

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Monday, February 9, 2015
10:00 am
Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 837
RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION OF ANIMALS**

House Bill 837 proposes to amend the Hawaii Revised Statutes by adding a new chapter entitled “Conservation of Elephants and Other Animals with Ivory Teeth and Tusks and the Rhinoceros”, whereby the trade and sale of ivory and rhinoceros horn within the state is prohibited. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this Bill.**

African elephants are spiraling toward extinction as illegal poaching and ivory trade continue to decimate their numbers. Similarly, rhinoceros numbers continue to plummet as poaching for their horn increases with over 1,200 animals killed in South Africa alone in 2014. Hawaii is the third highest retailer of elephant ivory in the United State behind California and New York. Tusks are traded internationally and sold world-wide, often after being carved into trinkets and then being identified as some other animal tusk, or claimed as a “pre-act” tusk, meaning that it had been harvested before the 1990 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species treaty which made ivory trade illegal in many countries. Without laboratory analysis, it is usually impossible to verify the age or even the animal from which the ivory was derived, especially if the ivory has already been carved. In addition, fraudulent documents are frequently used to claim the ivory is of pre-1990 origin, or of another species. In addition, protection of one species may redirect and accelerate trade in other species. For this reason, the types of ivory covered in this bill includes teeth or tusks from a number of species of wildlife, including elephants, hippopotamuses, walruses, whales, and narwhals. The Department believes that restricting the trade of these products is necessary to prevent the extinction of these animals.

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



Lessons In Firearms Education

P.O. Box 25271
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

February 7, 2015

Re: HB 837

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen,

My name is Bill Richter and I am the President of Lessons in Firearms Education (LIFE). LIFE opposes HB 837.

Elephant populations in sub-equatorial Africa in areas with good habitat development and game management policies are healthy and increasing in numbers according to the World Wildlife Fund web site, 2015. Sales of confiscated poached ivory and ivory harvested for damage control funds anti-poaching enforcement and habitat preservation in impoverished African areas where elephant populations are threatened with extinction. Banning anything is just price support and will increase demand. This bill proposes to make criminals of anyone with antique gun grips or sight beads, musical instruments, scrimshaw, hatpins, or jewelry bearing small amounts of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance. Appraisal as an antique, produced before 1989, or lawfully harvested should be exemptions. Museums should be exempted.

LIFE asks that you do not pass this bill.

Thank you.

Bill Richter

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: VIVIAN SCHWARTZ <vivraquel@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 5:52 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos



Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members.

Please, it is in your hands to help prevent mass extinction of Elephants and Rhinos. This will happen within the next 10 years if we as a civilized society don't come together and do everything that we can to prevent such a sad tragedy. I implore you to help protect these magnificent creatures as the Ivory trade brings nothing good to society. It just funds terrorism and brings misery and inexplicable suffering .

Vivian Schwartz
Board of Directors of Furry Friends Adoption and Clinic.
561 504 5506 cell
vivraquel@gmail.com
FurryFriendsadoption.org
For the Love of Animals!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 11:22 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: macooper.1941@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/6/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Max Cooper	Hawaii Rifle Association	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Elephant populations in sub- equatorial Africa in areas with good habitat development and game management policies are healthy and increasing in numbers according to the World Wildlife Fund web site, 2015. Sales of confiscated poached ivory and ivory harvested for damage control funds anti-poaching enforcement and habitat preservation in impoverished African areas where elephant populations are threatened with extinction. Banning anything is just price support, increasing demand. This bill proposes to make criminals of anyone with antique gun grips and sight beads, musical instruments, scrimshaw, hatpins, or jewelry bearing small amount of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance. Appraisal as an antique or produced before 1989 should be an affirmative defense.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 9, 2015

Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in support of HB 837 Relating to the Conservation of Animals

Thank you for accepting this written testimony on behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society in support of HB 837. This bill prohibits ivory and rhinoceros horn sales and trade within the State. Our organization cares about the suffering of all animals and we support its prevention.

The needless and inhumane killing of the animals in order to obtain the ivory and rhinoceros horn is both an animal welfare issue and one of conservation.

We urge you to pass this bill.

Mary Steiner

Policy Advocate



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION
555 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 625
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
(916) 446-2455 voice ▪ (916) 448-7469 fax
www.nraila.org

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
DANIEL REID, HAWAII STATE LIAISON

February 8, 2015

The Honorable Ryan Yamane
Chairman, House Committee on Water and Land

Re: House Bill 837 – OPPOSE

Dear Chairman Yamane:

On behalf of the Hawaii members of the National Rifle Association, I oppose House Bill 837. This bill would do nothing to promote its purported goal of addressing poaching and the illegal ivory trade, while it would impose a heavy burden on law-abiding citizens.

Illegal trade in wildlife, as well as poaching for meat and products such as horns and tusks, takes its toll on the health and viability of wildlife populations. Further, it undermines the tremendous sustainability achievements made possible by hunters and other wildlife conservationists in the United States and other parts of the world. The NRA applauds serious efforts to stop poaching and the illegal ivory trade, but HB 837 would not materially contribute to that goal.

This bill would, however, harm those who have no part in these activities. American collectors, sportsmen, hunters, and recreational shooters have legally purchased firearms that incorporate ivory features for decades. These include some of America's most historically-significant and collectible guns. Historically, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service maintained the position that most ivory in the U.S. has been legally imported and that its sale in the U.S. did not materially contribute to the illegal ivory trade. Nevertheless, under HB 837 the import, sale, purchase, barter, and possession with intent to sell of any ivory (defined to include mammoth ivory), ivory product, rhinoceros horn, or rhinoceros horn product would be prohibited. The NRA is opposed to HB 837 because, if implemented, it would amount to the taking of property that had been acquired legally and in good faith. Needless to say, property that cannot be sold is radically diminished in value.

While the NRA stands in opposition to the illegal ivory trade and poaching, banning the trade and sale of legally owned, pre-ban ivory will not save one elephant (much less mammoths, ivory

from which is covered in the bill, even though the creatures themselves are long extinct). The NRA is receptive to measures that directly target the illegal ivory trade and poaching. We do not, however, support symbolic measures that do little more than move the goalposts for law-abiding citizens and deprive them of the value of property that was originally obtained legally and in good faith.

Thank you for your consideration and I ask that you oppose this bill.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Reid", written in a cursive style.

Daniel S. Reid
State Liaison



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES



HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL

TO: Honorable Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Committee Members
House Water and Land Committee
February 9, 2015 10am

FROM: Inga Gibson, Hawaii Director, The Humane Society of the United States-Humane Society International, igibson@humanesociety.org 808.354.3211

RE: STRONG SUPPORT of HB 837, Relating to the Conservation of Animals

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)-Humane Society International urge the Committee's support for HB 837, which would prohibit any person from importing, selling, offering to sell, or possessing with intent to sell, any ivory product (teeth or tusks) or rhino horn, not to include boar's teeth or tusks (*sus scrofa*) or those products used for native Hawaiian cultural purposes. This measure would *NOT* prohibit the continued lawful possession or passing down of ivory items, their use for educational display in museums or for research or other scientific purposes. In addition this bill proposes a 6 month extended effective date to allow those in possession of such items to sell those items before the effective date of this act.

This measure is in response to *S.C.R. 149 that unanimously passed the Hawaii Legislature in 2013*. The Resolution asked Hawaii residents and businesses not to buy or sell ivory of unknown origin. Unfortunately, despite notice being provided to retailers, Hawaii continues to sell ivory of unknown and likely illegal origin, and without any documentation. Last August both New York and New Jersey enacted laws to prohibit the sale of ivory and rhino horn and 6 other states are currently considering similar measures this year.

Elephants are one of the most iconic and beloved wild animals. Yet today, these magnificent animals are being illegally gunned down and poisoned in unprecedented numbers—reaching nearly 100 killed per day— all for their ivory tusks. It is the demand for ivory that is driving this elephant massacre. Most of the demand for ivory is in China, where it is still legal to buy, carve and sell ivory. But, according to the results of the most recent, comprehensive ivory market survey published in 2008,¹ the United States is the second largest market for ivory and, within the United States, Hawaii is the third largest ivory market only behind New York, and California². The same survey estimated that almost *90 percent of the ivory items for sale in Hawaii were likely imported illegally* or of unknown origins¹. United States laws and regulations pertaining to ivory trade are confusing and riddled with loopholes that are exploited by those involved in the international and domestic ivory trade. This also leads to consumer confusion about what is legal and what is not. The result is a flourishing, poorly regulated domestic ivory market in the United States.

¹ Martin, E., and D. Stiles. 2008. Ivory Markets in the USA. Care for the Wild International and Save the Elephants. West Sussex, UK and London, UK.

<http://www.savetheelephants.org/files/pdf/publications/2008%20Martin%20&%20Stiles%20Ivory%20Markets%20in%20the%20USA.pdf>

As an example, ivory import into Hawaii is covered by two federal laws and one state law:

- The Endangered Species Act (ESA):
 - The United Nations Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which currently prohibits the international commercial trade in African² and Asian elephant ivory, is implemented through the ESA. However, there are exceptions to this rule. Generally, any ivory possessed prior to July 1, 1975 is “pre-Convention” and can be traded internationally for commercial purposes. Sport-hunted elephant trophies can be imported but not for commercial purposes. CITES does not address the domestic trade in ivory. The ESA also has its own rules governing international trade as well as domestic trade in ivory. Under the ESA, the Asian elephant was listed as “endangered” in 1975 and the African elephant as “threatened” in 1978. This means that, in general, it is illegal to import, export or sell Asian elephant ivory on the domestic United States market, although it is legal to sell Asian elephant ivory legally possessed prior to 1975. However, the threatened status of the African elephant meant that ivory from that species continued to be imported, exported and sold domestically until 20 January 1990 when the CITES ivory trade ban became effective. African elephant ivory legally possessed prior to that date may be sold on the domestic market. Furthermore, import, export and sale of ivory that is “antique” (more than 100 years old) are allowed provided that there is documentation showing the age of the ivory. The ESA does not regulate the import, export or domestic trade in ivory from species like mammoths or warthogs, which is difficult to distinguish from elephant ivory.
- The African Elephant Conservation Act banned the importation of raw and worked ivory from African elephants as of January 1, 1990. The ban does not include sport-hunted elephant trophies.

However, these laws do not provide comprehensive control of the ivory trade to ensure that ivory offered for sale in the United States is not coming from recently poached elephants. For example, the United States does not: register or license all importers, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers dealing in raw, semi-worked or worked ivory products; have recording or inspection procedures to enable appropriate government agencies to monitor the flow of ivory within the United States; have compulsory trade controls over raw ivory; have a comprehensive and demonstrably effective reporting and enforcement system for sale of worked ivory.

To summarize, it is legal to import, export and sell on the United States domestic market certain types of elephant ivory depending on the age of the ivory, the date the ivory was acquired or imported, and whether the ivory is from an Asian or African elephant. These variables are difficult for the public to comprehend and difficult for United States Fish and Wildlife enforcement officers to implement given they only intercept approximately 10 percent of ivory brought into the state.

The difficulty of enforcing these laws cannot be overlooked. Ivory is a term that can refer to the tusks of Asian or African elephants, or the tusks of extinct mammoths (dug up from the frozen

² California has the second highest amount of ivory for sale; however, the state prohibits the sale of certain elephant ivory.

tundra of Siberia or Alaska), or the teeth of hippos, walrus, sperm whale or narwhal. Only experts, using special equipment, can tell the difference between Asian and African elephant tusks, between elephant and mammoth tusks, or between ivory tusks and the teeth of other species. Even then, it is not always possible to tell the difference between ivories of these closely related species. The fact that ivory carvings can be made from other mammals, including extinct ones that are not regulated by international or domestic law, offers an easy means for smugglers to get around legal requirements by simply claiming elephant ivory carvings to be those of another species.

Furthermore, a 2002 investigation by the HSUS of ivory markets in the United States³ found ivory sellers who offered to provide fraudulent documents to investigators indicating that elephant ivory was mammoth ivory, that new ivory was old ivory, or that recently imported ivory was imported a long time ago.

This investigation also found:

- The United States has a large market for worked ivory; these markets are supplied, at least in part, by illegal imports from Hong Kong of ivory objects carved in China.
- Those in the ivory business offered tips about how best to smuggle ivory into the United States including placing small ivory items in their luggage in a certain manner to avoid detection by x-ray machines and importing ivory through United States ports, such as Alaska, where there are few United States Fish and Wildlife Service inspectors.
- There is no real disincentive to smuggling ivory into the United States. Although large-scale smugglers can be fined and imprisoned, small-scale ivory smugglers are usually only required to forfeit the ivory objects.

A 2008 study of ivory markets in the United States⁴ found:

- 24,004 ivory items were found in 657 outlets in sixteen towns and cities visited in the United States. Hawaii is the third largest retail ivory retail market in the United States after California and New York. The United States has the second largest ivory retail market in the world after China/Hong Kong, as determined by numbers of items seen for sale.
- 7,400 ivory items, or nearly one-third of the total, appeared to have been crafted after 1989, making their importation illegal. Inspection of pieces (mainly of Chinese origin) in shops suggested that many figurines, netsukes and jewelry items were recently made. Some African items also looked recently made.
- The United States legally imported some 3,530 tusks and about 2,400 raw ivory pieces between 1990 and 2005 and some of this material was illegally sold into the commercial market.

³ Humane Society of the United States. 2002. An Investigation of Ivory Markets in the United States. The Humane Society of the United States. Washington, DC, USA.
http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/Ivory_Trade_Report.pdf

⁴ See footnote 1.

- Over 40,000 worked ivory items, excluding personal effects, were legally imported to the United States from 1995-2007. Previous studies found that ivory workshops in Asia and Africa produce fake antiques. Thus, even the imported worked ivory into the United States that seems old could be recently made.
- Federal and state authorities rarely inspect shops or Internet sites for illegal raw or worked ivory.
- Some contraband gets past Customs and there are no effective internal ivory transport and retail market controls.

Specifically with regard to **ivory sales in the State of Hawaii**, the same 2008 report found:

- 23 outlets selling at least 1,867 ivory items. Eighteen outlets and 1,659 items for sale in Honolulu. Four outlets and 204 pieces in Kailua. One outlet with four items in Kaneohe.
- Types of outlets found were tourist market (conglomerations of stalls, kiosks or shops in a large open area or multi-story building) or individual antique shops. In Honolulu, 7 of the outlets were in three tourist markets (International Marketplace, Waikiki Shopping Plaza, and Mahalo Antique Mall) selling 1,454 items. 11 antique shops offered 205 items. Outlets in Kailua and Kaneohe were antique shops.
- The most common items for sale were jewelry (80%) followed by netsukes (12%).
- Of the 1,659 ivory items found on Oahu, only 191 (11%) could with any confidence be judged as made before 1989. The vast majority, some **1,478 pieces (89%), could have been made after 1989**. This includes seven ivory items carved in Honolulu by local artisans that could have been made from legal raw ivory. The ivory items seen at the three tourist markets mentioned above appeared to be mostly from China and recently made.
- Most shopkeepers selling ivory knew of the international ban on trading ivory. Some were confused about the year this came into effect and whether it applied to domestic sales. Some owners and managers of shops admitted having pieces made after 1989, despite the illegality of importing such items.

More recently, The HSUS examined Hawaii's online ivory marketplace in June and July 2013. Seven major retail facets for ivory sales on the internet were identified that, combined, offered approximately 1,153 objects for sale. **Hawaii has arguably the largest online ivory marketplace in the country**. The most common types of ivory offered for sale were jewelry and small statues. Objects offered for sale ranged in price from USD 45.00 to USD 35,000.00. Hawaii's online marketplace is particularly troubling. For instance, the website that sold the largest number of ivory products found in Hawaii, even though it listed documentation from the USFWS online, the documents could not be matched to each of the over 800 items currently being sold on the website. Several of the other vendors made references to the legality of their ivory, though none of them provided any examples of documentation. **Therefore, none of the 1,153 ivory items for sale found online from The HSUS survey can be judged with confidence to be legal.**

Hawaii has long been a thriving hub of commerce and tourism between the Asia Pacific region and the United States mainland. Our close proximity to Asia also provides a convenient route for illegal wildlife to be trafficked into our State. As the 2008 and 2013 surveys demonstrated, a

staggering percentage of ivory items for sale in Hawaii came from illegal or unknown origins. HB 837 would end our state's participation in the brutal ivory trade and would establish Hawaii as the national and global leader in protecting elephants.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB837

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 837 Relating to Conservation of Animals
House Committee on Water and Land
Monday, February 9, 2015, 10:00AM, Room 325

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 837.

According to a June 2014 CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) study, more than 20,000 elephants were poached in Africa in 2013. Seizures of illegal ivory in both Africa and Asia are at their highest levels in years. The survival of elephants in Africa is threatened—as is the security and stability of the places (mostly southern and eastern Africa) where they range because of the organized crime involved.

Demand for ivory in countries like China, Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam continues to be high. While the U.S. ivory market may be relatively small in comparison, it contributes to the detrimental effect on elephant populations. With increased demand comes increased world prices making elephant poaching a sophisticated enterprise supported by organized crime. According to CITES, poaching levels remain alarmingly high and continue to far exceed the natural elephant population growth rates, resulting in a further decline in elephant populations across Africa.

Efforts are underway in Africa to better train and equip wildlife rangers to control poaching as well as in Asia to educate consumers, erode the prestige of ivory and clean up the marketplace. Here at home we can do our part by ensuring that we set an example by clearly prohibiting sales of ivory.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Dustin E. Sellers Dustin M. Shindo Nathan E. Smith Peter K. Tomozawa James Wei Eric K. Yeaman

From: Angel Reed <angelhaydn@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 1:34 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Water and Land Committee members,

Elephants and rhinos, remarkable and highly intelligent animals, are being cruelly slaughtered in the most inhumane ways, with poachers often hacking off their tusks or horns while they are still alive. The agony these helpless creatures endure, and – especially for elephants – the anguish for their surviving family members, is unimaginable. Elephants have close family bonds and rely on the elders of their group to lead and teach them; when these are killed, the herd is left devastated and shattered, and if babies lose their mother they often will not survive either.

All the countries involved in the chain of supply and demand of elephant ivory and rhino horn must take the strongest measures to bring the slaughter to an end – time is running out to save these species. Please support HB837 to ban ivory and rhino horns and protect these animals.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,
Angel Reed

From: Ann Early <caearly52@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 12:12 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to protect elephants and rhinos

Chairman Yamane, Vice-Chairman Cullen, Water and Land Committee members:

As a resident of North Carolina and someone who has learned much about African elephants and their centuries-old torment at the hands of human beings, I ask that you please support this bill to close down the ivory trade in Hawaii.

The numbers tell the horrific story. In 1800, there were around 25 million elephants on the continent of Africa. Today, there are likely less than 500,000.

What we have done to these magnificent, intelligent, socially and emotionally complex creatures is now and always will be a stain on humanity.

Hawaii can and must take this step and lead the world in the acceptance that ALL objects made of ivory are created from brutality, blood, terror, agony and grief, and that we **MUST** end this horrible trade once and for all.

Looking forward to celebrating the passage of the bill.

Ann Early
Aulander
North Carolina

Sent from my iPad

H.B. 837 Not pono as written

Aloha from Hilo, Hawaii.

I am a grandmother and student at U.H and have something to say about this complete ban on the sale of all Ivory. Like Michele Obama, I have Ivory jewelry that was carved in Hawaii and sold legally decades ago. I believe that I should have the right to sell my pieces if I choose to, and I believe that my daughter should have the right to sell the pieces that will be handed down to her. These jewelry items were sold without documentation and should not require documentation to be sold again. The companies and individuals who carved my Ivory pieces are no longer selling Ivory, dead or no longer in existence. The bill as written, needs to have an exemption or exception, for vintage, antique and ancient ivory. Just like the mainland bill that made an exception for musical instruments.

I read H.B. 837 and find that it is not a fair matter to pass. Under the pretense of saving the elephants in Africa, you are being asked to sign this bill which makes it a crime to sell a piece of Ivory of any species or age-even if it was dug up from the earth from a prehistoric mammoth or mastodon. The bottom line is, fresh elephant Ivory only, is what should be illegal to sell and that alone has something to do with whatever fresh Ivory there is, on the market. I don't believe I have ever seen any fresh Ivory.

Illegal Ivory harvesting/poaching should be stopped at the source-in Africa. In addition, the LEGAL HUNTING OF ELEPHANTS IN AFRICA should also be stopped! Most people believe that elephant hunting is illegal, but in fact, several countries in Africa allow it and sell expensive licenses to hunters-with a limit of two elephants, not one! This can be checked on the internet if you google elephant safari Africa. This needs to stop-it IS horrible. In addition to the stopping of the killing of all elephants in Africa, the illegal export of fresh elephant Ivory should be stopped at its source, in Africa and at its destinations in containers-wherever.

Only fresh elephant Ivory should be illegal to sell, not vintage, antique and ancient Ivory. Humans have been working Ivory for centuries, like the Hawaiians who would harvest whale teeth from beached whales, which would be carved into Niho Palaoa, and worn as a cultural symbol around the neck. This is not a bad thing! Will you tell Hawaiians that they are wrong to possibly sell and trade their Niho Palaoa? There is no need to penalize people for wanting or needing to sell their jewelry, and the government has no business in our jewelry boxes.

It is possible to identify elephant Ivory from other Ivories, basically upon visual inspection. It is possible to carry out tests to establish both the age of a piece of Ivory and the species it came from. There is much information about this on the web, and I see that scientists in Scotland are leaders in the field. With CSI-type gadgets and meters available for most any test, the government can and should use forensic technology to identify fresh elephant Ivory, and leave Tutu alone if she chooses to sell her Pikake necklace. In this day and age, there's a test for just about everything, and the banning of all Ivory sales to make this an easy job for the government, is not in the people's best interest.

Since the selling of fresh elephant Ivory should be the crime, agents need to have a field test kit, there's no excuse not to have them developed in the U.S.. The Fourth and Fifth Amendments speak to the citizen's right to due process, and not to be deprived of property without it. In addition, we have the right to be secure in our persons, houses,

papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures....without probable cause...particularly describing the...things to be seized. Just like all different drugs, weapons, pornography, etc, so it is with types of Ivory. It is the fresh elephant Ivory only, that should be particularly described and be subject to seizure-not Tutu's vintage jewelry that she chooses to sell. The bill as written is wrong and needs to have an exception for previously legal Ivory items, even old elephant Ivory, that are decades old, even if there is no documentation, because we were never given any when we shopped at Ming's, Gump's, and Sultan (now Na Hoku). Surely with the agents' CSI-meters that would now be necessary, they can rule out confiscating our "legal" Ivory and be professional and certain that they are confiscating fresh elephant Ivory only. Please do the right thing and rework this bill and show by example that there should be exceptions for vintage, antique and ancient Ivory of all species. Mahalo for listening.

Anne Walsh

Hilo

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Barbara Steinberg <h2ocolorbarbara@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 1:39 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support testimony HB837

I am in support of HB837

To prohibit brutal trade in ivory and rhino horn in Hawaii.

I am a teacher of children who pledge to be kind and protect endangered species and who stand with me in opposition of this trade as future leaders of Hawaii.

We must stand with the children who know why it is wrong to destroy living elephants and rhinos for greed and cruelty of this awful trade.

These animals are nearing extinction and Hawaii is the 3rd largest in sale of ivory and horn. Hawaii must step up to the plate and discontinue support of illegal and brutal slaughter of these magnificent animals where they saw off tusks leaving animals dying .

Sent from my ipad

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Beverly Eanes <edebeke@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 8:11 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Chair: Yamane

Vice-Chair: Cullen

Water and Land Committee Members:

These wonderful animals are being decimated because of their ivory. No carvings or hopes of sexual prowess are worth the slaughter and eventual extinction of these animals. Even when the baby elephants are not killed, they die within weeks because of the loss of their mothers. This is true even when sanctuaries try to save them. This has been seen over and over again. Rhinos are VERY CLOSE to extinction and elephant numbers are dwindling at a VERY RAPID RATE.

Please support HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Thank you,
Beverly and Edward Eanes

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 10:33 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: thebowen@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bowen Dickinson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is needless legislation that duplicates already existing laws and will only serve to complicate already difficult to enforce penalties, a waste of the meager funds already provided for the control of illegal poaching --in addition to raising the high cost of enforcement it will only serve to raise ivory prices, causing an increase in poaching.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:51 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: itsmebrd@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brenda R. Duarte	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Elephant populations in sub- equatorial Africa in areas with good habitat development and game management policies are healthy and increasing in numbers according to the World Wildlife Fund web site, 2015. Sales of confiscated poached ivory and ivory harvested for damage control funds anti-poaching enforcement and habitat preservation in impoverished African areas where elephant populations are threatened with extinction. Banning anything is just price support, increasing demand. This bill proposes to make criminals of anyone with antique gun grips or sight beads, musical instruments, scrimshaw, hatpins, or jewelry bearing small amounts of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance. Appraisal as an anti que, produced before 1989, or lawfully harvested should be exemptions. Museums should be exempted.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 2:14 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: heaviescc@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendon Heal	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Ivory gained by poaching or other illegal means is not a good thing, and should be dealt with in the most severe manner. However, legal trade of Ivory gained by sanctioned and conservative hunts and confiscated ivory(supports the capture of illegal poachers) should not be banned or confiscated. Any antique, or lawfully harvested should be exempt. This bill serves no purpose to conserving the wildlife from which it is taken, and only supports the taking of more animals, as the price and demand will increase.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 8:00 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: bisaacso@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Isaacson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: We don't need and elephants and rhinos don't need another knee jerk ivory and horn ban. This is a very difficult problem given the economics of the countries that have the subject species and countries who trade as well as the agencies who try to limit illegal trade and associated poaching. Legitimate sales fund anti-poaching efforts, and ivory and horn have been traded for centuries, leaving innocents liable for prosecution with a stroke of the pen. Much better solutions exist in lieu of bans.

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From: Cindy Gregory <cindyatnc@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 4:18 AM
To: walttestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee Members,

I am writing to ask that you *please support HB837* and ban the trade of ivory and rhinoceros horn in the State of Hawaii. Last year alone, over 35,000 elephants and 1,000 rhinos were slaughtered. The facts are clear that these animals can not sustain this level of poaching and both species are facing extinction within our lifetime. It is our duty to take every measure possible to ensure the survival of these majestic animals. They are here on this earth with us, not for us!

Additionally, terrorists groups such as Kony's LRA, Al Shabaab and even Boko Haram are violently poaching our animals and using the funds to train new soldiers and build their arsenal. The rangers that work each day to try to protect the animals are in extreme danger, and hundreds have also been killed over the last several years.

Please stand up for our animals, and let the world know that Hawaii will not condone or contribute to the extinction of elephants and rhinos.

Thank you for your consideration!

Best regards,
Cindy Gregory
North Carolina

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Cindy Katsapetses <cindywassk@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 12:16 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

PLEASE....pass this bill to ban ivory....these beautiful animals will extinct in **10 years!**

If you stop the ivory trade...the killing and poaching will stop!!!

PLEASE....save these animals! 🌿🌿🌿🌿🌿🌿

Cindy Katsapetses
Middleton MA

Sent from my iPhone

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Cindy <cjcobb9@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 12:20 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

The United States has to take a strong position and ban the sale of all ivory and rhino horn. The great state of Hawaii must lead and now is the time. If we don't act now, these animals will become extinct in our lifetimes and eliminating the market is the only way to stop the shameful poaching.

Regards, Cindy

Sent from my iPad

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Cynthia Hever-Carlson <lm.fullmoon@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 2:07 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Regards,
Cynthia Hever-Carlson
Environmental Educator, NC
Extinctions & Endangered Species

From: Danette Shue <dms hue04@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 2:33 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT BILL HB837

ATTENTION: Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen, & Water and Land Committee...

Please accept this email as a formal testimony on behalf of advocates such as myself and thousands of other citizens around the world in a united effort to BAN IVORY & HORN from being bought, traded or used in any way.....this is a matter of high priority for all elephant and rhino advocates and considered an emergency needing direct and immediate attention....we urge you to bill HB837this bill is desperately need ed to support the effort hundreds of thousands od people strongly support.....it is my hope, that you will join in our GLOBAL UNIFICATION and resolve to SAVE THE ELEPHANTS AND RHINOS from any further devastation.....an elephant is slaughtered every 15 massacre night test for their tusks and RHINOS de- horned after being brutally killed. This barbaric practice of ANIMAL CRUELTY must cease and desist immediately....this bill is the opportunity for members in political power to show the world we will stand together.....generations to come will hold those who had the power to make necessary changes on behalf of these majestic animals GOD created to live on this planet.....the blood of these animals will be forever on the hands of those who turned their back on these animals.....sincerely,, MS. DANETTE COOK....U.S. OF AMERICA

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:52 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kaneohegs@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
daniel oshima	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Daniel Tham <danwt88@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 7:08 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

To: Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members.

Dear all, please support HB837 and protect elephants and rhinos. Thank you.

Daniel

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: darilyn kotzenberg <ddotcom12@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 11:27 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos



to Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members.

please vote to ban the ivory trade in hawaii

[Hearing WAL 02-09-15.](#)

Hearing WAL 02-09-15.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-EIGHTHTWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 20152015 COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

View on www.capitol.hawaii.gov

Preview by Yahoo

thanks!
darilyn kotzenberg, california

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Mstestdoc@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 7:51 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members.

Please join other states, organizations, and countries in banning the trade of elephant ivory and rhino horn in the beautiful state of Hawaii. It is time to stop the slaughter of these amazing creatures! You can help by banning the trade these animals' tusks and horns.

Thank you for supporting HB837 to protect elephants and rhinos.
Darla Reeves
Lakewood, CO 80228

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Denise Flynn <deniselflynn@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 5:10 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the Water and Land,

Aloha mai e,

Mahalo for considering House Ivory Bill, HB837 to protect Elephants and Rhinos. I am sure that you would not want to see the certain extinction of these beautiful and vital creatures. Poachers are decimating these animals to provide meaningless blood ivory trinkets and horns. The state of our safety is also threatened, as organizations such as Boko Haram and Al Shebaab are benefiting and funding their despicable terrorist operations by slaughtering whole herds of these precious animals to the staggering tune of over \$600,000.00 a MONTH!

I am a student of hula and have learned much about Hawaii and it's people and culture. Mostly that the people of Hawaii have always known that unity, harmony and balance between humans, nature and spiritual life forces is essential for the well being of a nation. Hawaii should have no part in this trade that goes against such beliefs.

"Aloha 'āina, aloha ke akua, aloha kekāhi i kekāhi" -love and respect the land, love and honor God, love and look after one another. A phrase that I believe extends beyond the islands and encompasses the Earth and all it's creatures.

I urge you to support House Ivory Bill, HB837 to protect elephants and rhinos from certain extinction.

Mahalo nui loa,
Denise L. Flynn
Maryland

Sent from my iPad

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:33 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: tribaldread@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Derek A Buendia Jr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB837

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Don Dudan <ddudan@goairtight.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 12:23 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Please ban the ivory trade in Hawaii. The elephants are disappearing quickly at the hand of poachers—please help!

Thank you,

Don Dudan
Walnut Creek, CA

cullen4-Rachele

From: Elizabeth Chitwood <echitwood2007@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 1:32 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

Elephants are a keystone species to the African ecosystem. Tourism is one of the main sources of income and employment opportunities for many Africans. Right now, nearly 100 elephants are being killed a day for their ivory tusks. In 2013, 20,000 elephants were slaughtered. At this rate, elephants will be extinct in Africa as early as 2025. Rangers who sign up to protect Africa's heritage are now finding themselves face to face with terrorist organizations using advanced poaching equipment - and these people do not mind killing rangers. Much of this ivory ends up on the illegal wildlife trade and is sold to China and the United States. It is our responsibility to set the standard for the world to see that ivory is not a commodity. It begins with states banning ivory. Elephants are endangered. There is no reason to be allowing trade of their ivory tusks. Please support HB837 to protect elephants and rhinos from impending extinction.

For the Elephants,
Elizabeth Chitwood
Gainesville, FL

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:19 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: gordyf@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gordon Fowler	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill as it will make illegal and prohibit transfer of art objects, antiques and other curios and relics that are presently legally owned by law abiding citizens. A century old hand gun with ivory grips and a carved or scrimshawed whale's tooth are the type of articles that come to mind. All that will happen should this bill become law is the driving of the market underground. The black market, illegal market will flourish with all the issues that come with it. Thank you and Aloha Gordon Fowler

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 12:51 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hautree@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gordon Kitsuwa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB 837, the ivory ban. Ivory (bone and teeth) are part of many of the artifacts in the Bishop Museum. Ivory is also used in popular modern pendants, necklaces, and Hawaiian weapons. Banning, confiscating, and destroying these items will provoke strong resistance. Another ivory source is sperm whale teeth. I learned that these must be buried with the whale carcass because the teeth would be illegal. This is a waste of a valuable, renewable resource, and it's unsustainable.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 7:10 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: alicesaul@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alice Saul	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Representatives on the Water and Land Use Committee, I am writing to urge that you vote in favor of HB837 which seeks to prohibit the brutal trade in ivory and rhino horn in Hawaii. The current rate at which elephants are killed for their tusks nears 100 every day which will lead to their becoming extinct within only 15 years. As the 3rd largest retailer of ivory in the US, Hawaii should not be a party to this destructive and calamitous process. Thank you. Aloha.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 2:26 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: bizkellam@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Kellam	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 3:28 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kjcole52@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin J. Cole	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 1:58 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mikagawa@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Ikagawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 10:47 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: phyllis.tavares@9thlifehawaii.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phyllis Tavares	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Ban the sale of ivory in Hawaii. There is plenty of lovely jewelry available without killing elephants whose population is on the decline.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 9:33 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: refrey2001@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Frey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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February 9, 2015

TESTIMONY of RUSSELL TAKATA regarding HB 837 RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION OF ANIMALS.

CHAIRMAN YAMANE AND MEMBERS ON THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & AIR,

I STRONGLY OPPOSE this measure. Essentially, this bill will make some law-abiding citizens criminals! Collectors of antique firearms, sportsmen, and common residents fall in this group. Ivory has been around for a long time and found in antique firearms, pistol grips, knife handles, tool handles, jewelry, furniture, and even jewelry. The general prohibition and possession, the broad definitions of ivory and rhinoceros horn, and the presumption of "intent to sell" when in possession of such in a retail outfit, are too general and vague challenging the innocence of law-abiding citizens. How will someone prove legal possession of an ivory product such as a luggage handle, desk lamp, antique pistol inherited from grandpa? Paragraph 6 on personal possession and bequests appears too general and simplistic. Overall, this bill has the great potential for misinterpretation and misuse. This bill poorly addresses its stated intent.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 4:54 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: sthazam@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen T Hazam	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose this flawed bill. It will not have its desired effect, but will have unintended adverse consequences without significant exemptions and amendments.. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony..

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 2:28 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: HARRISMDW001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Harris, M.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii should not be a clearing house for the brutal ivory trade

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Ivonne Cassaigne <icassaigne@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 1:34 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members.

If everyone bans products from elephants and rhinos our grand children will be able to know these animals. Please set the example.

Yours,
Ivonne Cassaigne

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Jason Phillips <tjasonphillips@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 1:46 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members.

Please support the BAN ON IVORY! We can win the war on poaching if we remove the demand for products sourced by the killing of wildlife.

Thank you.

*Jason Phillips
Visited Kauai in 2013.*

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Jeanne Bennett <enchantedeartharts@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:31 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support for hb837

WHAT the HECK?

I thought it was illegal to buy and sell ivory anywhere in the United States

Do you mean to tell me Hawaii, an environmentally sensitive, healthy, tourism based island actually has anything to do with IVORY?

That just plain insane

I thought it's been illegal for years already That's just so backwards and immoral Jeanne bennett

Sent from my iPhone

cullen4-Rachele

From: Jennifer Chiwa <bjcmd808@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 12:26 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support of HB 837 for WAL Hearing February 9, 2015, 10:00 am

Aloha, Members of the Water and Land Committee. Please support HB 837 which would prohibit the trade of elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn. By voting for this bill, you would support the end of killing elephants and rhinoceros just for their tusks and horns, respectively. Hawaii is a leader in outlawing the killing of sharks just for their fins. Please continue Hawaii's leadership in preserving wild life by ending the trade of elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn. Thank you.

Jennifer Chiwa

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: jen inocencio <missaloha8989@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 9:09 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Aloha Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,
I am writing to you to request that Hawaii NOT support the trade of ivory or rhino horn. These endangered animals are to be respected and treated humanely. Hawaii's beauty and culture do not thrive from the misuse of animals, rather we respect all creatures and ensure that their beauty lives on for generations to come.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this and support the wildlife and all their beauty.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Inocencio MSN-Ed, BSN, RN
(808) 741-0117

From: jennifer marler <jennifermarler@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 8:00 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee Members,

I am a concerned citizen writing to request your support of HB837, which would ban ivory and rhinoceros horn sales and trade within Hawaii. I am a physician with a deep respect for life and a commitment to minimizing suffering, as well as an individual deeply concerned about the legacy we are leaving future generations. The toll the ivory and rhino horn trades (both cruel, inhumane and utterly unnecessary) have taken is far too great. Elephants are on a 10-year timeline to extinction. Rhinos are on an even faster track to this end. And all this in the name of ivory trinkets and quack medical rituals void of supporting evidence (note that rhino horns are made of keratin, the same type of protein that makes up our human fingernails and hair). It is an embarrassing and shameful reflection of our species that we've allowed it to get to this point.

Elephants are extremely intelligent with complex social structures. They are known to mourn their dead, with documentation of annual multi-mile pilgrimages back to the death sites of perished herd members in remembrance and honor. They are excellent and devoted parents, and form lifelong friendships demonstrating commitment and loyalty. Elephants and rhinos are key contributors to healthy eco-systems in their native habitats. Finally, the funds from the ivory and rhino horn trade have repeatedly been linked back to funding terrorist operations; individuals involved in this trade are not upstanding, well-intentioned people. Or even just people trying to survive. They are unscrupulous thugs and murderers whose maleficence extends far beyond killing animals.

Hawaii's current ivory and rhino horn policy directly contributes to the march towards extinction of these magnificent and important species and enables terrorists to profit and advance their agendas. Please put an end to this.

Please support HB837.

Thank you,
Jennifer Marler, MD

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Joan <smithellis@frontiernet.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 12:31 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support HB837 to protect Elephants and Rhinos

Chair Yamane and Vice Chair Cullen and Land Committee Members.

I would like to lend my wholehearted support in favor of HB 837. Elephants and Rhinos are in danger of disappearing from the wild in our lifetime. This bill would help to break the cycle of killing them to sell their tusks and horns. Let's not be the generation that allows these animals to disappear. Please support this bill.

Thank you.

Joan Ellis

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 5:50 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: joel@prymis.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel dela Cruz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Elephant populations in sub- equatorial Africa in areas with good habitat development and game management policies are healthy and increasing in numbers according to the World Wildlife Fund web site, 2015. Sales of confiscated poached ivory and ivory harvested for damage control funds anti-poaching enforcement and habitat preservation in impoverished African areas where elephant populations are threatened with extinction. Banning anything is just price support, increasing demand. This bill proposes to make criminals of anyone with antique gun grips or sight beads, musical instruments, scrimshaw, hatpins, or jewelry bearing small amounts of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance. Appraisal as an anti que, produced before 1989, or lawfully harvested should be exemptions. Museums should be exempted.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:40 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: jonagustine_lim@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonagustine Lim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose this bill. This bill will make criminals of anyone with antiques bearing small amounts of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Julia Gibb <feedajane@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 8:34 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

My friends who are very active in elephant conservation informed me that the proposed bill HB837 needs support. I have family and friends in Hawai'i, and I would love to see the state take a stand for what is right, and to help protect elephants and rhinos!

Mahalo,
Julia Gibb

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:26 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: itsmeksn@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerry Nagai	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Elephant populations in sub- equatorial Africa in areas with good habitat development and game management policies are healthy and increasing in numbers according to the World Wildlife Fund web site, 2015. Sales of confiscated poached ivory and ivory harvested for damage control funds anti-poaching enforcement and habitat preservation in impoverished African areas where elephant populations are threatened with extinction. Banning anything is just price support, increasing demand. This bill proposes to make criminals of anyone with antique gun grips or sight beads, musical instruments, scrimshaw, hatpins, or jewelry bearing small amounts of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance. Appraisal as an anti que, produced before 1989, or lawfully harvested should be exemptions. Museums should be exempted.

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TESTIMONY FOR HB 837 RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION OF ANIMALS

Testifier's name: Linda Lee, private citizen

Committee: WAL and JUD

Date and time: Monday, February 9, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. HST

Measure Number: HB 837

Testimony:

My name is Linda Lee and I am a collector of and considered an expert in Ming's Honolulu jewelry. (See Attachment 1) I have a large collection of Ming's ivory jewelry but rarely sell Ming's ivory.

I would like to request an exemption to HB 837 by the inclusion of the ability to sell identifiable Ming's Honolulu ivory jewelry.

Background

Ming's Honolulu antiques and artifacts was established in the late 1930s by Wook and Shay Moon. In 1941, shortly before WWII, the Moons opened Ming's Honolulu jewelry store. During the war, gold and silver were very scarce and Wook Moon (hereinafter Mr. Moon) being a master carver produced carved African elephant ivory jewelry. After the war, Mr. Moon provided jobs for many veterans who worked or went to school during the day and worked in his ivory factory at night.

The jewelry was very popular and purchased by locals as well as tourists visiting Hawaii since the 1940s. At its peak, Ming's had 5 stores in Hawaii and stores in San Francisco, New York City, Miami, Houston, Fort Lauderdale and Atlanta. Ming's closed their last downtown Honolulu store in 1999.

Reasons for Exemption

- When the trade of Asian and African elephant ivory was banned in 1975, Mr. Moon pulled all his ivory jewelry (though "old stock" was still legal to be sold; e.g., ivory was still sold at Liberty House until their stock ran out) and Ming's never sold ivory again. Any Ming's ivory jewelry was made on or before 1975.

- There are collectors and buyers of Ming's ivory in Honolulu. A small amount of Ming's ivory is sold every year.
- Ming's ivory jewelry is identifiable by jeweler markings. I am not asking for an exemption for Ming's ivory jewelry that is not marked.
- Ming's and the Moon family have supported many workers in Hawaii. Their jewelry is loved by many women who hope to give it to their daughters and granddaughters who would have to ability, if necessary, to sell the jewelry and continue the legacy of Ming's.

For these reasons, I humbly ask for your consideration in adding an exemption to HB 837 by allowing Ming's ivory jewelry to continue to be sold.

Thank you and I hope you will have questions for me.

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: L. R. <miss_bmw2007@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 7:47 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

I want nothing to do with ivory or rhino horn trade, and I want to support ONLY humane products.

Sincerely,
Line Ringgaard

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mysterymaniac@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 3:08 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

On behalf of Hawaii's ivory/rhino horn ban bill, I urge you to support this bill to ban ivory and step up and support elephants and rhinos BEFORE it's too late! Do what is right, not what is easy.

Thank you,
Lisa A. Brown

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Lori Cockerill <lorigiovanna@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 6:50 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Please help protect elephants and rhinos from being murdered for their tusks!

Lori Cockerill

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: louise kane <louise@kaneproductions.net>
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 11:06 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: *****SPAM***** SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

I support all protections for African wildlife that will prevent the despicable trade of ivory of elephants, rhino or other species.

Louise Kane, JD

Louise Kane
louise@kaneproductions.net
508-237-8326



cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:54 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: messy808@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyle Hlromoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: Lynda Locke <doglovrlyn@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:04 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants & Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

I urge you all to support HB837 to protect elephants and rhinos. It is a desperate situation for these animals, and they are rapidly becoming extinct without protection. It is totally unnecessary that they are killed for no reason other than their tusks, which are made into 'trinkets' for ignorant people who do not understand where these items may come from and the horns of the rhino which has no value for what they are used for. Having seen these creatures up close and witnessing the intelligence and emotional capacity they have, we should be embarrassed that this practice still continues today. Let's work on education, not killing to protect these glorious animals.

I URGE your support of HB837.

Thank you.
Lynda Locke
doglovrlyn@gmail.com

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Margaret Sueoka <feathers03@me.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 1:40 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: HB837

Please prohibit the sale of ivory and rhino horn in Hawaii.

Thank you,
Margaret Hanson
6295 Olohena Road
Kapaa, HI 96746

From: Peggy Kirihara <pmkirihara@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 12:05 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Please support this important House bill to ensure the continued existence of these magnificent creatures being hopeless slaughtered for the vanity of a very few wealthy people. Thank you.

Margaret Kirihara

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 1:51 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: data35@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marvin Dryden	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Marvin Dryden OPPOSES HB837. This bill proposes to make criminals of anyone with antique gun grips or sight beads, musical instruments, scrimshaw, hatpins, or jewelry bearing small amounts of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance. Appraisal as an antique, produced before 1989, or lawfully harvested should be exemptions. Museums should be exempted. I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB837.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Mary-Eileen Cox <eppie65062@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 1:50 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos



Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members

Please stand up for endangered elephants and rhinos and vote to ban all Ivory sales and sales of rhino horns. This move will show that Hawaii is a state that knows the value of conservation and humanity. It also shows other states that, because the sale of ivory is fueling the terrorists supplies of weapons, you care about the lives and safety of all of us.

Thank you for your vote,

Mary-Eileen Cox

[71 Kinderhook St.](#)

[Chatham, NY 12037](#)

eppie65062@aol.com

Sent from my iPad

From: NANCY LAW <nancydancer@me.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 4:00 AM
To: walttestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the Water and Land,

Aloha mai e,

I am pleased to hear that the great state of Hawaii is following its heritage and love of nature by considering House Ivory Bill, HB837 to protect Elephants and Rhinos. I am writing to urge support and passage of this bill as time is running out for elephants and rhinos due to the poaching crisis that is threatening their very existence on this planet. Poachers are decimating these beautiful animals to provide meaningless blood ivory trinkets and horns. Terrorist organizations such as Boko Horam and Al Shebaab are benefiting and funding their despicable terrorist operations by slaughtering whole herds of these precious animals to the staggering tune of over \$600,000.00 a MONTH! Hawaii should have no part in this trade... by passing HB837, Hawaii will show the world that Hawaii's heritage of love and respect for nature and land is strongly intact.

“Aloha ‘āina, aloha ke akua, aloha kekāhi i kekāhi” -love and respect the land, love and honor God, love and look after one another. Native Hawaiians lived under this mantra and embraced these precepts to live in harmony with the earth. The people of Hawaii have always known that unity, harmony and balance between humans, nature and spiritual life forces is essential for the well being of a nation. By passing HB837, Hawaii will demonstrate that this native Hawaiian worldview, or Lōkähí is still intact and strong and that what is happening to elephants and rhinos will not be supported by its great people.

I urge you to support House Ivory Bill, HB837 to protect elephants and rhinos from certain extinction.

Mahalo nui loa,
Me ka ha`aha`a,
Nancy Law
Student of Hula
Maryland

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Naomi Schneider <naomischneider13@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 1:43 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

Please vote to ban ivory. No amount of jewelry and trinkets is worth destroying a species.

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: martina truelsen <mest.hasselbo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:37 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Fwd: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

I want nothing to do with ivory or rhino horn trade, and I want to support ONLY humane products.

Sincerely,

nina clausen

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Rjg15 <rjg15@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 2:26 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

Aloha and I hope this note finds you well.

I am a long time visitor to the beautiful state of Hawaii and look forward to traveling there with my family in mid-June, to the Big Island.

I am saddened to know that Hawaii has been qualified as the 3rd largest illegal ivory market in the USA. Elephant populations in Africa have reached a tipping point; there are now more elephants dying and being killed, than are being born; extinction looms within a generation and in localized regions within a decade. It is also well established that poaching and wildlife trafficking literally sponsors international terror and is plunging the African continent into geo political chaos.

I urge you to support HB837 and encourage your colleagues to do so as well. The land of Aloha should play no part in the "business" of supporting the extinction of a sentient species and contributing to global terror.

Mahalo nui.

Warmly,
Robin Goldman
Washington DC

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 12:03 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: jingkieand robin@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Rodney & Terri Shishido <rodnrod@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:02 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: HB 837

I support the ban described in HB837. I urge you to pass it. Thank you Terri Shishido 1276 Kauhikoa Rd. Haiku HI 96708

Sent from Windows Mail

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Rosemary Alles <rosemary.alles@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 7:48 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: Alles, Rosemary
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

Aloha and I hope this note finds you well.

I am a long time resident of Hawaii (currently in California). I have economic and familial interests on the islands and visit paradise frequently, returning to my home in Honokaa on the Big Island.

I am saddened to know that Hawaii has been qualified as the 3rd largest illegal ivory market in the USA. Elephant populations in Africa have reached a tipping point; there are now more elephants dying and being killed, than are being born; extinction looms within a generation and in localized regions within a decade. It is also well established that poaching and wildlife trafficking literally sponsors international terror and is plunging the African continent into geo political chaos.

I urge you to support HB837 and encourage your colleagues to do so as well. The land of Aloha should play no part in the "business" of supporting the extinction of a sentient species and contributing to global terror.

Mahalo nui.

Warmly,
rosemary.
Software Engineer
NASA/Sofia Mission

PO Box 1430
Kamuela
HI 96743

Organizer
#GMFER core
www.MarchForElephants.org (locally)
<http://www.march4elephantsandrhinosaurs.org> (globally)

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Rosemary Karlsson <rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 12:42 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: HB837 - I support it

Outlaw the trade of all ivory from all animals! This is barbaric!

Rosemary Karlsson
PO Box 492266
Keaau, HI 96749
16-1885 Uilani Drive, Keaau
808-966-6589

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Sandy Hoyt <mustangsandy3@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 12:59 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: HB837

Please help ban the ivory trade and support HB837. The unnecessary and tragic killing of our endangered elephants and rhinos must stop! Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Sandy Hoyt
Annapolis, Maryland

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: hawaiidogmom@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 2:36 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: SMCLAUGHLIN808@GMAIL.COM; Emma McRae; Hanna Forsten
Subject: SUPPORT FOR HB837

Almost 100 elephants are killed every day for their tusks and may be extinct in as few as 15 years. Hawaii is the third largest retailer of ivory in the United States and should play no part in this destructive trade. Please support HB837. Thank you. Stephanie McLaughlin, 95-310 Haakualiki Place, Mililani, Hawaii, 96789, phone 808-3844764

Sent from Windows Mail

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 7:16 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: macsak@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
steven a kumasaka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: measure is too broad

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 11:54 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: tom1.galli@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Galli	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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February 8, 2015

Re: Support for HB837 relating to the conservation of animals.

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Water and Land Committee Members,

I strongly support HB 837. A law like this is very long overdue for a whole variety of obvious reasons. Please pass this bill and move it along through the process as fast as possible so that we as a State can make better, faster strides toward doing more to protect these animals.

Sincerely,
Tyler Ralston, PsyD, ABPP

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:44 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: viviansuet@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM
Attachments: faceless elephant.jpg

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Did you know Hawaii is the second largest seller of ivory in the U.S.? Let's make Hawaii a true paradise, where all ivory sales are outlawed! It is estimated that nearly 100 elephants are killed daily to supply this illegal demand and trade in ivory, some of which is in Hawaii. The poachers kill the elephants in order to cut off the elephant's tusks. (See picture)Ivory tusks with elaborate carvings on them can be sold for up to \$3,000 per kilogram. In 1980, there were 1.2 million elephants in Africa. At the start of 2014, due to poaching, wildlife officials estimate that there are around 500,000 elephants remaining! Despite everything done for the elephants, so long as there is international demand for ivory we will fail to save the magnificent elephants. We need to crush the demand and the illegal trade if we are to secure the future of elephants. Hawaii can play a key role in the survival of elephants and ending the bloody massacre of elephant families for the ivory trade by setting a bold and courageous example to the rest of the developed world. BE THE CHANGE ! Does Money Always Have to Rule Decisions ? Please show Aloha for all, Mahalo.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 2:56 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: zojing@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/7/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zojing Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE



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Adam M. Roberts

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P.O. Box 22505
Sacramento, CA 95822

(916) 447-3085
(800) 348-7387

info@bornfreeusa.org
www.bornfreeusa.org

BORN FREE USA
PRIMATE SANCTUARY
Dilley, Texas
primates@bornfreeusa.org
bornfreeusa.org/sanctuary

A 501(c)(3) organization

February 8, 2015

Honorable Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Committee Members
House Water and Land Committee
February 9, 2015 10 am

RE: Strong Support of HB837 relating to the conservation of elephants and rhinoceros

Born Free USA, a national nonprofit animal protection and wildlife conservation organization, urges the Committee's support for HB 837 which would prohibit any person from importing, selling, offering to sell, or possessing with intent to sell any ivory product (teeth or tusks) or rhino horn. Born Free USA has studied wildlife trafficking for more than two decades and we can conclude that the elephant poaching epidemic across Africa has reached unprecedented crisis levels in recent years. In addition, rhino poaching is escalating exponentially. As the second largest ivory market in the world, the United States bears a significant responsibility to act now. Hawaii is the third largest market in the States for ivory products after New York and California. NY enacted a law to prohibit the sale of ivory and rhino horn and we are currently working on passing a ban in CA.

This bill is a crucial step toward managing the growing trade in illegally trafficked wildlife products in the United States. This bill would not prohibit the continued lawful possession or passing down of ivory items; their use of educational display in museums; or for research or other scientific purposes. Last year, both New York and New Jersey enacted laws to prohibit the sale of ivory and rhino horn and 6 other states are considering similar measures currently.

As you are aware, the elephant poaching crisis has become increasingly severe over the past several years with an estimated 35,000 to 50,000 elephants slaughtered per year. The website www.bloodivory.org specifically quantifies more than 103,000 elephants slaughtered by poachers since 2012 and approximately 96 elephants are slaughtered daily by poachers. As a result, certain populations of African elephants are vulnerable to extinction and may not withstand these poaching thresholds much longer. When these elephants disappear, if ivory markets are not eliminated, demand will lead poaching operations further east and south, decimating other African elephant populations. The demand for ivory is driving the ongoing massacre of our most iconic wild animal.

In recent years, it has been revealed that dangerous criminal syndicates and organized terrorist gangs engage in elephant poaching to acquire ivory, which they sell for arms to ply their deadly activities. Born Free USA, seeking an accurate and complete picture of the depths of this nefarious

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activity, commissioned expert defense analysts to examine the military, national security, and localized conflict aspects to reveal the threats to elephants across Africa.

Their findings were compiled into our report *Ivory's Curse* and the conclusions are truly alarming. Criminal networks such as Janjaweed and the Lord's Resistance Army use profits from wildlife trafficking to purchase weapons and fund their brutal operations.

A second report, *Out of Africa*, identified shipping routes and the means by which ivory is extracted from poached elephants, transported to consolidation points, and bundled for shipment overseas by organized criminal syndicates.

As long as there is a market for in ivory—including in Hawaii—and poaching continues unfettered, these ruthless terrorist organizations and corrupt individuals and entities will continue to bring chaos, bloodshed, and insecurity to the region.

Additionally, all five rhino species are in serious danger due to poaching. Africa's rhinos are critically endangered, with a population of fewer than 5,000. South Africa, which is home to the majority of African rhinos, has seen a staggering increase in poaching numbers in recent years—from a handful in 2007 to 333 in 2010 to more than 1,000 in 2013 and again in 2014. There are only 3,000 one-horned rhinos remaining in India and Nepal, and Southeast Asia's Sumatran and Javan rhinos number only in the hundreds and tens, respectively. The horns, made of a substance akin to fingernails, are used in Traditional Chinese Medicine to allegedly cure a variety of ailments including cancer. Despite conclusive evidence that they have no curative properties, over a thousand rhinos are killed for their horns every year.

The harsh reality of the international wildlife trade is that there are poachers crossing from Mozambique into South Africa to slaughter Africa's imperiled wildlife—some of these illegal wildlife products could end up in the Hawaii marketplace masquerading as legal items.

Born Free USA believes it is the responsibility of the United States Congress and individual state legislature to do everything in their power to stop the slaughter of elephants and rhinos in Africa. It is imperative to completely ban the commercialization of ivory and rhino horn to close all loopholes. Unfortunately, it is too easy for documents to be forged and ivory disguised as antique.

There is absolutely no justification for selling elephant ivory or rhino horn in Hawaii or anywhere else in the United States.

Hawaii is a thriving hub of commerce and tourism between the Asia Pacific region and the United States. Hawaii's close proximity to Asia provides a convenient route for illegal wildlife to be trafficking into the State.



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Adam M. Roberts

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Ending the illegal trade in wildlife parts is a core mission of Born Free USA, and I applaud the compassionate measures proposed in HB 837 to end Hawaii's participation in the callous ivory trade. Time is running out to save these majestic animals. I sincerely hope the Committee votes in favor of this crucial piece of legislation. HB 837 could represent part of a shift in the way the states of this nation deal with the wildlife trade, and help to bring much-needed relief to the elephant and rhino populations of the world.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB837.

Sincerely,

Rosalyn Morrison

Rosalyn Morrison
Born Free USA
(916) 642-3678
rosalyn@bornfreeusa.org

Chief Executive Officer:
Adam M. Roberts

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**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu

LATE

Testimony Submitted to the
House Committee on Water and Land

Hearing: Monday, February 9, 2015 10 am, Room 325

In Support of HB 799 Relating to Uniform Aeronautics Act

Aloha, Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 799, which clarifies the authority of the State, its employees, or its independent contractors, to remove birds or animals by aerial means in furtherance of official State duties.

Such clarification would be useful. Aerial hunting by the State, its employees, or independent contractors is a tool to help protect essential watersheds and native species habitats. Although it is not used very often, this management tool should be available. Public hunting and ground hunting by the State, its employees, and independent contractors alone are not effective in large, remote areas and areas that are difficult to access by foot or ground vehicle.

Introduced continental barnyard animals gone wild and introduced game mammals, such as deer, are among the most destructive and serious threats to watersheds, native species habitats, forests, and recreation on public lands, as well as private farms, ranches, nurseries, gardens, and business and residential properties.

Here are photos of the endangered palila and its critical habitat on Mauna Kea, which has been destroyed by introduced cattle, sheep, mouflon, hybrid sheep, and goats. The State is under several federal court orders to remove all sheep, mouflon, hybrid sheep, and goats from the palila bird's critical habitat. Aerial hunting is necessary to comply with the court orders.

There may be other areas where aerial hunting is needed and would be effective, including state lands with feral cattle. There are too many introduced browsing and grazing animals in our Hawaiian forests and watersheds.

Please kokua. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a nonprofit, environmental membership organization dedicated to protecting native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations.

Established in 1950 and based in Honolulu, CCH is one of the largest and most effective wildlife organizations in Hawai'i with more than 5,000 members and supporters, including concerned citizens, educators, scientists, government agencies, and elected officials.

Through research, education, service, organizing, and legal advocacy, CCH works to stop the destruction of native wildlife and wild places in Hawai'i.

Since 1973, CCH has served as the Hawai'i state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: info@conservehi.org | web: www.conservehi.org
P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 220 | Honolulu, HI 96814

President: Hannah Kihalani Springer | Vice-President: Julie Leialoha | Treasurer: Bianca Isaki | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka
Directors: Rick Barboza | Ryan Belcher | Maka'ala Ka'auomoana | Koalani Kaulukukui
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters



What we lack in this state is an effective hunting program that supports hunting in appropriate hunting areas and minimizes the damage in sensitive areas, such as native habitats, watersheds, recreation areas, farms, ranches, nurseries, gardens, and other private property.

Please kokua. Do not waste time and money on a one-sided commission that will not address the inherent conflicts between introduced continental barnyard animals gone wild and wildlife (deer), and native Hawaiian species and habitats, including essential watersheds.

Oppose HB 1041, and let us all work together on enhancing appropriate hunting areas, building fences, and protecting sensitive native habitats, watersheds, and recreation areas.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Marjorie Ziegler

LATE

Testimony of
Sara S. Marinello
Executive Director, Government & Community Affairs
Wildlife Conservation Society
submitted to the
Hawaii House Committee on Water and Land

February 9, 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the plight of African elephants due to demand for ivory, and the important role of HB 837 to improve their conservation status in the wild.

My organization, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), saves wildlife and wild places worldwide through science, conservation action, education, and inspiring people to value nature. To achieve our mission, we harness the power of our Global Conservation Program in nearly 60 countries and the world's oceans, and in our five New York City-based wildlife parks, including our Bronx Zoo headquarters. WCS combines its expertise in the field, zoos, and aquarium to achieve its conservation mission.

The African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) is the largest land animal extant in the world today, and a critical part of our natural heritage. African elephants also act as ecosystem engineers, opening pathways through the landscape, maintaining mineral-rich clearings on which gorillas and many other species depend, and maintaining the diversity of the plant community by their browsing and seed dispersal activities. In addition, they are a major part of the tourist draw to many countries in Africa, so are important for local economies and jobs.

Yet African elephants are being killed illegally at an enormous rate for their ivory. All international commercial trade in ivory has been illegal since 1989, when the African elephant was transferred from Appendix II to Appendix I under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). African elephants are also protected in the U.S. under the Endangered Species Act and the African Elephant Conservation Act.

Following the 1989 CITES ban, illegal killing of elephants declined and populations started to recover. In recent years, however, illegal killing and ivory trade have increased dramatically. The rise in disposable income in East Asia, coupled with increasing economic and transportation links between Africa and Asia, have been implicated in the rapid recent increases in illegal elephant killing and smuggling of ivory, becoming especially pronounced from 2007 onwards. Illegal ivory trade and the weight of ivory being traded globally has more than doubled since 2007, and is more

than three times greater than it was in 1998. In 2012, some 35,000 African elephants were killed, an average of 96 elephants per day, representing the worst mass slaughter of elephants in any year since the 1989 international ban. African forest elephants (*L. a. cyclotis*) in particular have been devastated by poaching and have declined by about 65 percent since 2002. At this rate, African forest elephants could effectively be extinct over the next 10 to 15 years. Large populations of African savannah elephants (*L. a. africana*) formerly thought to be relatively secure are now also experiencing alarming declines. The elephant population in the Selous, Tanzania, numbered around 39,000 animals in 2009, and only 13,084 by 2013 – a loss of 66% in four years.

As one of the world's most lucrative criminal activities, the illegal wildlife trade ranks fourth globally in terms of value, behind the trafficking in drugs, people, and arms. Increasing consumer demand for and markets in carved or worked ivory, particularly in Asia, but also in other parts of the world including the U.S., are causing the price of ivory to skyrocket, thereby driving the illegal trade in elephant ivory and the mass killings of elephants in Africa. Today's ivory traffickers are primarily well-organized syndicates that operate as transnational criminal networks and often participate in other illegal activities, including trafficking in narcotics and weapons, and some have links with terrorist networks.

A major challenge to halting the ivory trade and thereby the slaughter of elephants is the lack of effective law enforcement controls along the trade chain from Africa, through the transit countries, and to the end consumer markets. This challenge is compounded by the high levels of corruption at many points in the trade chain. Given the involvement of criminal enterprises along the whole commodity chain, from elephant range countries to the main ivory consumer countries, corruption enables the laundering of illegal ivory into legal or potentially legal markets. Furthermore, only 10% of illegal ivory is seized at a country's borders and once it is inside those borders, it becomes nearly impossible to distinguish from legal ivory, especially worked ivory such as jewelry and trinkets which comprise a significant portion of the illegal ivory trade. In addition, it is extremely difficult for consumers, sellers and often law enforcement officials to visually distinguish elephant ivory from other species of ivory such as mammoth. CITES only regulates international trade – it is up to individual countries to control their domestic markets in protected species.

Among many others, Africa's leaders recognize this, and several have appealed to the world's ivory consuming nations to work together with them to help save their elephants. As part of a Clinton Global Initiative commitment to save Africa's elephants, since September 2013, the leaders of 14 countries – Botswana, Burkina Faso, Côte D'Ivoire, Gabon, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, U.S., Vietnam, and Zambia – have come together to call upon governments around the world to join them in halting the ivory trade by implementing domestic moratoria on all

imports, exports and domestic sales and purchases of all elephant ivory and ivory products.

Within the U.S., research has shown that New York, California and Hawaii have the three largest markets, where the legal domestic trade serves as a cover for the laundering of illegal ivory. While the new U.S. federal ivory ban makes it illegal to import, export and trade ivory between states with only a few exceptions, the need for state level bans remains to stop the trade at the point of retail sale within states. Last year, New York and New Jersey passed strong ivory bans and several other states including California and Washington are pursuing similar bans this year.

Through HB 837, Hawaii has the opportunity to help shut down this illegal trade locally and lead the way during this critical time for elephants. Other key consumer countries are watching closely. Action needs to be taken now if we hope to save elephants for future generations.

LATE

From: Kathleen Gobush <KathleenG@vulcan.com>
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 7:03 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: support HB837

Dear Hawaii State Legislature:

I am a scientist and program lead with Vulcan Philanthropy, and prior with a Kenyan-based organization called Save The Elephants (STE). I am writing you in regards to the new bill on ivory sales (HB837) sponsored that promotes control of the illegal trade of ivory in Hawaii. I am grateful that this Bill will be discussed today.

I have worked with Inga Gibson of the Humane Society on the issue and SCR 149 that passed last April (2013) and the anti-ivory sales bill in 2014 that did not pass. Incidentally, I was fortunate to still be in Hawaii during last year's legislative session because I had just ended a 5-year post working with the Hawaiian monk seal for NOAA before engaging in the fight to protect Africa's elephants. For my current post with STE, I work between Kenya and Seattle.

I would like to kindly encourage you to please support the passing of HB837 on ivory sales. A new law that prohibits all domestic sales of ivory in Hawaii would be a bold move, however bold moves at this time are exactly what is needed to stamp out the current epidemic of elephant poaching and illicit ivory trafficking that continues to threaten the species with extinction in our lifetime

Though the recent announcement of tighter ivory sale restrictions by the US government are very welcomed and needed, a stricter state law in Hawaii would go above and beyond what the federal government can do with its new proposed rule that is expected to go through in June. Essentially HB837 would effectively close any remaining loopholes that the new federal proposed rule cannot. Incidentally, Senator Sweeney in New York is also currently looking to close the same ivory sales and trafficking loopholes in his state that the Hawaii Legislature can now for Hawaii.

After I left Hawaii last May, I spent 5 months in Kenya. While there, my family and I enjoyed time with free-ranging elephants in Samburu and Masai Mara National Reserves. It was amazing to be able to introduce my 4-year old son (Hawaii-born!) to elephants and other wildlife that I value so much, but it was also difficult to know that the elephants we observed were suffering. These survivors have seen their family members cut down by poachers in order to feed an unsustainable demand for ivory trinkets and carvings emanating principally from the Far East-- and some of these illicit trinkets and carvings appear to make it to Hawaiian shores.

While in Kenya, I also came to better appreciate that African governments cannot battle the illegal ivory trade alone— ivory-consuming nations must get tougher laws in place that are faithfully enforced. In Nairobi, where I was staying, the Westgate mall terrorist attack occurred just 5 miles down the way while I was there. Some reports indicate that the terrorist group responsible may have financed its operations with proceeds from ivory trafficking. As security issues dominate Kenyan politics (and that of many African nations), its important for the U.S. and other ivory consuming nations to stand together with African nations, and do their part to effect the change that is needed to protect elephants and human communities alike.

The most recent IUCN report on ivory contraband seizures worldwide (made available in December 2013) indicates that there is no let up in the illegal trade-- the number of large-scale seizures of tusks for the year was the highest on record since the international ban on the sale of ivory went into effect in 1989.

However, a few events in the last several weeks are encouraging that momentum is building to resolve the poaching/ivory crisis: mainland China destroyed 6 tons of stockpiled contraband ivory (6 Jan), Hong Kong just agreed to

destroy its similar stockpile of 30 tons (23 Jan) and recently a Chinese national caught trafficking ivory through Kenya received the maximum sentence under Kenya's new Wildlife Law (\$230,000 USD or 7 years in prison if not paid for hiding 3.4kg of ivory in his luggage). Passing the ivory sales bill into law in Hawaii will show that the State stands strong with the elephants and African countries trying to protect their natural heritage, and will add needed momentum to turn this crisis around.

Thank you again for giving this important cause your attention and considering scheduling a hearing for HB837.

Additionally, please call on me for any assistance if needed in understanding the complex issues surrounding the ivory trade and its impacts on African elephants.

Sincerely, Kathleen S. Gobush, PhD

LATE

From: Andrew Harmon <harmon@wildaid.org>
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 6:53 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

February 9, 2015

RE: Comments on HB837 to Protect Elephants

To Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the Water and Land Committee:

On behalf of WildAid, a US-based nonprofit focused on reducing demand for endangered wildlife products, including elephant ivory, I am writing to express our strong support for HB837. We believe the passage of HB837 is a necessary step that would help to reduce the illegal ivory trade in Hawaii, thus decreasing poaching pressure and subsequently preventing the deaths of thousands of elephants throughout their range.

As we have seen in the US and indeed the world, any legal trade in ivory can and has extensively enabled laundering of illegal ivory from poached elephants. In California, a recent study commissioned by the Natural Resources Defense Council found that sales of illegal ivory have doubled in the state over the past eight years. As much as 90% of ivory sold in Los Angeles stores and markets was likely illegal.

We believe that Hawaii faces the same problem. As reported in this [January 28 article](#) in the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*, an investigation of ivory items sold on Oahu found a high rate of illegal ivory. Consumers are largely unaware of this: Without testing in a laboratory, even experts often have a difficult time distinguishing “old,” pre-ban ivory from “new,” smuggled African ivory. Vendors may use techniques to stain ivory that gives it an antique appearance. It is also difficult to distinguish one species’ ivory from another.

State legislation is necessary to regulate in-state sales and to give wildlife agents authority to enforce laws outside of federal jurisdiction. Hawaii, as the third-largest ivory retailer in the US, has the opportunity to lead the way in elephant conservation and can set a precedent for California and other states with sizable ivory markets that have yet to close decades-old loopholes allowing for illegal ivory sales to flourish.

HB837’s senate companion bill number, 674, is so named because of the 674 elephants killed each week on average for their ivory. This statistic is both unsustainable and unconscionable. If future generations are to appreciate these magnificent animals, the ivory market that drives this slaughter must be ended. For all the reasons noted above, we strongly urge the committee to support HB837.

Thank you for considering our input.

With best regards,

Peter Knights, Executive Director

LATE

From: aimeesophia <aimeesophia@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:50 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support for HB837

I am in support of this bill so that we in Hawaii can do our part and hopefully lead the way to preserving the elephant for all posterity. Surely if educated most people would choose to stop buying ivory. Others will have to be forced by law to put the fate of the elephant ahead of their profits. Please pass this bill.

Aimee McCullough, PsyD
Kailua 96734

Sent on a Sprint Samsung Galaxy S® III

LATE

From: Claire Dudan <cdudan@goairtight.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 3:29 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

To whom it may concern,

Please help us put a stop to the horrific ivory trade and vote yes on HB837.

Thank you very much,
Claire Dudan

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:35 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: dctactical@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dwayne Lim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:28 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ehkaneshiro@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM*

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Kaneshiro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 7:58 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kimo501999@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Revells	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill

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LATE

From: Laurie Pottish <pottishl001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 3:19 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: HB837

Aloha:

I am in support of passing HB837 to prohibit the brutal trade in ivory and rhino horn.

Thank you for reading my email,

Laurie Pottish
Maui, Hi 96768

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 4:18 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: orrm002@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marlene Orr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: please vote NO on this bill. The importation of these products is already restricted by Federal Customs. This law is not needed and will not save a single elephant or rhinoserous. Vote NO on this bill

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 4:13 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mimiface@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015
Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Orr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: These products are already banned from importation. Currently the Federal game department considers any of these products already in the USA to "legally here". Seriously, in my opinion, there more important issues out there.

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LATE

From: michael rose <sweetmikey101@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:41 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support HB837 To Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee:

I'm asking you to please support HB837 to protect elephants and rhinos. An average of 96 elephants a day are killed for their ivory and 1000 rhinos a year are killed for their horns. Approximately 100,000 elephants have been killed in the past three years. Please help put an end to the illegal trade of ivory and rhino horn that could drive these animals toward extinction. Please support HB837. Thank you very much.

Michael Rose

LATE

From: Mike Paredes <mike.paredes@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 6:54 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Aloha- please SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members:

Aloha mai e,

Thank you for considering this important bill. Hawaii's heritage and love of nature is inexorably tied to it. Though rhinos and elephants seem to be far away, in the bush of Africa, their body parts are being sold in shops in Honolulu in the form of ivory and rhino horn. This trade directly provides poachers and terrorists with the money that fuels the slaughter.

Please , Hawaii, repudiate the blood ivory/rhino horn trade. Play no part in the extinction of these magnificent species. Deny the funding of terrorist campaigns that ivory provides to groups like al-Shabaab, the Lord's Resistance Army and Boko Haram.

My wife studies hula in a halau here in Maryland. We try to live the aloha spirit, and completely respect the land which provides our home. Africa, and the wildlife that calls it home deserve the same respect.

Thank you so much. Please support HB837 and reject the ivory trade.

Mahalo nui loa,

Mike Paredes

LATE

From: Roberta Weil <berta@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:20 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support HB 837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

Aloha and I hope this note finds you well.

I am a long time resident of Hawaii (currently in California). I have economic and familial interests on the islands and visit paradise frequently, returning to my home in Honokaa on the Big Island.

I am saddened to know that Hawaii has been qualified as the 3rd largest illegal ivory market in the USA. Elephant populations in Africa have reached a tipping point; there are now more elephants dying and being killed, than are being born; extinction looms within a generation and in localized regions within a decade. It is also well established that poaching and wildlife trafficking literally sponsors international terror and is plunging the African continent into geo political chaos.

I urge you to support HB837 and encourage your colleagues to do so as well. The land of Aloha should play no part in the "business" of supporting the extinction of a sentient species and contributing to global terror.

Mahalo nui.

Warmly,

Roberta L. Weil

P.O. box 218
Anahola, HI 96703

LATE

From: TERRY BOWKER <terrywbowker@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 5:39 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB837 to Protect Elephants and Rhinos

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee members,

Hawaii is poised to ban the ivory trade, which is decimating elephants and funding terrorism. Hawaii can make a difference, I urge you to do all you can to ban ivory!

Sincerely,

Terry Bowker

100 East Huron Street
1601
Chicago, IL 60611

LATE

From: Tina Bounds <care4petservices@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:07 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB837

I SUPPORT HB837 (prohibiting the brutal trade in Ivory & Rhino horn). Please do the right thing.....protect the ELEPHANTS & RHINOS from the barbaric & illegal trade in Hawaii.

Tusk/Ivory/Horn belong on the Elephants & Rhinos NOT humans!!!

Mahalo,

Tina Bounds

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 4:20 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: bpepe@optonline.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB837 on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM

HB837

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 9, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Pepe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Museums should be exempted. Appraised as antiques, lawfully harvested and produced before 1989 should be exempted.

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LATE

Hawai'i Legislature
COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Hearing: Monday, Feb 9, 2015
10:00 am

HB837
position: support

Chair Yamane and Members of this committee:

I am Cathy Goeggel, President of Animal Rights Hawai'i. We have advocated for animals in Hawai'i for the past 38 years. We ask for your support for HB837, a measure that would end Hawai'i's participation in the trafficking of elephant and marine mammal ivory and rhinoceros horn.

According to scientists, African elephants may go extinct within 10 years, if the current rate of poaching continues. Hawai'i is one of the major consumers of ivory, and the US Fish & Wildlife Service has confirmed that there is a thriving illegal trade in our state. Whilst education is a very important factor in convincing consumers to NOT buy ivory, it is obvious that greed often trumps conscience and the elephants need your action to codify their protection.

Please pass HB837.



Cathy Goeggel
President

Animal Rights Hawai'i * Advocates for Animals since 1977
PO Box 10845 Honolulu, HI 96816
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Face Book: [AnimalRightsHawaii](https://www.facebook.com/AnimalRightsHawaii)
[Twitter.com/AnimalRightsHI](https://twitter.com/AnimalRightsHI)