding applications for, and issue, animal training and exhibition licences to persons, intending to train for exhibition any animal or who use dogs for safeguarding. The Court’s finding was based on the fact that the issuing of such licences is an administrative function that should be performed by the Executive and not by the Judiciary, whilst sections 2 and 3 of the PAPA require a member of the Judiciary (that is a magistrate), to perform such function. The Court suspended the declaration of invalidity for a period of 18 months to give Parliament the opportunity of curing the deficiency in sections 2 and 3 of the Act. The suspension of the order of invalidity means that until the expiry of the period of suspension of the order or until Parliament cures the deficiency, whichever occurs first, sections 2 and 3 of the Act will continue to operate.
- 1.2 The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (“DAFF”) was in the process of consolidating the PAPA and the Animals Protection Act, 1962 (Act No. 71 of 1962), into one Animal Welfare Bill and it was therefore possible to delay this process and to use the relevant sections of the draft to comply with the Court order.
- 1.3 As this affects a large number of operations, training and exhibiting of wild animals, as well as security dog companies that depend on an annual licence to operate, it is important that this amendment is processed as soon as possible. It is also imperative that the DAFF complies with the Constitutional Court order within the prescribed timeframes.

2. PURPOSE OF BILL

- 2.1 The Performing Animals Protection Amendment Bill (the “Bill”) seeks to amend sections 2 and 3 of the PAPA, as these sections were declared constitutionally invalid insofar as they related to magistrates deciding on and issuing licences to persons intending to train and exhibit animals and to persons who use dogs for safeguarding.
- 2.2 With the above in mind, the purpose of the Bill is to amend the PAPA to—
- repeal certain sections;
 - insert certain definitions;
 - provide for the designation of a National Licensing Officer;
 - provide for a procedure for the application for a licence to exhibit or train performing animals or use animals for safeguarding;
 - provide for the functions of a National Licensing Officer;
 - provide for the issuance of licences; and
 - provide for an appeals process.

3. OBJECTS OF BILL

3.1 Clauses 1 and 2: Repeal of sections 2 and 3, respectively.

These clauses deal with magistrates issuing licences for the exhibition and training of performing animals and for the use of dogs for safeguarding. These clauses were declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court on the basis that a member of the Judiciary should not be performing administrative actions that are supposed to be performed by the Executive.

3.2 Clause 3: Inserts sections 3A to 3Q

This clause sets out a procedure for the granting and issuing of licences and matters connected therewith, thereby ensuring compliance with the Constitutional Court judgment. This clause further provides for the designation of a National Licensing Officer, the qualifications and functions of the National Licensing Officer, the appointment of experts to assist the National Licensing Officer, delegation of powers and functions by the National Licensing Officer, the procedure for the consideration and granting of applications for licensing, the duration of the licence, the process for the application of a licence, the hearing of applications if the National Licensing Officer cannot make a determination on the documents provided, the process for the issuing of licences, the process for the withdrawal of licences and the validity of a licence anywhere within the Republic of South Africa. Furthermore, clause 3 (in the inserted sections 3M to 3Q) provides for an appeals process, whereby the Minister may either consider an appeal or constitute a board (i.e. the Appeal Board) to make recommendations about a decision or action by the National Licensing Officer. The Minister may confirm, set aside or vary the decision of the National Licensing Officer.

3.3 Clause 4: Amendment of section 4

Clause 4 is a consequential amendment whereby references to the word “dog” or “dogs” in the PAPA are substituted for the word “animal” or “animals”, where relevant. This amendment is aligned to the amended definition of “use for safeguarding” in the Bill, to extend the definition of “use for safeguarding” (once the Bill is enacted) to “animals”, as opposed to only dogs, as originally defined in the PAPA.

3.4 Clause 5: Amendment of section 5

This clause seeks to amend section 5 of the PAPA to increase the fine and period of imprisonment for a person who wilfully obstructs, delays or otherwise interferes with a police officer’s duties, granted in the PAPA. This clause substitutes the outdated penalties in the original PAPA with more contemporary penalties, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding R20 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years.

3.5 Clause 6: Amendment of section 7

Clause 6 amends section 7 of the PAPA by deleting any reference to “dogs” (i.e. as a consequential amendment of the amendment of the definition of “use for safeguarding”) and by inserting additional empowering provisions that would authorise the Minister to make regulations in relation to the manner in which a person may appeal, the fee to be paid by a person who appeals and the remuneration to be paid to a member of the Board, if the Minister constitutes the Board.

3.6 Clause 7: Amendment of section 8

This clause seeks to amend section 8 of the PAPA that relates to penalties to substitute the outdated penalties in the original PAPA with more contemporary

penalties, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding R20 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years.

3.7 **Clause 8: Amendment of section 11**

This clause seeks to incorporate additional definitions into the Act that are consequential to the revised procedure adopted for the granting and issuing of licences. The following definitions have been inserted: “Animal Scientist”, “Board”, “head of department”, “National Licensing Officer”, “officer” and “Veterinarian”. Furthermore, the definition of “use of safeguarding” has been amended to extend the definition of “use for safeguarding” (once the Bill is enacted) to “animals”, as opposed to only dogs, as originally defined in the PAPA.

3.8 **Clause 9: Insertion of section 11B**

This clause provides for transitional arrangements and states that a licence issued in terms of the repealed sections 2 or a certificate issued in terms of the repealed section 3 of the PAPA, is deemed to have been issued in terms of the proposed new section 3I, as inserted by clause 3 of the Bill. It further provides for anything done before the commencement of the Bill (once it becomes enacted), is to be processed and finalised as if sections 2 and 3 of the PAPA had not been repealed.

3.9 **Clause 10: Amendment of certain expressions**

Clause 10 is a consequential amendment whereby the expressions “*a dog for safeguarding*”, “*any dog for safeguarding*” and “*dogs for safeguarding*”, wherever it occurs in the PAPA, have been substituted with the relevant expressions “*an animal for safeguarding*”, “*any animal for safeguarding*” and “*animals for safeguarding*”. This amendment is aligned to the amended definition of “use for safeguarding” in the Bill, to extend the definition of “use for safeguarding” (once the Bill is enacted) to “animals”, as opposed to only dogs, as originally defined in the PAPA.

3.10 **Clause 11: Short title**

This clause provides that the short title of this Act, upon its enactment, is the Performing Animals Protection Amendment Act, 2015, which comes into operation on a date fixed by proclamation in the *Gazette*.

4. **CONSULTATION**

4.1 The draft Bill was published in the *Gazette* for public comments on the 9 April 2014. Written comments were received from the following stakeholders:

- The South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law: A Centre of the University of Johannesburg (“SAIFAC”);
- Western Cape Government, Directorate: Legislation;
- The Humane Education Trust;
- The Dog Club;
- Love South African Circus;
- The Licensed Animal Trainers Association;
- The Animal Anti-Cruelty League;
- The South African Federation of Sledding Sports;

- Commercial Producers Association of South Africa;
- SA National Bird of Prey Centre; and
- SA Dog Academy.

4.2 A stakeholder consultative workshop was held on 16 May 2014 and was attended by representatives of the following stakeholders:

- DAFF;
- South African Security Dogs Association (“SASDA”);
- Animal Issues Matter Organisation;
- Animal Anti-Cruelty League;
- Commercial Producers Association;
- Department of Environmental Affairs;
- Faculty of Law, University of Johannesburg;
- Animal Action;
- National Society for Prevention of Cruelty of Animals (“NSPCA”);
- Skymark Manager Security;
- Boswell Circus;
- McLaren Circus;
- Linda Security;
- Wet Nose;
- SA National Bird of Prey Centre;
- Sled Dog Association;
- Walk on the Wildside;
- Animal Wranglers;
- Animal Handlers;
- Film Industry;
- Elephants For Africa Forever;
- National Zoological Gardens of South Africa; and
- SADA Access (Security Dogs).

4.3 Inputs from the workshop were consolidated in a revised document that was subsequently referred to the State Law Advisers. Feedback led to further adjustments and the addition of an appeals process (section 11A).

5. IMPLICATIONS FOR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

The Bill will have implications for departments involved in wildlife, which includes the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism and the Department

of Science and Technology (by way of the National Zoological Gardens) as both provide inputs and are indirectly and directly involved in issues around licences issued in terms of the PAPA.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR DAFF

The DAFF will, by implication, manage the National Licensing Officer.

7. IMPLICATIONS FOR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

There will be minimal implications for provincial government but, as Nature Conservation is a provincial function, there could be some involvement in the monitoring of the activities of individuals in the province that train and exhibit wildlife or own security dog companies.

8. IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

None

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The DAFF will have to source funds from the fiscus to reimburse the National Licensing Officer, delegated officers and possibly budget for post additional to the post establishment and other administrative costs. The DAFF would follow the standard budgetary procedure as prescribed by the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999).

10. CONSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS

None

11. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

11.1 The State Law Advisers and the DAFF are of the opinion that this Bill must be dealt with in accordance with the procedure established by section 75 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (the “Constitution”), since it contains no provision to which the procedure set out in section 74 or 76 of the Constitution applies.

11.2 The principles in the case of *Tongoane and Others v National Minister for Agriculture and Land Affairs and Others 2010 (8) BCLR 741 (CC) (the “Tongoane case”)* is important when determining if a Bill ought to be tagged as either a section 75 or 76 Bill. The test for determining the procedure to be followed in enacting a Bill is whether the provisions of the Bill, in substantial measure, fall within a functional area listed in Schedule 4 of the Constitution.

11.3 The tagging of the Bill requires firstly, considering all the provisions of the Bill as opposed to a single provision in the Bill and, thereafter, employing the term “substantially” when considering the impact of these provisions on the provinces. When considering if the Bill substantially affects the provinces this must be done in accordance with an assessment of all the relevant provisions of the Bill and thereafter a consideration of whether or not the impact of these provisions is not so small as to be regarded as trivial.

11.4 Other key points to consider as stated in the *Tongoane case* are as follows:

- The tagging of Bills before Parliament must be informed by the need to ensure that provinces fully and effectively exercise their appropriate role in the process of considering national legislation that substantially affects them. Paying less attention to the provisions of a Bill once its substance, or purpose and effect, has been identified undermines the role that provinces should play in the enactment of national legislation affecting them.

- To apply the “pith and substance” test to the tagging question, therefore undermines the constitutional role of the provinces in legislation in which they should have a meaningful say, and disregards the breadth of the legislative provisions that section 76(3) of the Constitution requires to be enacted in accordance with the section 76 procedure.

11.5 If we have to take into consideration the legal principles expounded by the *Tongoane case*, the following may be deduced from a reading of this Bill:

- The PAPA is amended to ensure compliance with the Constitutional Court judgment handed down in the *National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals v Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Others 2013 (5) SA 571 (CC)* matter. The Constitutional Court concluded that the provisions of sections 2 and 3 of the PAPA are inconsistent with the Constitution and are, therefore, invalid to the extent that they require a Magistrate to decide applications for, and, issue, animal training and exhibition licences. This contention was based on the submission that the issuing of a licence is an administrative function that should be performed by the Executive and not by the Judiciary. The Court suspended the declaration of invalidity for a period of 18 months to give Parliament the opportunity of curing the deficiency in sections 2 and 3 of the PAPA.
- The purpose of this Bill is to ensure that animals used for training, exhibition and performance purposes, as well as dogs used for safeguarding, are protected. Therefore, the use of animals for training, exhibition or performance purposes is regulated and monitored. This Bill sets out a process whereby the administrative function of granting licences is undertaken by the DAFF, as opposed to the current position whereby magistrates perform the function of granting and issuing of licences.
- The Bill further provides for the designation of a National Licensing Officer who is responsible for the issuing of licences, subject to the processes identified in the Bill. Other relevant provisions in the Bill provide that the National Licensing Officer is an official from the DAFF. Provision is also made for the establishment of an appeal board, which is constituted and appointed by the Minister on an *ad hoc* basis. Crucial functions may be assigned to an official from the DAFF at national level. The provincial department becomes involved in the licensing process if the National Licensing Officer delegates any functions to officials of the provincial departments. However, it must be noted that this is a delegation of functions and not a complete assignment of functions. Therefore, the National Licensing Officer remains responsible for the overall process. The national department is responsible for securing the funds to ensure that this Bill is implemented. There are no provisions in this Bill that place any obligation on the provinces insofar as imposing any functions or funding obligations on the provinces are concerned. It may therefore be stated that the Bill will not substantially affect the provinces.
- The most significant point, other than a consideration of the purpose of the Bill, is that in terms of section 44(1)(a)(ii) of the Constitution, the national legislative authority has concurrent competence with a provincial legislative authority within a functional area listed in Schedule 4 of the Constitution. Animal control and diseases are matters listed in Schedule 4 of the Constitution and, at first glance, it would appear that the Bill should be tagged as a section 76 Bill, since the subject matter may be considered as “animal control and diseases”. However, it would appear, after a careful consideration of the meaning ascribed to “animal control and diseases” that the Bill actually intends to regulate the protection of animals being used for the purposes set out in the Bill and not the actual control of animals or diseases. The purpose is to protect animals from abuse. We are, therefore, of the view that the Bill does not fall within the ambit of “animal control and diseases”.

- Upon a consideration of the Bill's possible impact on nature conservation, we have considered the definition of "nature conservation", to establish if it possibly falls within a functional area listed in Schedule 4. Nature conservation is defined in the Oxford English Dictionary as "Preservation, protection, or restoration of the natural environment and of wildlife". However, national parks, national botanical gardens and marine resources are excluded from these. "Wildlife" is defined in the Collins English Dictionary as "wild animals and plants collectively". Furthermore, "wild" is defined as "living independently from man, not domesticated or tame". We have assessed the definition of "nature conservation" and are of the opinion that the protection of performing animals cannot be classified under "nature conservation" as the animals may not be regarded as "wild animals", as defined. These animals are under the control of the applicant and cannot be considered as living independently of man, not domesticated or tame.
- It would seem that the Bill, in its current form, would not, in substantial measure, fall within a functional area listed in Schedule 4 or would not substantially affect the provinces. These provisions do not appear to affect the interests of the province. The national department retains control and management of the licensing process. The provincial departments may have certain delegated functions as decided by the National Licensing Officer, however, as indicated above, the national department remains responsible for the funding of the licensing process. The Bill should be dealt with in terms of section 75 of the Constitution.

11.6 The State Law Advisers and the DAFF are further of the opinion that it is not necessary to refer this Bill to the National House of Traditional Leaders in terms of section 18(1)(a) of the Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act, 2003 (Act No. 41 of 2003), since it does not contain provisions pertaining to customary law or customs of traditional communities.