

In response to:

[http://www.rexano.org/NewsArchivePages/Ensign\\_exotic\\_freedom.pdf](http://www.rexano.org/NewsArchivePages/Ensign_exotic_freedom.pdf)

<http://www.pahrumpvalleytimes.com/2009/Apr-10-Fri-2009/opinion/28054193.html>

Apr. 10, 2009

## Letters to the Editor

<SNIP>

### **Response to 3/27 "Empty promises"**

I grew up in the East on farmland in a time where our constitutional rights, namely property rights, were valued. Slowly, the fast moving East Coast began giving those rights away. I was very much disheartened as this was all I knew.

I and my son moved 2,600 miles to live here in the "great West" and settled down in Nevada, hoping it would be the state in which those rights would be protected the most.

I raised my son on the same values I had been raised with; he is an animal lover and respects nature and wildlife very much.

Nevada had such a wonderful reputation of protecting "what is right" and constitutional. As a constituent, this gave me comfort in believing that legislators here do take care of the people and don't sway to popular interest by compromising the integrity of its people and heritage.

There are not many things as valuable to me as our constitutional rights.

My son is in the Army and is an animal lover. The thought that he is fighting for not only our freedoms but for those who live in other countries and may not be allowed to own domestic animals infuriates me. The previous poster was correct in her assertions -- we send our soldiers off to do this and they return to their homeland only to realize that their own private rights are being compromised and violated.

I am not surprised at all that this lady did not get an appointment with Sen. Ensign. I am very saddened he is unwilling to listen to his constituent regarding this matter. I pray that he is not giving in to peer pressure inflated by the many current-day extremists who tell us the sky is falling.

Perhaps there is a peer pressure out there that in order to get the needed votes to stay in office, they must sacrifice their personal views. I could respect someone who is willing to take a stand on what is right. Nevada has done an excellent job of this in the past. It takes courage to do the right thing. This poor lady has valid concerns. I hope I see this courage in the future and my move has not been in vain.

Many of our past presidents owned both domestic and exotic animals including, but not limited to, snakes, cavies, lions, bears and others. Were they wrong?

How far have we strayed?

Bottom line, property rights, including animals, should not be removed for any reason whatsoever.

**RHONDA KIKER**