

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FGC](#)
Subject: Hedgehogs
Date: Monday, November 10, 2014 10:21:33 PM

Good evening,

My name is Callie Totaro and I'm a 14 year old high school student living in California. I've wanted a hedgehog for quite some time now and I was devastated to hear that they were illegal in this state. Since hedgehogs seemed harmless to me, I researched to find out what made them illegal. As a result of my research, I read your article regarding the few reasons why hedgehogs are a threat to our environment. While I understand that if let into the wild they could cause damage to the environment, I don't understand why this makes them illegal to own. There are plenty of other legalized pets that could pose a threat to our environment if released so why target hedgehogs? Even if they did get let go into the wild by a couple of irresponsible people, it is unlikely that a few hedgehogs could cause a substantial amount of environmental damage. And if the population of wild hedgehogs did become out of control, then we could put in place some mild population control methods to solve the issue. Although I understand that hedgehogs could damage California's environment if released in large amounts into the wild, I believe that making them illegal to own as a pet is unreasonable.

Respectively,

Callie Totaro
9th grade student