



**PET INDUSTRY JOINT  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **PIJAC THANKS PET OWNERS, HOBBYISTS, AND OTHERS WHO CARE**

**Washington, DC, REVISED May 12, 2009** – The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) gratefully recognizes the collaborative efforts of pet owners, aquarium societies, bird clubs, herpetological societies, hobby clubs, pet organizations, and pet industry members who took time to educate their communities and express their concerns about the proposed Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act (HR 669).

Collectively our voices were heard on a bill that could potentially ban nonnative species of wildlife not specifically approved by US Fish & Wildlife Service. The pet owners and keepers across America responded in great numbers, rallying together to oppose a poorly crafted piece of legislation. It was evident from several comments made during the April 23 hearing before the House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife that members of the Subcommittee received an enormous response from their constituents.

PIJAC has learned that members of the Subcommittee received thousands of phone calls, emails, and letters from all corners of the US urging them to defeat the bill in its current form. PIJAC's Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel Marshall Meyers, who testified at the hearing, noted, "It is clear that Committee members from both sides of the aisle heard from the pet-owning public about their concerns with this bill."

PIJAC greatly appreciates the tremendous efforts of pet owners and organizations representing all types of pets. Added Meyers, "We're extremely grateful to the thousands of groups who galvanized their members leading up to yesterday's hearing. This following list is just a sample of the organizations that responded --- but thanks to everyone involved whether or not you are on the list. PIJAC will continue working with members of the Subcommittee, the Executive Branch, and other stakeholders to ensure the process proceeds in a transparent, inclusive, and strategic manner."

PIJAC will be posting on its website – [www.pijac.org](http://www.pijac.org) – additional information on like-minded groups and up-to-date information on HR 669 as the process evolves. Much work is left to be done as meetings are held to discuss possible amendments to the bill.

*(more)*

A Refuge for Saving the Wildlife, Inc.  
 Acadiana Bird Club  
 Advocates for Bird Conservation  
 American Budgerigar Society  
 American Cichlid Association  
 American Fancy Rat and Mouse Association  
 American Federation of Aviculture  
 American Ferret Association  
 American Pheasant and Waterfowl Association  
 American Pet Products Association  
 Animal Finders' Guide  
 AquariaCentral.com  
 AquariumHobbyist.com  
 Ark-La-Tex Caged Bird Club  
 Avicultural Society of America  
 B&B Small Animal Wholesale  
 Bird Clubs of Virginia  
 Bird Is The Word  
 BirdChannel.com  
 BirdHobbyist.com  
 BlueZooRadio.com  
 Brotergeris Society International  
 California Hawking Club  
 Captive Hearts Aviary  
 Captive Born Reptiles  
 Central California Avian Society  
 Central Garden & Pet  
 Central Ohio Friends of a Feather  
 Chicago Herpetological Society  
 Chimps of America  
 Cockatiel Foundation, Inc.  
 Companion Bird Club of Delaware Valley  
 Contra Costa Avian Society  
 DrTim's Exotics, LLC  
 Eclectus Group  
 Exotichobbyist.com  
 Exotic Wildlife Association  
 Feathered Sanctuary Exotic Bird Rescue  
 Federation of American Aquarium Societies  
 FishChannel.com  
 Florida Farm Bureau Federation  
 Florida Federation of Aviculture  
 Florida Keys Herpetological Society  
 Florida Tropical Fish Farms Association  
 General Cage LLC  
 Georgia Game Bird Breeders' Association  
 Greater Cincinnati Herpetological Society  
 Forum  
 Grey Play Round Table Newsletter  
 Happy Bird Online Forum  
 Hernando Exotic Bird Club  
 Hoosier Herpetological Society  
 Imperial Bird Club  
 Insecthobbyist.com  
 International Association for Falconry &  
 Conservation of Birds of Prey  
 Irish Wolfhound Club of America, Inc.  
 Jacksonville Herpetological Society  
 Kenosha Exotic Bird Club  
 Kingsnake.com  
 Maine Herpetological Society  
 Marine Aquarium Societies of North America  
 Michiana Bird Society, Inc.  
 Missouri Primate Foundation  
 MonsterFishKeepers.com  
 National Animal Interest Alliance  
 National Aquaculture Association  
 National Finch and Softbill Society  
 National Parrot Rescue and Preservation  
 Foundation  
 Nature's Corner Magazine  
 NoHR669.com  
 Northeast Council of Aquarium Societies  
 North American Falconers Association  
 Northern Illinois Parrot Society  
 Northern Iowa Racing Pigeon Club  
 Ohio Association of Animal Owners  
 Oklahoma Avicultural Society  
 On Wings  
 Old Dominion Aviary  
 Ornamental Aquaculture Association  
 Peninsula Caged Bird Society, Inc.  
 Pet Industry Distributors Association  
 Pet World, Inc.  
 PetHobbyist.com  
 Pittsburgh Marine Aquarium Society  
 Pondhobbyist.com  
 Pyrrhura Breeders Association  
 Rainforest Clinic  
 Reno Area Avian Enthusiasts  
 ReptileChannel.com  
 ReptileRadio.net  
 ReptilesTV.com  
 Responsible Exotic Animal Ownership  
 (REXANO)  
 Responsible Fishkeeping Initiative  
 S & D Exotic Bird Rescue  
 San Diego Bird Breeders  
 Shawsheen River Gerbils  
 SmallAnimalChannel.com  
 Southern Nevada Parrot Education Rescue & Homing  
 Society  
 Southwestern Michigan Aquarium Society  
 Stop669.org  
 The Avicultural Society of Chicagoland  
 The Cullen Vivarium Wildlife Conservancy  
 The Eclectus Group  
 The Gourmet Rodent, Inc.

The International Cat Association  
The Organization of Professional Aviculturists,  
Inc.  
The Reno Area Avian Enthusiasts  
The Shetland Sheepdog Club of Austin  
Tomas Sales & Marketing, Inc.  
Treasure Valley Cage Bird Club  
United Pet Group, Inc.  
USARK

U.S. Global Exotics, Inc.  
Vida Preciosa International, Inc.  
Wasatch Avian Education Society  
Western Jacobin Club  
Wild Raptor Take Conservancy  
World Exotics, Inc.  
World Wide Pet Industry Association  
York Area Pet Bird Club  
Zoological Association of America

Again, this list is just a sample of the organizations, plus the tens of thousands of individuals and websites that have shared their concerns regarding HR 669. PIJAC gratefully acknowledges all who sent letters and emails, made calls, and posted information on their websites.

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*Since 1970, the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) has been an advocate for pets and the pet industry – promoting responsible pet ownership and animal welfare, fostering environmental stewardship, and ensuring the availability of pets. PIJAC members include retailers, companion animal suppliers, manufacturers, wholesale distributors, manufacturers' representatives, pet hobbyists, and other trade organizations. Through the combined voice of these people, PIJAC serves the best interests of the entire pet industry. For more information, please visit [www.pijac.org](http://www.pijac.org).*