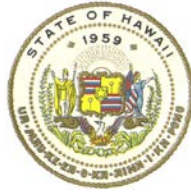


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

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

**Friday, March 18, 2016
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2647, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES**

Senate Bill 2647, Senate Draft 1 proposes to prohibit the trafficking of protected animal species, with limited exceptions. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) generally supports this measure, and offers the following comments.**

The Department believes that this measure will decrease or eliminate the demand for the parts and products of protected animal species that are threatened with extinction. Around the World, many protected species such as elephants, rhinoceros, tigers and apes as well as protected marine life are killed so that body parts may be trafficked in markets around the world.

Research conducted by various conservation groups has identified Hawaii as a location with a market for animal parts such as those parts harvested for ivory. This bill aligns Hawaii's laws and rules with other bodies of state, federal and international law to protect threatened and endangered animal species from being killed needlessly for their body parts. Additionally, in many countries around the world, rangers and law enforcement officers charged with the protection of animals are killed by poachers seeking to illegally poach and kill protected wildlife. By decreasing or eliminating the market and demand of animal body parts, the lives of these wildlife rangers and law enforcement officers can result in increased safety and protection.

Additionally, while many of the species listed in this bill are not found in Hawaii, this state's status as a gateway between Asian and U.S. mainland markets creates a unique opportunity for the Hawaii State Legislature to significantly impact trade in endangered and threatened species. By making Hawaii less attractive as a channel through which these parts and products are trafficked, we can make the trade less profitable, impacting the market for these animals in their home countries and leading poachers to turn to other means of income.

The Department notes that the proposed Section 183D- (e) provides certain exceptions that would apply to all covered species. This may be problematic due to potentially conflicting federal law. Under the

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA W. KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY. T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Federal Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), the Federal Government regulates the possession and trade of all marine mammals and marine mammal products. Only the Federal Government may authorize exemptions. The Department would support a complete moratorium on the sale and distribution of protected marine mammal products unless authorized otherwise under the MMPA or other federal law.

TO: The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Sara Marinello, Executive Director, Government & Community Affairs,
Wildlife Conservation Society, smarinello@wcs.org, 718-220-5113

DATE: Friday, March 18, 2016, 10:00 AM

RE: **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 2647, SD 1, relating to wildlife (Prohibits the trafficking of protected animal species, with limited exceptions)**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 2647 SD1, a bill that takes direct aim at wildlife trafficking and the toll it takes on charismatic animals across the globe. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) urges the Committee's strong support of this bill with a few modifications. SB 2647 SD1 has the potential to put in place strong trade protections for elephants, rhinos, tigers, orangutans, sea turtles and several other endangered wildlife species threatened by the burgeoning and lucrative illegal wildlife trade. In addition, as the host of the upcoming IUCN World Conservation Congress in September, Hawai'i has a unique opportunity while the world is watching to take a stand against the illegal wildlife trade and serve as a model for other key consumer countries to follow.

As one of the world's most lucrative criminal activities, the estimated \$8 to \$10 billion illegal wildlife trade ranks fourth globally in terms of value, behind the trafficking in drugs, people, and arms. Wildlife trafficking is a serious crime conducted by organized criminal syndicates, some with links to terrorist networks, that threaten some of our most iconic species with extinction. It is essential to put protections in place to ensure that the U.S. and the international community can continue to fight against trafficking to protect the remaining elephants, rhinos, tigers and other endangered species.

In the 2014 National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking, President Obama clearly outlines that reducing demand for wildlife products will be crucial in making strides against the illegal wildlife trade. He states that poachers will continue to slaughter and traffic wildlife as long as there are high potential profits and low deterrence to the crimes. The National Strategy further points out that the U.S. plays a major role in the world's markets for both legal and illegal wildlife. Within this context, Hawai'i must pass strong legislation to end wildlife trafficking and deter continued poaching.

One example of the toll taken by this devastating trade is the African Elephant. 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 due to the rise in disposable income in East Asia, coupled with increasing global economic and transportation links, and the involvement of highly armed and organized criminal syndicates.

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 according to our scientists. At this rate, African forest elephants could effectively be extinct over the next 10 to 15 years.

A major challenge to halting the illegal wildlife trade and thereby the slaughter of elephants and other species is the lack of effective law enforcement controls along the trade chain from range countries through transit countries, and to the end consumer markets. Furthermore, only 10% of illegal wildlife products are seized at a country's borders. In the case of ivory, 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.

Within the U.S., research has shown Hawai'i to have one of the top three markets for ivory along with New York and California. While the new U.S. federal ivory ban makes it illegal to import, export and trade ivory between states with only a few exceptions, state level bans are still essential to stop the ivory trade at the point of retail sale within a state. During the last two years, New York and California passed strong ivory bans, leaving Hawai'i as the largest remaining market for ivory in the U.S.

As many of our iconic species face devastating declines, Hawaiians and Americans are looking to the actions of this legislature to take a stand and conserve these species. Through SB 2647 SD1, Hawai'i has the opportunity to close the U.S.'s largest remaining ivory market and take a meaningful stand against the illegal wildlife trade while the world is watching.

We would like to make clear that WCS supports SB 2647 SD1 with the following modifications:

- On page 3, line 16, amend section (a) as follows:
Except as authorized under section 183D-6, no person shall sell, offer to sell, purchase, trade, possess with intent to sell, or barter for any part or product from the following animal family, genus, or species: elephant (Elephantidae), rhinoceros (Rhinocerotidae), tiger (Panthera tigris), great apes (Hominoidea), hippopotamus (Hippopotamus amphibius), lions (Panthera leo), pangolins (Manis), cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus), jaguar (Panthera onca), or leopard (Panthera pardus).
- On page 4, line 3, amend section (b) as follows:
Except as authorized under section 183D-6 and with concurrence from the Board of Land and Natural Resources, no person shall sell, offer to sell, purchase, trade, possess with intent to sell, or barter for any part or product from the following marine family, genus, or species: sea turtles (Chelonioidea), monk seals (Neomonachus), narwhal (Monodon monoceros), whales (Cetacea), or walrus (Odobenus rosmarus) insofar as the species, subspecies, or distinct population segment is listed:"
- On page 4, line 13, after "Nature" strike "red list" and insert:
"Red List of Threatened Species"
- On page 4, line 16, amend section (c) as follows:
Except as authorized under section 183D-6 and with concurrence from the Board of Land and Natural Resources, no person shall sell, offer to sell, purchase, trade, possess with intent to sell, or barter for any part or product from rays and sharks (Elasmobranchii) insofar as the species is listed:
- On page 5, after line 1, insert the following section:
"(3) Insofar as any of the above-qualified species are not otherwise authorized to be commercially taken under the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1851 et seq.), as amended."
- On page 5, line 2, amend section (d) as follows:
Except as authorized under section 183D-6, no person shall sell, offer to sell, purchase, trade, possess with intent to sell, or barter for any part or product from mammoth (Mammuthus), although the species is extinct.
- On page 5, line 6, amend section (e) as follows:
To the extent permitted under federal law, n~~None~~ of the prohibitions set forth in this section shall apply if:

- On page 5, line 13, strike “and”.
- On page 5, after line 16, insert the following section:
“(C) The covered animal species part or product is a fixed component or components of a larger manufactured item and is not, in its current form, the primary source of value of the item.”
- Beginning on page 5, strike lines 17 through page 6, line 3.
- On page 6, line 4, renumber the section to “(2)”.
- On page 6, line 9, amend the section as follows:
~~(3)(4)~~ The distribution of the covered animal species part or product is to a legal beneficiary of an estate, trust, or other inheritance, ~~upon the death of the owner of the covered animal species part or product;~~
- On page 6, line 13, amend the section as follows:
~~(4)(5)~~ The covered animal species part or product is less than twenty per cent by volume of a gun, knife, or musical instrument, including without limitation string instruments and bows, wind and percussion instruments, and pianos, if the owner or seller provides historical documentation showing the item was manufactured no later than 1975 and the covered animal species part or product is a fixed component or components of a larger manufactured item and is not, in its current form, the primary source of value of the item;
- Beginning on page 6, strike lines 20 through page 7, line 2.
- On page 7, line 3, renumber the section to “(5)”.
- On page 8, after line 2, insert the following section:
“(i) The Department may adopt administrative rules pursuant to HRS Chapter 91 as needed to further implement or enforce this section.”
- On page 9, line 17, amend the section as follows:
 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on ~~July 1, 2050~~ December 31, 2016.

Thank you for your review of this important legislation.



**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the House Committee Water and Land
Hearing: Friday, March 18, 2016 10 am
Conference Room 325

In Support of SB 2647 SD 1 Relating to Natural Resources

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee.

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 2647 SD 1, which prohibits the sale, offering to sell, purchase, trade, or barter of any part or product from various animal and marine species; provides exceptions to this prohibition, including for traditional cultural practices protected under the state constitution; imposes penalties for violations of the prohibition on trafficking animal parts and products; and takes effect 7/1/2050. (SD1)

We oppose the exemption for guns and knives unless they qualify as antiques.

We also oppose the exemption that reads as follows: The covered animal species part or product is a fixed component or components of a larger manufactured item and is not, in its current form, the primary source of value of the item. This stand-alone exemption is contrary to the intent of the bill. We think this language was not initially intended to be a stand-alone exemption, but rather a continuation of the antique exemption.

Many of the animals covered in HB 2502 are on the verge of extinction. For example, an average of 96 elephants are killed each day for ivory. At this rate, they will go extinct in the wild within a generation.

Hawai'i contributes to the needless killing and endangerment of wild animals by allowing the sale of items made from their parts.

Please support SB 2647 SD 1 and let's get out of the wildlife parts business once and for all.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie Ziegler



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President: Julie Leialoha | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka
Treasurer: Ryan Belcher | Directors: Rick Barboza | Anne Huggins Walton
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters





NSEFU WILDLIFE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION (NWCF)

March 17, 2016

Testimony of
TONY HUNSTIGER
Secretary & Treasurer
Nsefu Wildlife Conservation Foundation

Before the House Committee on
Water & Land
Friday March 18, 2016
10:00 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 325

In strong support of
SB2647 SD1
“RELATING TO WILDLIFE”

Aloha Chairpersons and Members,

My name is Tony Hunstiger. I am Secretary and Treasurer of *Nsefu Wildlife Conservation Foundation* and part-owner of *Zikomo Safari*, a photo safari camp in South Luangwa, Zambia. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

As a resident of Hawaii, having lived and worked here since 1975, I strongly support SB2647 SD1. I feel that giraffes should be added to the list of protected animal species as their numbers are rapidly decreasing due to hunting and poaching. Otherwise, please, pass this bill into law without amendment.

Reasons to Support SB2647 SD1:

- A state law in Hawai'i can stop the extensive black-market intrastate commerce in elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and in protected animal species parts.
 - Surveys show Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and is poised to become the largest now that California, New York, New Jersey and Washington outlawed ivory trade.
 - Hawaii is uniquely poised as a gateway to the Asian markets where ivory, rhino horn, pangolin scales, and shark fin are prized.
 - Studies show nearly 90% of ivory for sale in Hawaii does not have documentation

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required by Federal law. Trade in legal ivory acts as a cover for the trade in illegal ivory. Law enforcement officers lack the expertise to tell the difference.

- SB2647 SD1 does not take ivory out of the hands of Hawaii's citizens. It bans the ivory trade that fuels the demand for ivory. When the buying stops the killing can end.

A BRIEF HISTORY: In the [1980s the sale of ivory stockpiles exposed elephant conservation to African criminals connected to organized crime in Asia, Europe and America. 70,000 elephants were killed annually. Only the unequivocal international BAN agreed upon in 1989 had tackled the problem and stopped the illegal killing.](#)

The cause of the current elephant slaughter is a disastrous CITES decision in 2008 that allowed for the sale of stockpiled ivory. [In 2008 102 tonnes of ivory was sold to Japan and China from stockpiles in Zimbabwe, South Africa, Namibia and Botswana for US\\$15.4 million. The Chinese government immediately marked up the price of ivory by 650% and withheld stocks, drawing up a plan to dribble ivory on to the market, keeping prices high.](#)

In Africa the price for tusks skyrocketed along with poaching levels. At CITES' most intensely monitored site ["illegal killing increased markedly after 2008 and was correlated strongly with the local black market price and increased seizures of ivory destined for China."](#)

Legal ivory acts as a laundering mechanism for illegal ivory into an internationally authorized consumer market, a consumer market that blossomed in China along with their booming economy.

It is widely reported that **since the 2008 sale** around [20,000-40,000 elephants have been killed annually for their tusks](#). Hundreds of people have lost their lives with fatherless families of murdered anti-poaching scouts driven into worsening poverty. There has been increased corruption and wildlife tourism has been hard hit. Allowing the sale of ivory in 2008 fueled the current crisis. Now, ivory stockpiles are being destroyed not sold and the trade in ivory is being outlawed.

Removing ivory from the marketplace, a total ban, is the only strategy proven to save elephants.

- Driving the largest land mammal on the planet to extinction in order to feed the market for ivory jewelry, statues, netsuke and trinkets is unconscionable. There is no reason to use ivory to produce these items. Piano keys have been made from plastic for decades.
- An average of 96 elephants are killed each day, mostly for ivory. Elephants are being slaughtered faster than they can reproduce. At this rate, elephants will soon be extinct.

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- Blood ivory funds terrorist activities and organized crime. Wildlife trafficking ranks with smuggling guns, drugs and humans as a major source of revenue for criminal organizations. Only about 10% of wildlife traffic is intercepted by law enforcement; a State law will add a much needed level of enforcement.
- Hundreds of wildlife rangers protecting wildlife habitat in Africa are killed in the line of duty. They leave wives and children behind. Without a breadwinner to support the family, impoverished families become prey to human trafficking organizations.
- Animals such as Rhinos, Sharks and Pangolins are killed needlessly to provide quack medicines.
- A recent nationwide poll by HBO Real Sports and Marist Poll showed that 86% of Americans disapprove of big game hunting and 62% favor banning the practice. According to Humane Society International, in the past decade alone, American trophy hunters have killed 5,647 African lions. In 2014 alone, the trophies of roughly 85% of captive lions from South Africa's notorious canned hunting facilities were imported to the United States. There are more statues of lions than lions in the wild.

Trophy hunting is decimating wildlife populations across the globe. HB 2502, HD1 will prevent the trafficking in the grizzly products of trophy hunting. Preventing wildlife trafficking can stop the hunting of rare and endangered species, as the animal parts, the trophies, will be illegal.

I travel to Africa. I see the magnificence of its wild places and of its wildlife. As part owner of an eco-tourism camp, I strive to educate and empower people so that they also will preserve and protect the world's wilderness and wildlife. The planet belongs to each of us. We must stand up to and stop those who would rob us of its treasures.

Please protect and preserve these endangered animals for future generations by passing SB2647 SD1 into law.

Aloha,

Tony Hunstiger

Tony Hunstiger

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OUTLAW *all* IVORY TRADE

**BAN THE SALE OF IVORY & RHINO HORN IN HAWAII.
WHEN THE BUYING STOPS, THE KILLING CAN END.**



SAVING ELEPHANTS BENEFITS EVERYONE

- Elephants are a keystone species; many animals and plants depend on them for their survival. The seeds of nearly 100 kinds of trees must pass through the gut of an elephant in order to germinate. Without elephants, African forests will eventually die.
- Elephants are the landscapers of the ecosystem, clearing bush to become grassland for the plains animals, and forming pathways and waterholes for smaller animals.



Photo by Billy Dodson

Like Us on FaceBook @
[Aloha Coalition to End
Wildlife Trafficking](#)



Photo by Valerie Marcelli

- The ivory trade funds terrorists and transnational criminal cartels – including the Lord's Resistance Army, Boko Haram, Janjaweed, and Al-Shabab of Al-Qaeda. Ivory trade destabilizes Africa, threatens global stability, and destroys lives.
- Children around the world learn that "E" is for "Elephant" – not "Extinction."
- Elephants are part of our global heritage and our story. Yet at the current rate of killing - one wild elephant is killed every 15 minutes, elephants will be extinct in the wild within the lifetimes of today's children.
- In 2014 New Jersey became the first state in America to ban all domestic ivory and rhino horn sales. *Is your state or city next? #BetheChange*



RE: SB2647 SD1

As a non-profit organization protecting and working to save the Hawaiian Monk Seal Species we strongly support the passing of this bill into law.

A progressive State in environmental concerns, like Hawaii, should not support such barbaric and unnecessary practices.

Species all over the world are being decimated for the trafficking of endangered species parts that are being supported by our state.

Please support this bill and put a stop to such unnecessary torture and loss of animal life that give balance to our planet.

Mahalo nui loa,
Dana Jones
Oahu Response Coordinator



**Testimony of Jared Axelrod
Sr. Government Affairs Associate
Vulcan Inc.**

In Support of

SB 2647 S.D. 1 – Relating to Natural Resources

Before the

**House Committee on Water and Land
Hawaii State Legislature**

March 18, 2016, 10:00am

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Vulcan Inc., thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective on this critically important issue and to speak in support of SB 2647 S.D. 1, an act relating to natural resources.

V U L C A N . C O M

Vulcan Inc. is working to tackle our planet's hard problems by exploring innovative ideas and implementing creative solutions. We are driven by our Chairman and CEO, Paul G. Allen, and his desire to make a measureable impact. At Vulcan, our philanthropic efforts are tethered to a simple principle; if it has the potential to do good, then we should do it. Across our projects and initiatives, we gather and share foundational data to inform global solutions for the world's biggest challenges, react nimbly to changing needs and new technologies, embrace the power of public awareness and collaboration and reimagine what philanthropic endeavors can accomplish as well as how they are developed and executed.

At Vulcan, by marrying our technology development and storytelling capabilities with our impact-driven philanthropy, we are working to address the current threat of wildlife trafficking, while collecting data that will inform long term strategies to protect endangered species and ensure stable or thriving generations of wild animals. Some of our work includes:

Foundational Data: The [Great Elephant Census](#) is the first pan-African aerial survey in 40 years, which will provide updated and accurate data about the number and distribution of African savanna elephants. Having accurate and reliable data about elephant population and distribution is crucial to informing immediate protective actions and long-term conservation management plans for governments and NGOs in Africa.

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To: House Committee on Water and Land
Re: Axelrod Testimony in Support of SB 2647 S.D. 1 – Relating to Natural Resources
Date: March 18, 2016
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The ambitious [Global FinPrint project](#) aims to create the largest and most comprehensive data-collection and analysis of the world's populations of reef sharks and rays. The three-year data-collection and analysis initiative is the largest of its size and is designed to provide conservationists with fundamental data essential to building effective conservation management programs.

Innovative Approaches: We support research that applies DNA-based methods pioneered by the [University of Washington's Center for Conservation Biology](#) to identify the sources of seized African elephant ivory. These investigative tools strengthen prosecution and hold countries accountable to better manage ivory stockpiles.

Strengthening Communities: In Zambia, the [South Luangwa Conservation Society](#) leverages innovative ways of monitoring ecosystems, rescuing and rehabilitating snared animals, and mitigating human-wildlife conflict. Vulcan supports on the ground efforts to protect wildlife from poaching, human-wildlife conflict and loss of habitat while engaging with the communities who are the direct stewards of their local wildlife.

Public Engagement: Through Vulcan Productions, the feature documentary "[Racing Extinction](#)" exposes the hidden world of extinction with never-before-seen images that will change the way viewers see the planet. Vulcan supports a significant public campaign to enable those who see the film to take action to protect endangered wildlife.

V U L C A N . C O M

A major focus of our philanthropic work in the area of wildlife conservation has been to put an end to the profitable and deadly wildlife trafficking industry. Every day, endangered African elephants and rhinoceros are slaughtered for their ivory and horn. In Asia, the iconic tiger and defenseless pangolin are killed for their body parts, which end up in bogus health tonics and as clothing adornments. In our seas, shark, turtle, and ray exploitation threatens species survival for little more than tradition and pseudo-science.

The needless killing of these animals will likely result in their extinction and a rapid decline in our ocean and terrestrial health, all within our lifetime. Yet despite widespread support for the conservation of these animals, taking concrete action to protect these species continues to be difficult.

That is why Vulcan was the proud leader of Initiative 1401, a first-of-its-kind multi species law, which was put before voters in Washington state in November 2015. Initiative 1401 banned the sale or purchase of products made from endangered species of elephants, rhinos, lions, tigers, cheetahs, leopards, pangolins, marine turtles, sharks, and rays. This common sense law is consistent with existing federal and Washington state law, and provides reasonable exemptions for bona fide antiques, inheritances, scientific or educational purposes, and musical instruments.

To: House Committee on Water and Land
Re: Axelrod Testimony in Support of SB 2647 S.D. 1 – Relating to Natural Resources
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We were pleased to be joined by many of our friends in the conservation community, organizations which also support SB 2647 S.D. 1, to pass Initiative 1401 by a 40-point margin, winning in all 39 counties in Washington state, from the most liberal to the most conservative.

We are grateful that the Hawaii state legislature is considering legislation to build upon the success of Initiative 1401, and protect even more species of animals in a state as ecologically diverse as Hawaii. Now is a critical time for Hawaii; with the upcoming IUCN World Conservation Congress being hosted by Hawaii in September, it is important to show that Hawaii is a leader in preserving and protecting wildlife around the world.

SB 2647 S.D. 1 will be significant in cracking down on the availability of wildlife products being sold in Hawaii. However, the language in SB 2647 S.D. 1 H.D. 1 should be amended to further clarify and strengthen the bill. I respectfully request the following changes:

- On page 3, line 16, amend section (a) as follows:

*Except as authorized under section 183D-6, no person shall sell, offer to sell, purchase, trade, possess with intent to sell, or barter for any part or product from the following animal family, genus, or species: elephant (*Elephantidae*), rhinoceros (*Rhinocerotidae*), tiger (*Panthera tigris*), great apes (*Hominoidea*), hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibius*), lions (*Panthera leo*), pangolins (*Manis*), cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), jaguar (*Panthera onca*), or leopard (*Panthera pardus*).*

V U L C A N . C O M

- On page 4, line 3, amend section (b) as follows:

*Except as authorized under section 183D-6 and with concurrence from the Board of Land and Natural Resources, no person shall sell, offer to sell, purchase, trade, possess with intent to sell, or barter for any part or product from the following marine family, genus, or species: sea turtles (*Chelonioidae*), monk seals (*Neomonachus*), narwhal (*Monodon monoceros*), whales (*Cetacea*), or walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) insofar as the species, subspecies, or distinct population segment is listed."*

- On page 4, line 13, after "Nature" strike "red list" and insert:

"Red List of Threatened Species"

- On page 4, line 16, amend section (c) as follows:

Except as authorized under section 183D-6 and with concurrence from the Board of Land and Natural Resources, no person shall sell, offer to sell,

purchase, trade, possess with intent to sell, or barter for any part or product from rays and sharks (Elasmobranchii) insofar as the species is listed:

- On page 5, after line 1, insert the following section:

“(3) Insofar as any of the above-qualified species are not otherwise authorized to be commercially taken under the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1851 et seq.), as amended.”

- On page 5, line 2, amend section (d) as follows:

Except as authorized under section 183D-6, no person shall sell, offer to sell, purchase, trade, possess with intent to sell, or barter for any part or product from mammoth (Mammuthus), although the species is extinct.

- On page 5, line 6, amend section (e) as follows:

To the extent permitted under federal law, nNone of the prohibitions set forth in this section shall apply if:

- On page 5, line 13, strike “and”.

VULCAN.COM

- On page 5, after line 16, insert the following section:

“(C) The covered animal species part or product is a fixed component or components of a larger manufactured item and is not, in its current form, the primary source of value of the item.”

- Beginning on page 5, strike lines 17 through page 6, line 3.

- On page 6, line 4, renumber the section to “(2)”.

- On page 6, line 9, amend the section as follows:

~~(3)(4)~~ The distribution of the covered animal species part or product is to a legal beneficiary of an estate, trust, or other inheritance, ~~upon the death of the owner of the covered animal species part or product;~~

- On page 6, line 13, amend the section as follows:

~~(4)(5)~~ The covered animal species part or product is less than twenty per cent by volume of a gun, knife, or musical instrument, including without limitation string instruments and bows, wind and percussion instruments, and pianos, if the owner or seller provides historical documentation showing the item was

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Date: March 18, 2016
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manufactured no later than 1975 and the covered animal species part or product is a fixed component or components of a larger manufactured item and is not, in its current form, the primary source of value of the item;

- Beginning on page 6, strike lines 20 through page 7, line 2.
- On page 7, line 3, renumber the section to “(5)”.
- On page 8, after line 2, insert the following section:

“(i) The Department may adopt administrative rules pursuant to HRS Chapter 91 as needed to further implement or enforce this section.”

- On page 9, line 17, amend the section as follows:

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on ~~July 1, 2050~~ December 31, 2016.

I appreciate the consideration that this committee has given to this bill. I hope that it can be further amended with the above changes to further clarify and strengthen this legislation. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I urge your support of SB 2647 S.D. 1 as amended if amended.

V U L C A N . C O M



Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Water and Land

Hearing: Friday, March 18, 2016, 10:00 am

House Conference Room 325

In SUPPORT of SB 2647 SD1: Wildlife; Species; Trafficking; Fines

Dear Honorable Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee:

Aloha. Global March for Elephants and Rhinos (GMFER) and March for Elephants (MFE) support SB 2647 SD1. GMFER is an organization that has affiliates in 130 individual cities around the world. These cities have participated in annual global marches which have been cited by experts as key to the global consensus against illegal wildlife trafficking. Earlier this year, the marches were singled out by U.S. Department of State's news platform, ShareAmerica, as one of the three big wins for elephants of 2015. They said, "According to experts, these marches keep political pressure on leaders to protect the world's largest land animal. March for Elephants - San Francisco, is an affiliate of GMFER.

Currently, Hawaii is the 3rd largest trader of ivory in the United States. The people are looking to Hawaii to pass a ban on the trade of ivory so that Hawaii will not become the largest ivory market in the nation. Now that New York and California, currently 1st and 2nd largest traders of ivory in the United States have passed ivory and rhino horn bans, it is possible that Hawaii will become the largest hub for this trade. One elephant is killed every 15 minutes. Approximately 96 elephants are killed each day to make useless trinkets and statues. In addition to these senseless deaths, many rangers who are protecting elephants, rhinos and other wildlife are killed as well. Keith Swindle, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee with the Division of Law Enforcement in Honolulu has stated that 130 rangers have been killed by poachers in Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo in the past several years. This number represents more deaths than the sum of all United States Fish and Wildlife Service rangers and special service agents who have died while in service in the history of our country. Illegal wildlife trafficking is the 4th largest criminal activity after drugs, arms and human trafficking. Ivory and rhino horn trade have been directly linked to the illegal activity of these criminal syndicates. By passing SB 2647 SD1, Hawaii will become a role model for other states to pass similar bans and together, help end the horrific poaching of these endangered and magnificent beings. Unless action is taken now, we will lose these intelligent and emotionally sentient creatures forever. **We urge you to pass SB 2647 SD1.**

Kind regards,

Rosemary Alles
Julie Callahan

Core Members
Global March for Elephants and Rhinos (GMFER)
March for Elephants (MFE)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:22 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: babesagainstbiotech@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nomi Carmona	Babes Against Biotech	Support	No

Comments:

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Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.

2700 Waialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
808.946.2187 • hawaiianhumane.org

March 18, 2016

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Water & Land
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 325
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2647 SD1 Relating to Natural Resources

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members:

Thank you for accepting this testimony on behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society in support of Senate Bill 2647 SD1. This bill prohibits the trafficking of threatened and endangered animals species, both wildlife and marine, allowing for specific exceptions. 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 their parts and products threatens their extinction and undermines attempts at species preservation.

Senate Bill 2647 SD1 is both an animal welfare issue and one of conservation. We urge you to pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Mary Steiner
Policy Advocate

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:56 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: amychs@cableone.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Hoffman-Shehan	Texoma Earth Day Festival	Support	No

Comments: I urge you to pass this bill. I am not a resident of Hawaii but am a United States citizen. The state of Hawaii is a vital hub for ecology for the entire country and should not be marred by illegal and immoral trade of protected species.

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waltestimony

From: Ginger Towle <towle@hawaiiantel.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:49 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: inga Gibson
Subject: SB2647 Wildlife Trafficking SUPPORT

To - House Water And Land Chair - Yamane Hearing 3-18-16 SUPPORT
SB2647

Regarding. Trafficking of endangered species parts and all products.

Overwhelming investigations have shown the devastation the current practices cause to our wildlife.
It is common sense and the humane thing to totally stop this activity!!

Please pass this legislation!!

Thank you,

Ginger Towle, President
West Hawaii Humane Society
Box 1208
Kailua-Kona, Hi. 96745
808-329-2051

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:17 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: pamelaburrell@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
pamela burrell	apollo kauai, zero waste kauai	Support	No

Comments: If you have had a chance to view the movie Racing Extinction, you would definitely understand why this bill is so important. We ARE racing extinction. The unnecessary killing of creatures just for a few adornments leaves all humanity with a big irreplaceable loss.. We don't want the only animals left to be in a zoo or an aquarium! PLEASE SUPPORT this bill. Mahalo.

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waltestimony

From: LaFontaine, Peter <plafontaine@ifaw.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:24 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: IFAW testimony in support of SB 2647
Attachments: SB 2647, SD1 - IFAW Letter of Support - WAL.pdf

Dear Committee members and staff,

On behalf of IFAW's 2,800 members and supporters, I would like to submit this testimony in support of SB 2647, SD1 (with suggested amendments) – a bill relating to the trade in endangered wildlife in Hawaii. This legislation is slated for a hearing on Friday, March 18. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important bill, and please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Best wishes,
Peter

Peter LaFontaine | Campaigns Officer

IFAW - International Fund for Animal Welfare
1350 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 1220
Washington, DC 20036
tel. 1.202.536.1909 email. plafontaine@ifaw.org
Rescuing and protecting animals around the world www.ifaw.org

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TO: Honorable Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and House Water and Land Committee Members

March 18, 2016, 10:00am

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

RE: STRONG SUPPORT of SB2647, relating to wildlife (Prohibits the trafficking of protected animal species, with limited exceptions)

The Humane Society of the United States urges the Committee's strong support of SB2647 which would protect critically imperiled species from wildlife trafficking by prohibiting the sale of any part or product of specific animal species, including elephants and rhinos.

Hawaii has a critical role to play in saving these imperiled animals as demonstrated by recent research regarding Hawaii's lucrative online sales market for ivory. In addition, according to a 2008 study, Hawaii was the nation's third largest market for ivory, after New York and California. Both states have shut down their in-state market for ivory in 2014 and 2015 respectively. The same study also found that close to 89 percent of ivory items for sale in Hawaii could be of illegal or of unknown origin. Several recent market surveys continued to find a significant amount of illegal ivory, and without proper documentation, for sale in Hawaii's marketplaces.

The Hawaii legislature has shown commendable leadership in attempting to stem the ivory trade. In 2013, S.C.R.149 unanimously passed the Hawaii legislature, asking Hawaii residents and businesses not to buy or sell ivory of unknown origin. In 2014, Hawaii was the first state in the nation to introduce legislation to end the ivory trade, and although that measure failed to pass its final committee. **Most recently, an opinion poll conducted in January 2016 found that 85 percent of Hawaii residents** polled support legislation prohibiting ivory and rhino horn sales.

Trafficking in ivory, rhino horn, and other illegal wildlife products has become a very lucrative trade that fuels the poaching of many protected wildlife species and creates insecurity for both people and wildlife in many remote vulnerable areas. At \$8-10 billion per year, the illegal wildlife trade ranks as the fourth most lucrative international criminal activity, behind narcotics, counterfeiting, and human trafficking. Evidence and seizure data suggest that wildlife trafficking is linked to transnational organized crime and even African armed militia with terrorist connections in the case of elephant poaching. Professional traffickers take advantage of lax enforcement controls to move illegal ivory across the globe. The likely annual income from ivory to militia in the entire sub-Saharan range generates millions of dollars for these terrorists, including the Lord's Resistance Army, to buy weapons, hurt innocent people and destabilize governments.

Elephants are one of the most iconic wild animals. Yet today these magnificent animals are being gunned down and poisoned in staggering numbers - the African elephant population has declined by an estimated 66% over the last 40 years, with 100,000 elephants poached between 2010 and 2012. Only 29,000 rhinos remain in the wild, yet, in 2015 close to 1,200 rhinos were killed in South Africa alone. Sometimes poachers hack off an elephant's or rhino's face, while the animal is still alive, to retrieve their tusks or horn. In one recent case, poachers poisoned a watering hole with cyanide, killing 300 elephants at once and resulting in the deaths of other animals who fed on the carcasses. The pernicious demand fueling the illegal trade in tiger parts has left us with only 3,200 tigers in the wild today. Lions and leopards have disappeared from most of their historic range due to habitat loss but they face additional threat from demand for their pelts or other body parts. The list of animals threatened with poaching, trafficking and extinction goes on.

Federal regulations and laws restrict the importation or interstate trade of products from endangered species, but they do not regulate **intrastate** sales. The patchwork of federal laws and regulations creates the potential for loopholes. In addition, federal implementation and enforcement are limited due to a lack of sufficient resources. State measures are critical to complement the federal law for the protection of endangered animals and national security.

Hawaii will be hosting the IUCN Conservation Congress in September this year, the first time the Congress is ever to be held in the United States. SB2647 provides Hawaii the opportunity to showcase its commitment to the preservation of imperiled species.

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

Jen Samuel
Elephants DC, president
www.elephantsdc.org

March 17, 2016



To The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, chair
& The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, vice chair,
of the Committee on Water and Land:

Children learn ‘E’ is for ‘Elephant’ – not ‘Extinction’

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of combating the ivory trade in Hawaii per consideration of advancing SB 2647, SD1, a measure that seeks to protect a diverse array of endangered species.

My name is Jen Samuel and I am the president and founder of Elephants DC, a nonprofit dedicated to ending the ivory trade worldwide and advancing elephant well-being.

While elephants and rhinos cannot be here in hearing room of the Committee on Water and Land, these gentle giants are present in spirit. The spirit of ghosts, of memories, the song of our planet. The elephant. The rhinoceros. What you do today counts for the remaining endangered species on this planet, and the future of us all. The ivory trade funds terrorism. The ivory trade is the act of killing an elephant for its tusk. The ivory trade fails to serve a legitimate purpose on this planet. Action underway here in Hawaii to make a difference, counts. It counts for the only three Northern White Rhinos left on the planet.

What's ivory trade? It's the destruction of elephants. Innocent elephants deserve human protection, not destruction. Beautiful tusks belong to the elephant — the true "ivory" owner. Let us take action here today to protect the innocent. They sing the earth's most joyful song and gently remind us that the purpose of our lives is to love.

In 2014 New Jersey made history by enacting the first comprehensive domestic ivory and rhino horn sales ban in the nation. Following the Garden State's lead — Washington, New York, and

Jen Samuel
Elephants DC, president
www.elephantsdc.org

California have passed similar state laws to restrict ivory and rhino horn sales and protect endangered species. We know that action in New Jersey led to action in New York. What we do, not only as citizens, but as human beings, to help those in need, counts.

Species are disappearing. This is a global crisis and immediate action is needed to save elephants and rhinos. We need to ban ivory sales. We need to strengthen international protections against wildlife trafficking; and we need to preserve and defend ecosystems through sustainable tourism.

We know in the 1800s there were 20 million elephants in Africa. By 1910, humans had reduced that number by half. Today there are less than 300,000 – 96 are slaughtered daily, illegally, to feed the world's consumption for ivory. We know the current poaching rate is outpacing elephants and rhino births in the wild. These are facts. And on World Wildlife Day, March 3, 2016, it was announced that elephants are now being killed faster than they are giving birth, according to the White House and the United Nations.

The citizen-led movement to save elephants and rhinos from extinction continues, New England lawmakers in the Vermont House of Representatives advanced a very strong ivory and rhino horn sales ban in February by a vote 135-4.

Elephants, rhinos, and lions face extinction within our lifetime. Can you imagine a world without the wild ones, the ancient magnificent creatures of our children's lullaby songs – suddenly gone forever? It's happening. And worse, it is directly funding terrorism.

The ivory trade directly funds the Al-Qaeda affiliate Al-Shabaab, the Lord's Resistance Army, Janjaweed, and Boko Haram, destabilizing Africa and threatening American security. These terrorists all have one thing in common: They also kill people.

We must, we will, we shall give up our love affair to consume elephant tusks. It's either the end of the ivory trade, or the end of the elephants. Don't be complacent in the war against these gentle giants.

We know there are people in America, including a few individuals in this room, who are *still* fighting turn a profit from selling elephant remains. Some are even stockpiling raw ivory tusks, out-of-Africa, banking on elephant extinction. As long as ivory is for sale, elephants will be needlessly, brutally, and selfishly killed.

Jen Samuel
Elephants DC, president
www.elephantsdc.org

We know National Geographic reported 100,000 elephants were poached in Africa between 2010 and 2012. Elephant families are loyal, kind, and led by powerful matriarchs. May humans leave them in peace to roam as guardians of the earth so all life shall prosper.

Last past August, the New York Times reported elephants are now being slaughtered 1 every 14 minutes. Too many elephants have been poached since 2008 when the global ban on ivory trade was “temporarily” lifted. Recent studies show that the majority of ivory on the U.S. marketplace is illegal, especially in Hawaii, which serves as one of the biggest ivory markets in the world. We know the ivory crisis is composed of poaching, trafficking, and buying. As a longtime citizen of this state, I urge you to end Hawaii’s role in the wildlife trafficking of elephants and rhinos.

We know ivory has become a conflict resource. Once smuggled into this state it is actually quite difficult to tell new ivory from old ivory, by even the most sophisticated scientific laboratories. We know the ivory hides on the marketplace under the guise of “antique,” “bone,” “mammoth,” “bona fide antique,” and even “jewelry.”

We know that the federal government has taken action to reduce nearly all interstate trade of ivory and rhino horn sales. We know it is up to individual states to regulate intrastate commerce within their respective borders. History is written by bold measures – of faith. Have faith in the vast majority of Hawaii citizens who value elephants not ivory.

Some of the most famous musicians in the world have expressed their support for elephants. Pianist Billy Joel declared: “There are other materials which can be substituted for piano keys. But magnificent creatures like these can never be replaced. Music must never be used as an excuse to destroy an endangered species. Music should be a celebration of life — not an instrument of death.” Musicians Matt Sorum and Jon Fishman of Phish also have spoken out for elephants. As friends in Vermont explain: Ivory sales spell extinction. Every time a piece of ivory is bought or sold, it perpetuates the trade and becomes yet another reason for another elephant to be killed. It is systemic. It is criminal. It is happening.

As Michelangelo said, “The true work of art is but a shadow of the divine perfection.” Objects carved in the shape of elephants will never compare to elephants. They will never have value over elephants. The unspoken truth is ivory is not art. Art creates. Art uplifts. Art does not destroy some of the earth’s most beloved animals for greed’s sake.

A Kenyan ranger who has risked his life again and again to protect animals from poachers, and whose family was threatened over the holidays, told me recently: “I still believe, we will win.”

Jen Samuel
Elephants DC, president
www.elephantsdc.org

Unequivocally ban all ivory and rhino horn commerce to save elephants and rhinoceroses from extinction. This is a war we must win. Ivory funds terror. Don't fund ivory.

What Hawaii does, counts. Thank you.

In conclusion:

How does the sale of ivory already in the United States of America increase, promote, or encourage poaching?

- ° Every time a piece of ivory is bought or sold, it perpetuates the need for another elephant to be killed.
- ° The ivory trade is directly causing extinction as elephants are now being killed faster than they are giving birth.
- ° The ivory trade serves as a currency for terrorist organizations including Al-Qaeda affiliate Al-Shabaab, the Lord's Resistance Army, Janjaweed, and Boko Haram.
- ° It is virtually impossible for law enforcement to tell "antique" ivory from new ivory as smugglers are experts at staining new ivory to look old.
- ° Federal courts have ruled that commercial value is not the sole value an item possesses and therefore eliminating an item's commercial value does not constitute a taking [Andrus v. Allard, 44U.S. 51 (1979)].
- ° It's imperative that decisive action be underway to place value on living elephants continuing to thrive in the wild for future generations.
- ° Concurrently, this action is aiding law enforcement by eliminating commerce rampant with trade loopholes allowing evildoers to profit from daily horrendous crimes against wildlife, for ivory and rhino horn, causing a humanitarian crisis.

Most sincerely,

Jen Samuel

Elephants DC, *founder & president*
484-868-8405 (cell)

Testimony written by Elephants DC president Jen Samuel. Elephants DC is an all-volunteer nonprofit dedicated to ending ivory trade worldwide and advancing elephant well-being.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:39 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
anita wintner	Snorkel bobs	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB2647 100%. Stopping the trade will help stop the needless killing of all creatures. Please pass this bill. Mahalo, Anita Wintner

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From: Don Nigro <dontalks@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 9:23 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Opposition to bill

Opposition to SB-2647, SD1 (SSCR 2443)

Status crossover bill. WAL hearing Friday, March 18, 2016. 10 A.M.
Conference Room 325

From: Don Nigro, 191 Kilauea Ave., Hilo, HI
Legacy Ivory, Charter Member

I'm opposed to any bill that attempts to destroy existing traditional markets in heretofore legal, pre-ban ivories, animal parts and the like.

It's unfortunate that so many legislators have firstly allowed themselves to be swayed by simple "window dressing" of this year's bills with the ridiculous mention of tigers, great apes, Asian anteater, etcetera. And secondly, the dog and pony show of environmentalists and animal rights activists and their Convention scheduled for September in Honolulu. Can't you see you've been played??

How can you as a legislator, possibly support legislation that would allow Tutu to be treated like a criminal, subject to arrest, fines and incarceration for selling ivory earrings she legally purchased in the 1960's?! Or visit that upon her heirs as an undeserved legacy through your shortsightedness? Do you also think thumbing your nose at CAFRA laws established by Congress to protect personal property rights is okay?! Do you believe human rights and traditions no longer matter in Hawaii because of the mere mention of "animal rights"?! And further it's okay to create unnecessary local laws already adequately covered by national laws on the books?!

Try instead to placed your constituents well-being ahead of National and International Animal Rights self-interests groups and their fundraising efforts! If you cannot, then you have no business representing Hawaii's people in our legislature!

DAVID HAAKE
15 Kulanihakoi #14E
Kihei, Maui, HI 96753
alizarin711@gmail.com
808.281.0453 / 808.281.0811

February 28, 2016

Aloha:

Re: HB2502 HDI / HB2502 and SB2647 SDI

I am writing to ask that HB2502 HDI / HB2502 and SB2647 SDI be amended to allow Lahaina Scrimshaw and other small businesses to continue to use fossilized ivory. In concept, the bills are being promoted to protect animals, but the reality of what they will accomplish is totally different. In its present form, HB2502 HDI / HB2502 and SB2647 SDI will be a disaster for people like me who have made their living in the field of scrimshaw. Politicians are always talking about helping small businesses; now is the time to prove it by supporting us and preventing this bill from going forward.

Scrimshaw has been a part of Hawaii's culture since the first whalers landed here in the 18th century. Lahaina Scrimshaw has been an iconic part of Lahaina's Front Street community since 1979 and currently employs 18 people. I have been fortunate to work for them since 1981, and am now the Production Manager/Craftsman. Tourists from all over the world visit our store, returning year after year, and they have become part of our Ohana.

Scrimshaw originally started with the whaler's carving whale teeth. In present day, the art form at Lahaina Scrimshaw has evolved to utilize prehistoric mammoth and mastodon ivory, as well as fossilized walrus ivory. Using prehistoric and fossilized material **does not threaten any living animal**. Fossilized ivory has been in the ground for hundreds to thousands of years. It has a unique look and character all its own. The thought that this material cannot be distinguished from elephant ivory is absolutely incorrect.

The only elephant ivory we currently use are antique piano keys, which we repurpose, and antique billiard and snooker balls. Antique ivory is at least 100 years old. I can understand outlawing all elephant if that's what people want, but the fossilized ivory should be exempt from any of these laws. There is no rational reason to include this material. It will not save one elephant. The only way to stop the poaching of elephants is to get China to stop utilizing elephant ivory. That is where the illegal ivory is being trafficked. The US Fish and Wildlife themselves have said that in the United States there is no significant trafficking of elephant ivory.

I understand the rush to pass this legislation is just to appease the groups involved with the World Conservation Congress, hosted by Hawaii in September 2016. This "feel good" legislation is not going to save one elephant. If all the money that is going to salaries and travel for these protection groups were spent on helping the people in Africa protect and maintain their elephant populations (which, by the way, are quite healthy in some countries), it would do a lot more good than closing small businesses in America. **The individuals attending this convention will be gone in a few weeks, but the people here in Hawaii, who have voted you into office, will be left to pick-up the pieces of their lives ruined by this legislation.**

If you feel this bill must go forward then at the very least I humbly ask that it be amended to take effect no sooner than 2030. This would at least give me and all the artists that work for us a chance to finish our careers and retire with dignity. This legislation does not only affect us; other small businesses will also be negatively impacted, such as the framer we do business with, the suppliers of equipment and materials that we purchase

from, thousands of collectors whose investments will be deemed worthless, as well as the knife makers and gun makers who use fossilized ivory as adornment.

I have been a taxpayer and active voter in the State of Hawaii since 1981. I should not have to look for a new career at the age of 60. With a few exceptions all the people in the scrimshaw field are close to retirement. Is this how America treats its people? I completely agree that protecting wildlife is a worthwhile endeavor, but passing HB2502 HDI / HB2502 and SB2647 SDI in its present form is not the way to go about it. **Please let us continue to use the fossilized ivory. It is the right thing to do.**

Sincerely,

David Haake
alizarin711@gmail.com
808.281.0453 / 808.281.0811



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION
555 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 625
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
(916) 446-2455 voice ▪ (703) 267-3976 fax
www.nraila.org

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
DANIEL REID, HAWAII STATE LIAISON

March 17, 2016

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

Re: Senate Bill 2647 – OPPOSE

Dear Chairman Yamane:

On behalf of the Hawaii members of the National Rifle Association, I oppose Senate Bill 2647. 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 SB 2647 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. While this bill contains some limited exceptions, it still unfairly targets individuals who acquired ivory in compliance with the law at the time. By randomly setting a limit on the volume of ivory incorporated in a gun, knife or object, it would impose arbitrary distinctions on people who had acted similarly under former interpretations of the law. For example, if a person had a shotgun with an ivory bead sight, he or she would be able to sell it because of the small size of the bead. However, if another person had a handgun with ivory grips, he or she may not be able to sell it—depending on the size of the handgun—because of the twenty percent limitation. This would be true even if both persons had obtained their guns from the same dealer, on the same day, with the same understanding of then-controlling law. Moreover, as a practical matter, accurately measuring the “volume” of a complex mechanical

object such as a firearm—or of small, non-removable ivory components such as inlaid decorations—would be a daunting task.

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 SB 2647 the trade, sale, purchase, barter, and distribution of any ivory (defined to include mammoth ivory), ivory product, rhinoceros horn product and many other species would be prohibited. The NRA is opposed to SB 2647 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 blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel S. Reid", written in a cursive style.

Daniel S. Reid
State Liaison

March 16, 2016

WAL Committee Members:

I write in support SB2647, which prohibits the trafficking of protected animal species with exemptions. I am ashamed, frankly, of our state and its failure to do what is clearly *pono*: to help protect these magnificent creatures from human slaughter and virtual extinction. *Malama honua*

Let's put the situation closer to home. Humpback whales are federally protected, right? But let's say that a clandestine market for humpback tail fins develops and there are poachers willing and ready to kill the animals with RPGs (or whatever) in the Hawaii sanctuaries and sell the tails to buyers in Honolulu. We would be outraged, right? We would enlist the Coast Guard, Navy, NOAA, local law enforcement, etc. to their full extents to protect these creatures from senseless depredation and we would prosecute those involved at all levels. At least I hope we would.

But this same "senseless depredation" is occurring "elsewhere" with elephants, rhinos, pangolins, and many other "exotic" animal and marine species, sustained by illegal and legal markets around the world. We need to eliminate our local market for animal body parts. We need to do what is globally right, and do it now, right here. No human being NEEDS ivory or rhino horn. Only the animals do. Period.

I trust you've seen the numbers: almost 100 elephants poached (a tidy euphemism for "murdered") every day for ivory that goes not only to trinkets for the wealthy, but also to fund ISIS and other terror organizations such as the vicious Lord's Resistance Army. Brave wildlife rangers risk—and all too often lose--their lives (see Virunga National Park's Wounded Ranger site if you care to learn more) so that someone in Hawaii can purchase an ivory chess set. The values are just wrong. Dead wrong. Those who sell trafficked animal parts do not have my sympathy; they can find other items to sell that do not involve wholesale

slaughter. Nevertheless, the bill contains provisions for antique ivory and other specific item, as well as items used in recognized cultural practices.

SB2647 is a carefully designed, broad ranging bill that addresses and corrects weaknesses in previous attempts to pass similar legislation. I hope you will have the ethical courage to do what is clearly right and will pass SB2647, thereby bringing my state, our state, in line with China, Hong Kong, California, New York, and many other large markets that have banned animal part trafficking. Hawaii, sadly, is a major market for ivory and horn, and may soon be the largest market in the United States—we must do better. And we must start doing it now, not next year, not later. This bill, this year. How terribly sad to be the host of next year's World Conservation Congress and **NOT** have passed a bill strongly protecting endangered land and sea animals.

If we can ban the sale of shark fins, surely we can do it for elephants, rhinos, sea turtles, etc. I want my grandchild to live in a world that has these creatures free in the wild and in the oceans, not stuffed in natural history museum dioramas. If we do not act to protect them, their murders and extinction will be on all our hands. Really.

Thank you.



Stephen W. Canham, PhD
46-156 Nahiku Place
Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 1:40 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ekkj1959@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elmer Kaai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB 2674 SD1. This measure will help improve coordination between state and other government authorities, and to remove any potential conflicts of law that unintentionally make Hawaii an attractive market for illegal wildlife trafficking as other countries and states pass legislation to protect global populations of endangered species.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:39 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ticiaok@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia S OKieffe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Elephants and Rhinos may be extinct within 10 years without our help, please support SB 2647. Thank you

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:20 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: Winddncr@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Nolan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I would like to say this bill is important not only because animal species are being wiped out to extinction, for the sole purpose of greed! But also for the health and survival of humanity. Hawaii should understand the balance of species. Nature has taken millions of years to find a healthy balance for life to co exist. And Hawaii takes great effort to protect its natural and indigenous plant and animal life. If we want others to respect our Aina we must do all we can to respect the Aina of other nations and stop supporting illegal wildlife trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:07 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: tboh18@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill is needed to help protect endangered wildlife from poaching. Hawaii is a large market for sale of smuggled wildlife parts. International and federal restrictions are insufficient; State law restricting sale is also needed. The bill has been revised to protect legitimate interests. Hawaii must do its part to reduce the slaughter of endangered wildlife. Please pass this bill! Mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 2:55 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl M Jellings Sr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 9:24 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: zojing@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 6:41 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I support this Bill except for the fact that it takes affect so long in the future. Our reefs are being overfished for the aquarium trade and it is destroying the populations of fish. Please move up the date to take affect immediately! Mahalo,

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waltestimony

From: Linda Leveen <lindakoala07@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:29 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

Dear Chair Yamane,

I wholeheartedly support this bill to end the cruelty of taking animals' lives for humans' greed. Animals want to live their lives just as much as we do, and have no way of fighting against injustice. We must do it for them,

Thank you,
Linda Leveen

--

Watch this NOW if you want a giggle and a smile!

http://www.animalsaustralia.org/features/australia-day-video-lamb-5-ways.php?ua_s=email

waltestimony

From: Pete <petertierney@hawaiiantel.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 10:59 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 support SB2647

Support

Peter Tierney
996 Alaea street
Makawao 96768

Petes
Sent from my iPhone

waltestimony

From: Tim Dow <touchdown72@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 1:22 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support SB2647

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tim Dow <touchdown72@gmail.com>
Date: February 24, 2016 at 6:29:35 PM MST
To: "JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov" <JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: Support HB2502 2/25/16

I urge your support for HB2502 to prohibit wildlife trafficking, including the illegal sales of ivory. This is a very important bill to prevent species from extinction. With Hawaii poised to be the leader in illegal sales of ivory, the time to act is now. Delay will only lead to the further destruction of defenseless animals, while the illegal trade of such animals fuels conflicts throughout the world. Please support HB2502.

Mahalo,
Tim Dow
Waikiki

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 2:55 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 3:08 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 3:41 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: leaoshong@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lea Hong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Cullen - I am testifying in my individual capacity in strong support of SB 2647, SD 1, which would ban the sale or trade of ivory and other animal products from critically endangered land and marine species. We need a state law in Hawai'i because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. Hawaii is the third largest market in the trade of these illegal goods, contributing to the slaughter of elephants, rhinos, and other marine specie worldwide. The legislation includes exceptions for cultural practices, and antiques. Please help stop the unnecessary killing of these rare animal species. Mahalo - Lea Hong

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 3:44 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: octopus@maui.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rene Umberger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:23 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: prentissc001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Prentiss	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Only severe greed would oppose this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:33 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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waltestimony

From: Reuben Closson <rclosson@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:12 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Please support bill HB2502/SB2647!

Please support bill HB2502/SB2647!

-Reuben M. Closson

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:56 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Pang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:42 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: elizabeth.e.bishop@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
elizabeth bishop	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We must support SB 2647. Hawaii is the "Aloha State" yet is the third largest ivory market in the United States, and is poised to become the largest market if we do not ban the trafficking of wildlife. Harvesting blood ivory is a horrific and senseless practice. We must become a partner in the global effort to protect elephants and other majestic creatures from needless and cruel extinction. As with our ongoing protection of honu and Hawaiian Monk Seals, we can make a difference today for future generations of other endangered wildlife. Let us extend the fullest meaning of Aloha to them as well.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:35 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hawaiiqh@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leilani Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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TESTIMONY OF BOB KERN & MICKI STASH
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
IN FAVOR OF SB 2647

Aloha Chair Yamane and members of the committee.

Please accept my testimony in strong support of SB 2647 that provides protections for ivory bearing and other species including our own threatened green sea turtles and critically endangered monk seals.

In Hawaii, we are all too familiar with the loss of native species. It is incumbent on us to help in any way we can to prevent the loss of species everywhere. Passing bill 2647 will show our commitment to do so.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Kern & Micki Stash
1615 Wilder Avenue, #601
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

waltestimony

From: Raina Heaton <rainaheaton@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:20 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Please support bill HB2502/SB2647!

House water and land Chair Yamane,

Please support the HB2502/SB2647 bill which prohibits the sale of ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species parts and products. The preservation of endangered species is one of the prime directives of humanity, since we are the reason that they have become endangered. This is particularly heino us when it comes to the killing and mutilation of some of the most intelligent creatures on the planet for monetary gain. Hawaii is one of the biggest markets for these products, and it is our responsibility to say no to the sale of any new ivory.

Best,
Raina Heaton

--

Raina Heaton
PhD student, Linguistics
558 Moore Hall
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:40 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: tony@lavanauts.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Antonio Querubin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support bill HB2502/SB2647!

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waltestimony

From: Andrea L. Berez-Kroeker <andrea.berez@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:04 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Please support bill HB2502/SB2647!

Please support bill HB2502/SB2647!

--

Andrea L. Berez-Kroeker

Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Director, Kaipuleohone UH Digital Language Archive
President, Digital Endangered Languages and Music Archiving Network
Junior co-Chair, LSA Committee for Endangered Languages and Their Preservation
<http://www2.hawaii.edu/~aberez>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:56 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: vanderso@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this critically important bill!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:25 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: swbatzer@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie Batzer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill is extraordinarily important. Our Aloha state needs a state law in Hawai'i because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. An average of 96 elephants are killed EVERY day, mostly for ivory. They will be extinct in the wild in a generation if we do not stop the killing. Blood ivory funds terrorist activities. We cannot assume we are insulated from these activities simply because of our remoteness. We are all citizens of this planet, and actions ripple across all borders no matter their distance. Rhinos will also be extinct in the wild in a generation if we do not stop the killing. Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban wildlife trafficking. Wildlife rangers protecting wildlife habitat in Afritca are killed in the line of duty. Elephant ivory is used to make unnecessary items, such as jewelry, trinkets, and netsuke (statues). Other animals are killed needlessly, and SB 2647 will protect all of them.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:25 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: bobbibecker@mindspring.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
bobbie becker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE support SB 2647. With the impending increase in visitors from southeast Asian countries the Hawaiian islands will become even more involved in the cruel and short-sighted trade of endangered animal parts. In our lifetimes we have seen magnificent wild creatures go from plentiful to scarce, many are even at risk of extinction. Elephants are incredibly intelligent and family oriented creatures and they are being killed in very cruel ways just for their tusks. PLEASE make the possession and sale of ivory and other wild animal parts ILLEGAL in our peaceful Hawaiian islands. Mahalo Nui.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 6:40 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lisamarten@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Marten	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair and Committee Members. Please support this Bill. Much like illicit drugs, by providing a market for ivory and horns, we are undermining the efforts in other countries to solve their own problems. We cannot have the extinction of these animals on our conscious. Thank you, Lisa Marten

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 6:20 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: annmarie@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Marie Kirk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 6:00 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lady.flach@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teri Heede	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 4:46 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: bill@puna.us
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 4:38 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: makikirandy@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please vote in support of SB2647. Wild animals need protection from illegal trafficking of animal parts.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:47 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: judie@aloha.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judie Hoeppner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 10:34 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: llyerly7@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Lyerly	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this important bill that protects endangered animals and helps to stop illegal slaughter and profit that funds illegal activities. Money is not everything but life is. Please do the right thing and pass this bill so Hawaii can stand tall and pono in the world. Mahalo for you time and consideration on this important issue. Sincerely, Linda Lyerly. 25 Puakukui Pl. #4, Lahaina, HI. 96761

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 10:33 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: angela44@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Hughes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Please support this measure to protect endangered species. We are currently experiencing a global mass extinction event. It is urgent for the health of all life to take quick action to protect what animals still remain. If you do quick research I am sure you will find disturbing facts. We humans choose to protect endangered animals to care for the delicate balance of life in this, our habitat. Each animal species has a role in the web of life that is valuable & special. We owe it to our children & theirs. Please support this bill to go into effect before 2050. Mahalo!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 10:18 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mgolojuch@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Golojuch Jr	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Protect endangered species - pass this bill!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 9:51 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: metzeco@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Glenn Metzler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:10 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: susan.stayton@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Stayton	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senators, As a Hawaii resident for 29 years, I am certainly aware how precious a treasure our endangered species are to our culture and aina. I feel that we, of all Americans, should be especially sensitive of endangered species from other parts of the world. Hawaii should outlaw importation or sale of any products related to endangered species. We should be a model to other states to respect and protect the other creatures we share this earth with. Please pass this bill. Aloha, Susan

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waltestimony

From: Maryann Overstreet <overst@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:07 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Please support SB 2647

Dear House, Water & Land Chair Yamane,

Please support the bill titled "SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking"!

Aloha,
Maryann Overstreet

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:56 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: npuniwai@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noelani Puniwai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:47 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: davidlhenkin@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Henkin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 9:11 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lorraineparis@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorraine Garnier	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Hawaiian Islands are working for world wide status as one of the few green states and in record time ahead of all others. This means we need to care for our aina (land) and kanaloa (ocean). We need to help protect the land and ocean mammals too as they are an important part of each ecosystem. Whether they roam or migrate here alive or deceased. We are a state that does not "TRADE" We are Hawaii. We are humane. We lost many birds plants and animals to trade. This bill is talking about illegal trade and it must stop. Time is running out for many of these species, do the right thing. Stop the illegal Trade. Formally, I am supporting SB 2647 for the reasons listed. We need a state law in Hawai'i because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. An average of 96 elephants are killed EVERY day, mostly for ivory. They will be extinct in the wild in a generation if we do not stop the killing. Blood ivory funds terrorist activities. Rhinos will also be extinct in the wild in a generation if we do not stop the killing. Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban wildlife trafficking. Wildlife rangers protecting wildlife habitat in Africa are killed in the line of duty. Elephant ivory is used to make unnecessary items, such as jewelry, trinkets, and netsuke (statues). Other animals are killed needlessly, and SB 2647 will protect all of them. Mahalo Nui Loa, Lorraine Garnier

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Testimony for Public Hearing
House Committee on Water and Land
March 16, 2016

Leland Williams
777 W. Hamilton Ave #5
San Pedro, CA 90731

S.B. No. 2647 S.D. 1- A Bill for an Act Concerning Natural Resources and the Sell and Trade of Ivory

Good afternoon House Committee on Water and Land. My name is Leland Williams and I am an animal rights advocate, current college graduate, and informal educator who teaches about terrestrial and marine animals as well as conservation. I graduated from Hawaii Pacific University 2015 (Cum Laude) with a B.S in Environmental Studies and have taken a superfluous amount of courses in environmental management, sustainability, environmental management, conservation, and much more. I have conducted much research and have made many class presentations on issues involving the conservation of plants, animals, forests, oceans, and other natural resources.

I am here to ask you to ensure that Bill S.B. 2647 is passed as a kind and much needed gesture for Elephants, Rhinos, and several other wild species to persist in their natural environments. The continuous and often illegal ivory trade has for decades been to blame for numerous near extinctions, near civil wars, and the tragic deaths of innocent park rangers, conservationists, and ecologists who wish to keep these species alive. In the U.S. the need for simple ivory trinkets and jewelry is deplorable. Just like the blood diamond trade, the ivory trade spearheaded by China and the U.S is causing many social problems in several African countries. It is quite outstanding, and sometimes even shameful, that here in America [we] struggle to motivate conservation values and beliefs. There are hundreds of alternatives to ivory that can create identical outcomes of so-called prized ivory sculptures and jewelry.

Many argue that the trade and sell of ivory creates jobs which then creates and income. As this may be true, the sell and trade of ivory also fuels criminal organizations of all kinds. It is extremely possible to substitute ivory for other artificial substances. If this devastating act of harvesting animal body parts continues, elephants and rhinos will most definitely be gone during our lifetime. Ecologically speaking, the extinction of these species in their environments may lead to a chain reaction of adverse impact after impact; eventually ending with human beings. What will happen when these animals are gone? What animal will suffer next? As hard as it is to face and answer these questions, they must not go unheard. Elephants and rhinos have existed on this planet for millions of years, let it not be humans to make them disappear in ten. Ivory belongs on elephants and rhinos; not on one's fingers and ears or sitting obsolete and forgotten on a dresser drawer.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,
Leland Williams

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:48 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: autofreeann@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Kobsa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this important protection for endangered wildlife!

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HB2502/SB2647: Ivory-Wildlife Trafficking; prohibits the sale of ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species parts and products.

To whom it may concern,

I am contacting you in concerns to Ivory Wildlife Trafficking. I support this bill and feel that there is no need to buy and sell Ivory in the state of Hawaii. A special note to be taken is that buying Ivory is in support of terrorism. According to National Geographic (2016), "Armed groups help fund operations by smuggling elephant ivory. Mainly by rogue soldiers from national armies and by the terrorist group the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)." So I plain words when purchasing Ivory. I support the band of selling Ivory in every form.

Sincerely, Kristal Brown
kristal.Brown@student.chaminade.edu
808-216-6519

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:27 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: Kent@TRIsland.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kent Fonoimoana	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:22 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair & WAL committee. PLEASE SUPPORT. We strongly champion to protect our endangered species in Hawaii, but it is all one world. Protect elephants from those who only want to protect money. Mahalo, Mike Moran , Maui

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waltestimony

From: Cayla Martin <cayla.martin@student.chaminade.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:05 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

To whom it may concern,

I believe in supporting SB2647 because of crime it will stop. I believe that we should do our best to take care of the wildlife around us. Elephants and rhinos have always been a treasured part of nature. Since we were little kids we have learned about these truly magnificent creatures. How terrible is humanity to think that they can destroy something so sacred in the hearts of children. Please, I ask that you support this bill. Save the elephants and rhinos, and let our future generations be able to see and experience them as we did.

Thank you.
Cayla Martin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:36 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: douglasperrine@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Planet Earth has already entered the sixth great extinction, with animal and plant species disappearing at a much faster rate than at any time in the last 50 million years. In Hawaii, with the world's highest rate of endemic (unique native) species, we should be leading the way in protection of endangered species. Instead, we are not only the capitol of native species becoming endangered, but a major hub in trafficking of parts of endangered species poached elsewhere in the world. Shame on us! Please pass this bill, although it is not nearly enough.

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waltestimony

From: Ranaella Steinberg <kaiwahine1@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:04 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: support SB 2647

Aloha,

I am writing the House Water & Land Committee to express my strong support for SB 2647. As a practicing veterinarian in Hawaii since 1992, I interact with many people on a daily basis who love animals and our island home.

It is vitally important that we show the rest of the world that as a state we care enough about endangered species to end the illegal trade here in Hawaii.

I have spoken about this issue with many residents on Kauai and Oahu. And every single one of them supports this bill!

Mahalo,
Kimberly Steinberg, DVM

Here are a few tips for writing testimony:

1. Be succinct. The testimony only needs to be a few sentences to a few paragraphs.
2. Explain your connection to Hawaii. Legislators want to know why they should hear from you.
3. Be polite at all times
4. Make the testimony personal to you. What do endangered animals mean to you?

A couple more talking points for your information

- There are two versions of the bill. SB2647 is the Senate version and HB2502 is the House version. Both are nearly identical but most go through different routes to become law
- SB 2647 will be heard 3/18 in the House Water and Land Committee. Then, it will be heard by the House Judiciary Committee and then the full House.

House Water & Land Committee to



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www.avast.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 6:29 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: megan.pittsley@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a very simple action we can take as a state to make a big impact.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 6:08 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Dinner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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waltestimony

From: Barbara Mayer <bamayer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 5:53 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Committee on Water & Land; bill SB2647 SD1; hearing Fri. Mar. 18, 2016

Please pass bill SB2647 SD1, which " Prohibits the sale, offering to sell, purchase, trade, or barter of any part or product from various animal and marine species." The hope is that, by passing this bill, Hawai'i will no longer be an "accomplice" to the blood ivory trade. (I understand and support "exceptions to this prohibition, including for traditional cultural practices protected under the state constitution.")

Frankly, I would like to see this bill take effect earlier than 7/1/2050. If this bill, and other measures, are not put into place ASAP, I think it's highly likely that species like elephants & rhinos will be extinct by 2050, and so passage of this bill will be a moot point.

aloha,

--

Barbara Mayer

MS; retired Kamehameha Schools science teacher

20 years classroom instruction

curriculum and web author

Waimānalo, HI, USA

808-259-8342 (Hawai'i Standard Time)

[Connect on LinkedIn](#)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 5:52 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hlbpalmer@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hillary Palmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please stop the trafficking in animal bones, tusks, teeth, ivory.

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waltestimony

From: Rosemary Karlsson <rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 5:10 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

I support SB2647. Outlaw the sale of ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species parts and products.

Hawaii should not be supporting business that is making some animals become extinct.

Rosemary Karlsson
PO Box 492266
Keaau, HI 96740
808-966-6589

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 5:03 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ahuntemer@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Huntemer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members, I wholeheartedly urge you to support SB2647 SD1. Federal laws and regulations do not definitively prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. We need a state law in Hawai'i. You are aware of the staggering statistics relating to wildlife killing and trafficking from other testimony and general information on the daily news. Please let us be one of the first states to stop this barbarism. The bill as it stands provides adequate exceptions for those that already have "special" items made from these dead animal parts so please pass as is. Mahalo, Angela.

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waltestimony

From: Christina Higgins <cmhiggin@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:37 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

Please support bill SB2647

It is our moral imperative to protect animals; they are at our mercy and we can do better than what we are currently doing.

Christina Higgins
Professor
University of Hawaii at Manoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:05 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: chuck@babbittphoto.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Babbitt	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly urge the committee to vote in favor of the prohibition of sale of ivory and other products from marine and animal species.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:17 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 1:03 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: Milisenj@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Milisen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As one of America's only footholds in the Pacific Ocean, Hawaii is a hub for trafficking in endangered animal products and is in a unique position to reduce trade in these products worldwide. The economic impact of endangered animal parts pales compared to the loss of eco-friendly visitors that view these practices as barbaric. By passing this bill, the state positions itself at the international front line in the fight to win back the natural world. Please vote in support of this bill on Friday.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:56 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: vera.cober@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vera Cober	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, At this time only one federal regulation regulates ivory sales occurring within Hawaii. The regulation is highly insufficient since dealers are unable to provide proper proof of the origin of their ivory. This not only puts consumers at risks of federal prosecution, it opens up loopholes for unauthorized ivory to end up for sale in Hawaii. It is time for an effective ivory law that prohibits the sale of undocumented ivory, to include ivory from questionable other sources such as so-called mammoth ivory. In addition this bill will prohibit the sale of other wildlife products, in particular rhinoceros horn. We are all aware of the plight and fight of endangered species around the world, and as a state we are facing our own struggles in trying to protect the Hawaiian Monk Seal, the Humpback Whale, and the Green Hawaiian Sea Turtle. Each and every animal is necessary for the recovery and survival of a species, and none should be killed and market for questionable and unnecessary human consumption. If we join forces around the world and show other species the same Kokua we expect for our own wildlife, we might just be able to save species for future generations and for the health of our planet. Thank you for your consideration, Vera Cober

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HEATHER SIMMONS
67-1251 Panalea Street
Kamuela, HI 96743
808-933-9411

March 17, 2016

Re: Testimony Supporting Support of SB 2647 SD 1

I strongly support SB83, SB 2647 SD 1, which bans wildlife trafficking in Hawai'i.

I support this bill for the following reasons:

- We need a state law in Hawai'i because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species.
- An average of 96 elephants are killed every day, mostly for ivory. They will be extinct in the wild in a generation if we do not stop the killing.
- Blood ivory funds terrorist activities.
- Rhinos will also be extinct in the wild in a generation if we do not stop the killing.
- Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban wildlife trafficking.
- Wildlife rangers protecting wildlife habitat in Africa are killed in the line of duty.
- Elephant ivory is used to make unnecessary items, such as jewelry, trinkets, and netsuke (statues). Other animals are killed needlessly, and SB 2647 will protect all of them.

Mahalo,
Heather Simmons

waltestimony

From: Nathan Sato <nsato@maliekai.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:29 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Ivory Trafficking Bill

Please support bill HB2502/SB2647! Stop the insane senseless killing of elephants!

Nathan Sato

waltestimony

From: Brenda Clark <brendarc@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:06 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of SB2647 to prohibit the sale of ivory. Similar bills have cycled through the system several times with a lot of support from the public. Please make sure the bill passes this time. Ivory trade is inhumane and unnecessary.

Thank you,
-Brenda Clark

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:04 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: manninga001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM*

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Montgomery	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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From: Anna Belew <belew@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:16 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

Dear Hawai'i Legislators,

I am writing to urge--no, to beg--you to support bill SB2647. Please, please stand up to the special financial interests which aim to profit from the annihilation of some of our most sacred and beloved species; please make the moral choice which our children and descendants will thank us for; and please, do honor to the State of Hawai'i and show respect not only for our own 'āina, but to the lands where elephants and rhinoceroses have survived for millennia-- until now.

We are entering a critical phase in the fight for the survival of the world's elephants and rhinos; at current rates of slaughter, they will be extinct in the wild within roughly a decade. One may simply feel a vague sadness at this prospect, but I urge you to consider something more than vague sadness: please, feel emboldened by the urgency of this crisis to make the moral choice, and ban the sale of ivory in the state of Hawai'i. Our descendants will look back and ask us many questions about our choices, and I dearly hope that one of those questions is not "Why did you allow the complete annihilation of these species? Was profiting from the sale of trinkets and baubles--profits which fund terrorism, war crimes, the drug trade, and other appalling injustices-- more important than protecting the sanctity of life on earth? Why did you not do anything? *What were you thinking?*"

Right now, today, the action taken by you and the Hawai'i State Legislature can make a difference in the fight to protect these irreplaceable species. Do not stand idly by as we commit this genocide. Do not capitulate to those who perceive their bottom line as more important than respect for life on Earth. Please, please do the right thing and vote to support bill SB2647. Thank you.

With warm aloha,
Anna Belew

PhD candidate, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Department of Linguistics

waltestimony

From: Jennifer Chiwa <bjcmd808@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:05 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16. SUPPORT SB 2647: Wildlife Trafficking

Aloha Chairperson Yamane and Members of the House Water and Land Committee. Please support SB 2647 to prohibit the sale of ivory and rhino horn. This would be a major step to protect elephants and rhinoceroses, and make Hawai'i a leader in this effort. Mahalo.
Jennifer Chiwa

waltestimony

From: Sue Leonard <sl600sl@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 2:28 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: "3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking" to WALTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

This has to be a moot issue at this point. It will pass eventually and the rest of the world is on board, Hawaii can't be the last to defend Wildlife Trafficking. The bill SB2647 should pass.

Sue Leonard
1425 Liliha Street #11D
Honolulu, HI 96817

waltestimony

From: Laurie Pottish <pottishl001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 10:45 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

I support SB2647.

Thank you,
Laurie Pottish
2892 Iwalani St.
Makawao, HI 96768

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:30 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lusikurniadi@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lusi Perry	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: We need a state law in Hawai'i to prohibit trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. Animal trafficking money funds terrorist activities. We need to care about the endangered species from extinction for the sake of our future generations.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 6:28 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: capohina@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol Pohina	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: PLEASE, Stop this Barbaric Illegal Slaughter of endangered or soon to be endangered animals. No Needs Ivery, etc but this world's economy system Needs these animals. I beg you to pass this bill Mahalo piha

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:02 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hartmanb001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Hartman	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: The United States is NOT the second largest market for illegal ivory. The United States does not import significant amounts of illegal ivory. The funding of international terrorism through illegal ivory is grossly misrepresented to create a false sense of urgency for adopting bad conservation policy. Proposed bans of legally imported and owned items are unconstitutional takings without just compensation. The most inconvenient fact that ivory ban proponents will never mention is that the threat to elephants is grossly exaggerated. The primary Proponents of this kind of legislation are as bad as the poachers. They are pocketing big dollars for themselves that will in the end harm elephants and other wildlife, and not save one single elephant! States that have rejected ivory bans include: Maryland (twice), Virginia, Arkansas, Florida, Oregon, Oklahoma, Nevada, Georgia, Delaware, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois, and Massachusetts.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:10 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: 4ccanham@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia Canham	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, I am writing to ask that you please vote AGAINST Bill HB2647 SD1 going before the House of Representatives this week. It is the Bill to ban the sale of all types of ivory in the State of Hawaii. Please KILL THIS BILL before it goes any further. It is an ill conceived Bill which will have a devastating effect on many residents of Hawaii. I do understand the need for protection and control of ivory of elephants but this Bill would effect those of us involved in the scrimshaw industry which has been a thriving industry for Hawaii for over 30 years. It is an industry that has used the fossilized ivory of walrus and wooly mammoths as it primary source of raw materials for over 25 years. I have worked for Lahaina Scrimshaw since 1983 and know first hand what is used. The fossilized ivory is not easily confused with elephant tusk since all the different ivories (which there are 7 types) have very distinct features that identify them. And fossiled ivories have mineralization which is warm beiges and golden tones to dark chocolate browns which are only achieved by being buried for hundreds to thousands of years(with mammoth/mastadon ivories being over 10,000 years old). These minerals permeate into the ivories over the many years of burial and can not be duplicated by modern staining which only covers the surface. Having worked for Lahaina Scrimshaw for over 32years I know how many local artist- scrimshaw artist, fish hook carvers,custom ukulele and guitar builders that use the fossilized ivory for inlay, fret boards and nuts- residents of Hawaii would be effected by this Bill- not to mention the effect on the Alaskan Natives that dig for the for the ivory as a source of income. We are talking about a Bill that will effect residents of Hawaii- US citizens and will not have any effect on what goes on in African. We have NOT been allowed to import African Elephant ivory since 1989 (Federal Law). Elephant ivory was never a big part of the scrimshaw indurstry. There are also many collectors of scrimshaw who return to Maui year after year. They have purchased from our shop and our competitors as well.Their collections will be become worthless if this Bill passes. I know collectors that have built their collections over 50 years. Not to mention the pig hunters who use the boar ivory for knife handles and necklace. There is ivory on concert pianos, in vintage jewelry the list could go on and on. The number of people effected is too many. PLEASE KILL BILL HB 2647 SD1!!!!!! Thank You, Cynthia Canham PO Box 1629 Lahaina, Hi 96767 registered voter since1979

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 3:56 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: bisaacso@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: This bill should apply strictly to trafficking internationally as a business, in volume. There are too many individuals who have various animal bits and pieces that have had a long tradition of being included as parts of various objects to have law enforcement going after grandma's ivory comb (which she doesn't have documentation for, because nobody anticipated the institution of a draconian law which would require it. Go after the poachers and those who profiteer from running a business selling this stuff. Bad law is unenforceable and gets ignored.

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Dear Members of the Hawaii House of Representatives – WAL Committee,

On Friday, March 18, 2016 at 10:00 am you will hear bill SB 2647, a bill relating to the conservation of animals, specifically banning the sales of protected species and ivory products in the state of Hawaii. I implore you to defeat this bill as it will directly impair my future employment as well the livelihood of many honest, reputable small business owners, skilled craftsmen, and employees in our state.

We all understand that the intent of this bill is good – the atrocities committed by poachers of elephants, rhinoceros, lions, etc. in Africa and demand for illegally obtained materials in China need to be stopped. C.I.T.E.S., The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, has international laws in place to restrict the trade and is actively working right now to address the problem on a global scale. According to C.I.T.E.S. ongoing research, the United States is NOT an offender in illegal ivory trade. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife service has stated in recent years that the USA “does not have a meaningful amount of illegal ivory traffic.” China receives well over 70% of worldwide poached elephant ivory. Legal ivory in the USA is about \$200+ per kg, whereas poached ivory in China its about \$2000+ per kg. There is no demand for these illegally-obtained animal products in our country or state if a poacher can sell the products elsewhere for a substantially greater profit.

Federal registries for certain ivory and protected species products already exist – there’s no need for Hawaii to reinvent the wheel from an uninformed and unenforceable position. I recommend that we as the State of Hawaii continue to comply with existing and future Federal and International Law and let the experts address the problem moving forward.

A major part of the history of the Hawaiian Islands is the connection to the whaling industry of the 1800’s. Whalers began an art form called scrimshaw, drawing on whale teeth and whale bone, that is one of the few uniquely American art forms. Historically and into the present day, trade between Hawaii and Alaska of native Alaskan fossil ivories (fossil walrus and extinct mammoth) has created a unique cross-cultural connection between the two states. This relationship not only sustains native populations in Alaska, but also small businesses in Hawaii, incredibly skilled scrimshaw artists and craftsmen who know no other occupation, and specialized sales staff like myself.

Hawaii is also a cultural melting pot with a variety of Asian cultures represented and honored in year round traditions. Throughout the islands are valuable ivory antiques from China, Japan, Thailand, etc. that have been passed down through local families or legally sold by specialty stores for decades. From tiny jewelry inlay or netsuke to large carved elephant and mammoth tusks or even “raw” tusks, both collectors and sellers honor and respect the craftsmanship and beauty. The mutual understanding that there is a finite quantity of this heirloom material makes it all the more precious.

I proudly work at The Whaler’s Locker of Lahaina, Maui. Established over 40 years ago, we focus on education and conservation with transparent business practices and a decades-long reputation as an honorable source for quality antiques and collectibles.

Passing this bill will destroy our business as well as other similar reputable businesses in the state. It will invalidate the investment of collectors across the country who have been purchasing legal ivory and animal products for decades. What the bill WON'T do is save the elephants and other internationally protected species.

Please don't get caught up in this hyperbolized, emotional crusade. The bill is a waste of energy and state resources, and the only people harmed by this bill are law-abiding sellers and collectors of legal animal products, NOT the poachers and black market ivory dealers in other countries. Don't destroy the futures of many honest taxpayers in the state of Hawaii. Please defeat SB 2647!

I appreciate your time and consideration. Thank you for all that you do.

With Aloha,

Jessica Baker
Lahaina, HI 96761
(808) 250-0840
jcbaker213@gmail.com

Hawaii State Legislature
Committee: WLA/JUD
Hearing: March 18, 2016
Measure No. SB 2647
OPPOSED

My name is Ray Peters and I have been a scrimshaw artist since 1971 and a Hawaii resident since 1972. I have been fortunate to have raised three children here in the islands and had hoped to leave behind a personal legacy to my children and wife when it is my time to move on beyond this life but now find this is threatened by proposed legislation. This proposed legislation will not only place me into the unemployed category of persons and as well stop any tax contributions I could have made to the state but in addition virtually makes any of my work worthless to my children but also to any persons who have purchased my work these last 45 years. To me this is nothing short of theft by legislation and completely ignores the rights of our citizens to buy trade or sell ivory that was purchased completely within the law and for this reason suggest poor legislation and not representative of the wishes of the citizenry.

It has always been my understanding our representatives are expected to represent the people and look out for their good. Such legislation as proposed does not support the people but instead potentially creates criminals of those who own ivory in any form and never received or expected to receive any form of documentation at the time such items were purchased. For this reason those same constituents who may own any form of and may be allowed to possess such will be hamstrung from selling such and that is the same as theft made legal by our representatives. This is a BETRAYAL OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS.

I do support stopping the poaching of elephants and rhinoceroses but also realize that this proposal will do nothing to stop those involved in this heinous practice. If anything this and other new laws will only increase the value of poached ivory sold on the black market as well as poached rhino horn.

Contrary to the belief that Hawaii is a major importer of "blood" ivory those individuals who are invested in the business of selling ivory are not interested in modern elephant ivory except those who promote Asian carvings. The scrimshaw business (engraving or carving ivory) depend upon alternative ivories including but not limited to mammoth, mastodon and fossil walrus ivories. In addition to these ivories are also whale's teeth which carry Federal mandated licenses and are of a very limited supply. It is my business to know the laws pertaining to what is legal and what is not and to stay aware of what the general public wants to purchase and I can testify that most people (primarily tourists) are not interested in elephant ivory due to widespread publication of the poaching occurring in some African countries nor are they interested in modern walrus ivory as it is extremely white and not indigenous to Hawaii.

With the enactment of the Marine Mammals Protection Act (1972) and the Endangered Species Act (December 28, 1973) those who wanted to preserve the American art of scrimshaw were forced to find alternate materials which lead to substituting with Mammoth (extinct), Mastodon (extinct) and fossil Walrus ivories (ranging from 200 to 2,000 years of age). None of these materials in any way threaten any of these species and provide suitable alternatives to continue producing high quality art for consumers to purchase while visiting our islands.

Hawaii has a long history with the sea and those who visited our islands and today very few items can be purchased by our visitors that are not manufactured in China in factory assembly lines. Our artisans are a cottage industry where individuals like me spend countless hours at our desks slowly creating individual pieces cherished by thousands of people worldwide and promotes our islands. Scrimshaw offers the consumer a tangible art and until now a valuable place to invest money. In addition scrimshaw promotes the history of our islands and the influence of the variety of peoples who relocated here. Scrimshaw also encourages those selling this art to inform the tourists about our history in Hawaii and the importance the whaling industry made to the growth of our nation.

All of this potential legislation began with the original intention of helping to stop poaching of our modern elephants and the rhinoceroses. This bill goes beyond that original intention by banning the sale of ALL ivories regardless of the animal that produced the ivory. Let's summarize this situation:

1. This bill will not stop poaching but instead increase the value for those engaged in the illegal elephant ivory trade.
2. This bill will make any ivory item or items with ivory worthless thus stealing from **your constituents**.
3. This bill will put people out of work that have dedicated their lives to producing fine art made from ivory.
4. This bill will eliminate one of the few "souvenirs" that our visitors can afford to purchase while visiting our islands leaving only cheap souvenirs primarily made in China as souvenirs of their visit here.
5. This bill will eliminate any value invested in ivory by thousands of individuals, many of which are your own constituents and possibly create criminals of same.
6. This bill is based on very flimsy facts that Hawaii is a major destination of illegal ivory.
7. This bill supposes that without such a law individuals will be encouraged to deal with other illegal materials which is preposterous as nobody today hunts whales for their teeth (and never in history did), nor modern walruses for their tusks. Any hunting done today of walruses is the prerogative of the Inuit people of Alaska and Canada and in the case of Alaska can only be traded by those possessing licenses issued by the state of Alaska if they are not native peoples.
8. This bill supposes that distinguishing different ivories from one another is virtually impossible when this simply is not true and can be taught in minutes how to determine one from another.
9. This bill will eliminate another source of revenue to Hawaii.
10. This bill is nothing more than a feel-good piece of legislation designed to punish everyone who sells trades or owns any ivory or item with ivory and accomplishes absolutely nothing to protect elephants or rhinos.
11. While there are some avenues for the individuals wishing to sell their ivory being made available the requirements state that documentation must be provided when there is none and was never required prior to this date and therefore impossible to produce.

China is widely known as the primary consumer of illegally obtained elephant ivory as well illegally obtained rhino horn, not America as a whole and certainly not in Hawaii with a few exceptions

This bill in no way attains what it is intended and only offers negatives not positives and should never be considered as a viable means of protecting threatened species of any kind. America already has laws that protect threatened species worldwide and this law does nothing but create hardships for many people by adding to the unemployment lines thus forcing persons like myself to draw unemployment money since my skills at age 67 offer little with which to find employment. The end result for me if passed will ensure that I will be forced to leave our islands which have been my home

for 45 years as the cost of living here is prohibitive without decent employment. As an individual dependent upon ivory as my sole means of income I can only say that my level of disappointment in such limited thinking by our legislators only adds to my discontent of our government and of our Hawaiian government in particular. In my 45 years of working with ivory I have done my best to represent our islands by entering many pieces of my work into international art contests and for my efforts have received acclaim.

I wish to thank you for taking your valuable time in reading my words and hope that I have managed to help you decide to **not pass** this bill though I feel my efforts have probably been in vain.

Sincerely with Aloha,
Ray Peters

OPPOSE SB 2647 & OPPOSE HB 2502

The United States isn't on the list of offending countries of black market ivory according to international lawmakers. Logically it makes sense as legal elephant ivory wholesales for approximately \$250/pound while China fetches \$2,500/pound.

Prior to the 1989 international ban, restricted documented ivory imports were mostly from Africa to Hong Kong to the United States primarily through Hawaii, California, and New York. Many retailers discontinued selling ivory leaving importers with large inventories.

Fear-mongers make unsubstantiated claims. Falsehoods are presented as facts. No legal documentation exists to sell elephant ivory by the secondary market. No certification has been required to re-sell elephant ivory. Deceitful propaganda leads to erroneous conclusions.

Conservationist tout false information that 90% of the ivory sold in Hawaii is black market. These NGOs have absolutely no evidence. Admittedly they confess they do not know how to distinguish the different types of ivory, which is why they include mammoth ivory in the ban. If they cannot tell the difference in ivory how did they do a competent survey of what is being sold? How did they differentiate between plastic, bone, ivorine, and tagua nut (vegetable ivory)? The rational conclusion is that they are not qualified to determine what is legal or illegal.

Federal and international law enforcement agencies should be considered inept if they allow that high of percentage of black market ivory so blatantly available for purchase. But since the United States is not on the maps of illegal ivory trafficking, the conclusion is our current enforcement is adequate. Agents are doing a good job. State legislation will only be harmful to law abiding citizens. It will take the focus off the real offenders and cause greater harm to the lives we are trying to protect—elephants and people.

The recent Honolulu Star Advertiser photograph of ivory represents the innocent victims the ill-conceived ivory ban legislations will hurt. The Asian carvings are poor quality indicating old pre-ban inventory, the Billiken is a classic Eskimo carving, and the Hawaiian flower on fossil ivory represents the local scrimshaw artisans that will lose their jobs.



Pre-1989 carvings.....Eskimo carved Billiken.....Scrimshaw on fossil walrus tooth
Michele Lincoln Lahaina Hawaii (808) 667-6652 (808) 385-3157 lincolnmichele@yahoo.com

Daniel Stiles has investigated the ivory trade with funding from NGOs like HSUS and law agencies like IUCN/CITES-MIKE. Extracts of his research are often times included in statements manipulated into deceptive conclusions.

His in-depth research leads him "to believe that a "prohibitionist" approach is the wrong one...it can in fact exacerbate the problem." His opinion is that more stringent control for law abiding citizens will divert law enforcement away from the real culprits.

Stiles writes: "There is currently no demand for new poached raw ivory in the U.S. I (Stiles) carried out another consultancy for Vulcan Inc, recently that found that there is a glut of estate raw tusks that sell for prices about 10-15% of those that can be obtained in China. No informed ivory trafficker would try to smuggle tusks in the U.S. It would make much more sense to smuggle them out...The relative importance of the USA as a destination for illegal ivory has been greatly exaggerated."

He continues "I would like to dispel the false claim that the U.S. is the second largest market for illegal ivory consumption in the world --repeated in NGO campaigns and media stories constantly." It can be traced to his findings of the Martin & Stiles report that has "a table in which the U.S. ranks second behind China/Hong Kong, based on the number of ivory items seen in retail outlets. The table says nothing about whether the items are legal or illegal."

Stiles goes on to write "There are tons of legal raw ivory in the U.S. from which recent items can be carved. Even items manufactured in 2015 can be legal if made from old ivory, and such items exist." Whaler's Locker has fishhooks carved on Maui from pre-1989 elephant ivory. Ivory is often included in name plates and inlaid on display stands crafted by local artisans.

Stiles goes on to write: "Given these caveats, no conclusions should be drawn about what percentage of ivory in the USA is legal or illegal based on visual examination. To state that 'up to 90% of ivory seen in California(Hawaii) was illegal' is just as likely the case as stating that 'up to 90% of ivory seen in Californian(Hawaii) was legal.'"

"If the U.S. government and civic organizations and individuals are serious about addressing the elephant poaching crisis, they should not divert human and financial resources away from the real problem. Introducing the proposed new restrictions on commercial uses of ivory will not make it simpler to control trade in elephant ivory. Litigation will no doubt ensue on several grounds, wasting everyone's time and money." It is a waste to punish law-abiding American citizens when Chinese speculators are buying tons of poached ivory.

Please consider this testimony from Daniel Stiles, Ph.D. Member of, IUCN/SSC African Specialist Group and a U.S. citizen presented by a resident of Hawaii that has over thirty years of experience with the ivory industry. Vote no on HB 2502 and SB 2647.

Michele Lincoln Lahaina HI

LATE

TO: Honorable Chairs Ryan I. Yamane and Ty J.K. Cullen
Committee Members Cindy Evans, Kaniela Ing, Chris Lee, Nicole E. Lowen,
Scott Y. Nishimoto, Calvin K.Y. Say, Feki Pouha, and Cynthia Thielen
House Committee on Water and Land
March 18, 2016

FROM: Darene Matsuoka, President, University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School
of Law Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, darene@hawaii.edu, (808) 781-4231

RE: **SUPPORT FOR SB2647 Wildlife Trafficking**

Hawaii stands alone among America's big three ivory markets without a ban on the sale, offer to sell, purchase, trade, or bartering of ivory products.

Despite its small population, Hawaii is the third largest market for ivory in the United States. New York and California are the first and second largest ivory markets, and both states recently passed laws to stop the trade of ivory. Because these two states have bans on ivory, and the fact that Hawaii is a major gateway into Asia, Hawaii is set to become the top market.

The mass slaughter of elephants and other animals is not the only concern. The poaching crisis is sponsored by militia in Africa that use ivory profits to purchase weapons.¹ Just one pound of ivory can sell between \$1000 to \$2000.

Trafficking is of national concern, so reflected by the national ban issued by the United States Fish & Wildlife Service.² The ivory trade is valued at between \$7 billion and \$10 billion a year.³ Yet, Hawaii continues to assist in the funding of weapons by not banning the ivory trade. Less than a year ago, in May 2015, federal authorities raided a warehouse in Honolulu seeking federally banned elephant and walrus ivory, as well as whale bone, which had been imported to the island.

Passage of this bill would not affect those who already possess ivory as current ivory owners would not be relieved of their ivory. There is also an exemption for Native Hawaiians and for family heirlooms. The sale of ivory need only be registered, and proof of the age of ivory attached to the sale. This is in line with the purpose of the bill, which is to cease the funding of weapons that is of national concern.

¹ Allyson Blair, Lawmakers Urged to Ban Ivory Sales in Hawaii, HAWAII NEWS NOW (Dec. 2015), <http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/30761070/lawmakers-urged-to-ban-ivory-sales-in-hawaii>.

² Darryl Fears, *New York and California Banned Ivory Sales. Why not Hawaii?*, THE WASHINGTON POST (Oct. 2015), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/10/06/california-and-new-york-banned-ivory-sales-but-hawaii-another-huge-market-is-refusing-to-say-aloha/>.

³ Manjari Fergusson, Hawaii Lawmakers Want to Stop the Illegal Trade in Ivory, CIVIL BEAT (Mar. 2014), <http://www.civilbeat.com/2014/03/21632-hawaii-lawmakers-want-to-limit-the-trade-in-illegal-ivory/>.

LATE



TO: Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Water and Land
FROM: Elly Pepper, Natural Resources Defense Council
DATE: 3/15/2016
RE: Support for Senate Bill 2647 SD 1 with modifications

On behalf of our 2.4 million members and activists, including more than 2,360 in Hawaii, we are writing to urge you to support Senate bill 2647 SD 1, with the changes described below.

The international trade in wildlife is a powerful political and economic force that has driven many species to the brink of extinction and some to disappear forever.¹ The rarer a species becomes, the more people desire it.² This is exactly what has happened with elephant ivory and rhino horn. As demand for these products has boomed, ivory and rhino horn prices have skyrocketed. As prices have increased, so has poaching, with more than 100,000 elephants killed from 2010 through 2012³ and 1,116 rhinos killed in 2014 in South Africa.⁴

While the public seems aware of the huge role Chinese demand for elephant ivory has played in elephant poaching, many don't realize that the United States also contributes significantly to this problem.⁵ For example, a 2015 survey commissioned by the Natural Resources Defense Council of the Los Angeles and San Francisco ivory markets found that up to 90% of the ivory seen in Los Angeles and up to 80% of the ivory seen in San Francisco was likely illegal.⁶

U.S. laws on elephant ivory facilitate an illegal market in two main ways. First, it is very difficult to determine ivory age.⁷ Therefore, sellers often sneak new ivory onto their shelves by staining it, chipping it, and using other means to make it look old.⁸ Second, since it is extremely difficult to determine whether ivory is from an elephant or from a legal source of ivory such as a mammoth, sellers often mix legal pieces with illegal pieces in their stores and claim that illegal elephant

¹ Duncan Graham-Rowe. (2011). *Biodiversity: Endangered and In Demand*. Nature 480:S101-S103 (2011).

² Franck Courchamp, et al. (2006). *Rarity Value and Species Extinction: The Anthropogenic Allee Effect*. PLoS Biology 4(12): e415.

³ George Wittemyer, et al. (2014). *Illegal killing for ivory drives global decline in African elephants*. PNAS 111(36): 13117-13121, http://www.haaretz.co.il/st/inter/Hheb/images/PNAS-2014-Wittemyer_1403984111.pdf.

⁴ Environmental Investigation Agency. (Dec. 23, 2014). *Vietnam – Still Driving the Rhino Poaching Crisis*, <http://eia-global.org/blog/vietnam-still-driving-the-rhino-poaching-crisis>.

⁵ Esmond Martin & Daniel Stiles. (2008). *Ivory Markets in the USA*, at 5, <http://www.savetheelephants.org/files/pdf/publications/2008%20Martin%20&%20Stiles%20Ivory%20Markets%20in%20the%20USA.pdf>.

⁶ Daniel Stiles. (2014). *Elephant Ivory Trafficking in California, USA*, http://docs.nrdc.org/wildlife/files/wil_15010601a.pdf.

⁷ Martin & Stiles (2008) at 32.

⁸ Stiles (2014) at 9-10.

ivory actually comes from the legal species instead.⁹ The mixing of ivory from illegal species like elephants and legal species like mammoth, along with bone and resin/plastic pieces, is also one of the primary ways smugglers bring poached elephant ivory *into* the United States. The shipments are labeled as “mammoth ivory and bone” or something similar to escape detection. Even the most advanced forensics laboratories have difficulty determining the exact species an ivory item came from.¹⁰

Hawaii is one of the epicenters of the U.S. ivory market, as the third largest ivory market in the country following New York and California. A 2008 ivory survey of U.S. ivory markets found 23 outlets selling 1,867 ivory items (mainly jewelry) on Oahu.¹¹ Almost 90% of the ivory items for sale in Hawaii were likely imported illegally or are of unknown origin.¹² Further, Hawaii has what is likely one of the largest – if not *the* largest – online ivory marketplaces in the country, with 4,661 products found in stock or for sale online – valued at more than \$1.22 million – over a six-day period.

SB 2647 SD 1 will drastically curtail Hawaii’s ivory market, curbing demand in the state and, in turn, reducing poaching in Africa. Specifically, it will ban the vast majority of commercial transactions involving the listed animals. It contains reasonable exemptions for transfers to heirs and beneficiaries, educational and scientific purposes, employees or agents of the federal or state government undertaking law enforcement activities, traditional cultural practices, and antiques and musical instruments containing a small percentage of ivory. Further, the legislation will eliminate cover for illegal ivory by banning commerce in mammoth.

With this said, we would like to advocate for several important changes to SB 2647 SD 1. First, to clarify that in order to qualify for the antique exemption the animal species part or product must be a fixed component of an antique, and not the primary source of the item’s value, we ask that you strike Section 2(e)(6) and add the following language on page 5 after line 16: “The covered animal species part or product is a fixed component or components of a larger manufactured item and is not, in its current form, the primary source of value of the item.”

Second, we ask that you add “possession with intent to sell” to the list of prohibited items (sale, offer for sale, purchase, trade, barter).

Third, we ask you to strike “upon the death of the owner of the covered animal species or product” from the exemption for legal heirs and beneficiaries.

President Obama recently acknowledged the many problems with federal ivory laws and regulations by making them stronger through a variety of methods. Most recently, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service attempted to close existing loopholes by proposing revisions to the Endangered Species Act 4(d) Rule for the African Elephant.¹³ However, the federal

⁹ Id. at 13, 15.

¹⁰ Humane Society of the United States, *An Investigation of Ivory Markets in the United States*, at 7-8(2002), http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/Ivory_Trade_Report.pdf.

¹¹ Martin & Stiles (2008) at 93.

¹² Id.

¹³ Proposed Revisions to the Endangered Species Act 4(d) Rule for the African Elephant: Questions and Answers, <http://www.fws.gov/international/pdf/african-elephant-4d-proposed-changes.pdf>; See also White House, Fact Sheet:

government's initiative leaves room for intrastate trade. Therefore, states must compliment the federal government's efforts by enacting their own bans, as New York, New Jersey, and California have done by signing ivory and rhino horn ban legislation into law.¹⁴

We urge Hawaii to join these states and become one of the first states in the country with a strong law banning wildlife trade by supporting SB 2647 SD 1 with the changes suggested herein. This would be a huge achievement for Hawaii, making the state a leader on ending the poaching crisis.

National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking & Commercial Ban in Trade of Elephant Ivory, Feb. 11, 2014, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/02/11/fact-sheet-national-strategy-combating-wildlife-trafficking-commercial-b>; Revising the Special Rule for Importation of Ivory from African Elephants (*Loxodonta Africana* spp.), <https://www.federalregister.gov/regulations/1018-AX84/revising-the-special-rule-for-importation-of-ivory-from-african-elephants-loxodonta-africana-spp->.

¹⁴ Elly Pepper, Blog, Aug. 6, 2014, *Governor Christie Signs New Jersey Ivory Bill Into Law*, Elly Pepper, Blog, Aug. 11, 2014, http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/epepper/governor_cuomo_shuts_down_the.html; *Governor Cuomo Shuts Down the Country's Biggest Ivory Market*, http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/epepper/governor_cuomo_shuts_down_the.html; Elly Pepper, Blog, Oct. 4, 2015, *California Becomes Third State in Nation to Ban Ivory Trade*, http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/epepper/california_becomes_third_state.html.



**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

LATE

**TO: Honorable Chair Ryan I. Yamane
Honorable Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen
House Water and Land Committee**

March 18, 2016, 10:00AM

FROM: Iris Ho, Humane Society International, ih@hsi.org, TEL: 301.258.1407

RE: STRONG SUPPORT of SB2647, relating to natural resources

Humane Society International (HSI) and The Humane Society of the United States urge the Committees' strong support of SB2647, which would protect critically imperiled species from wildlife trafficking by prohibiting the sale, offer to sell, purchase, trade, barter for, or distribute the part or product of covered animal species. The covered animal species include elephant, rhinoceros, tiger, great ape, hippopotamus, tiger, lion, cheetah, jaguar, leopard, pangolin, monk seal, shark, ray, sea turtle, narwhal, whale or walrus.

This measure is part of a growing national and global momentum to save iconic and beloved species from poaching, animal cruelty and the threat of extinction. It presents Hawaii with a unique opportunity to join the international community's collective response to combat wildlife trafficking.

The United States is among the world's top markets for wildlife goods. In July 2013 President Obama issued an Executive Order that designated wildlife trafficking as a matter of national security concern and subsequently released a National Strategy, elevating the United States efforts and conservation leadership to address this urgent crisis. Several states, including New York, New Jersey and California have enacted laws prohibiting the sale of ivory and rhino horns. Voters in Washington State overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure last November to prohibit the sale of numerous endangered species parts and products, similar to SB2647. As the preamble of the legislation states, most recently in September 2015 President Obama and China's President Xi Jinping announced that the two countries are committed to enacting a nearly total ban on ivory import and export with a shared goal to halt the domestic commercial trade of ivory.

In July 2015 the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife. The 22nd Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation's (APEC) Leader Declaration in 2014 commits the APEC economies to increased efforts and steps to curtail supply of and demand for illegally traded wildlife and international cooperation on combating wildlife trafficking.

Trafficking in ivory, rhino horn, and other illegal wildlife products has become a very lucrative trade that fuels the poaching of many protected wildlife species and creates insecurity for both people and wildlife in many remote vulnerable areas. At \$8-10 billion per year, the illegal wildlife trade ranks as the fourth most lucrative international criminal activity, behind narcotics, counterfeiting, and human trafficking. Evidence and seizure data suggest that wildlife trafficking is linked to transnational organized crime and even African armed militia with terrorist connections in the case of elephant poaching. Professional traffickers take advantage of lax enforcement controls to move illegal ivory across the globe. The likely annual income from ivory to militia in the entire sub-Saharan range generates millions of dollars for these terrorists, including the Lord's Resistance Army, to buy weapons, hurt innocent people and destabilize governments.

Elephants are one of the most iconic wild animals. Yet today these magnificent animals are being gunned down and poisoned in staggering numbers - the African elephant population has declined by an estimated 66% over the last 40 years, with 100,000 elephants poached between 2010 and 2012. Only 29,000 rhinos remain in the wild, yet, in 2015 more than 1,300 rhinos were killed across the African continent. Sometimes poachers hack off an elephant's or rhino's face, while the animal is still alive, to retrieve their tusks or horn. In one recent case, poachers poisoned a watering hole with cyanide, killing 300 elephants at once and resulting in the deaths of other animals who fed on the carcasses. The pernicious demand fueling the illegal trade in tiger parts has left us with only 3,200 tigers in the wild today. Lions and leopards have disappeared from most of their historic range due to habitat loss but they face additional threat from demand for their pelts or other body parts. The list of animals threatened with poaching, trafficking and extinction goes on.

Hawaii has a critical role to play to contribute to saving these imperiled animals. According to a 2008 study, Hawaii was the nation's third largest market for ivory, after New York and California. Both states have shut down their in-state market for ivory in 2014 and 2015 respectively. The same study also found that close to 89 percent of ivory items for sale in Hawaii could be of illegal or of unknown origin. Several recent market surveys continued to find a significant amount of illegal ivory or ivory without proper documentation for sale in Hawaii's marketplaces. Last year five Hawaiian residents associated with a jewelry store was indicted for over 20 counts illegal activities involving transnational wildlife trafficking. This is the latest evidence that Hawaii is a hotbed for the illegal wildlife trade.

This legislature has shown commendable leadership in stemming the ivory trade. In 2013, S.C.R.149 unanimously passed the Hawaii legislature, asking Hawaii residents and businesses not to buy or sell ivory of unknown origin. In 2014 and 2015, legislation prohibiting the sale of ivory and rhino horns received tremendous support in both chambers. An opinion survey conducted in January 2016 found that 85 percent of Hawaii residents support legislation prohibiting ivory and rhino horn sales.

Federal regulations and laws restrict largely the importation or interstate trade of products from endangered species, but they do not regulate intrastate sales. The patchwork of federal laws and regulations creates the potential for loopholes. In addition, federal implementation and

enforcement are limited due to a lack of sufficient resources. State measures are critical to complement the federal law for the protection of endangered animals and national security.

As the endangered species capital, Hawaii already has felt the pain of losing iconic and endemic species right at home. With SB2647 Hawaii can help species from going extinct. This September Hawaii will be hosting the IUCN Conservation Congress, the first time the Congress is ever held in the United States. Heads of states and tens of thousands of the world's leading animal protection and conservation leaders will gather here to discuss the most pertinent conservation challenges. SB2647 is Hawaii's opportunity to showcase its proud tradition and legacy of wildlife conservation on the world stage.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2647.

LATE



March 17, 2016

House Committee on Water and Land
Chair Ryan Yamane, Vice Chair Ty Cullen, and Members of the Committee
Friday, March 18, 2016, 10 am
Conference Room 325

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR SB 2647 SD 1

Aloha Chair Yamane and Vice Chair Cullen,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of SB 2647 SD 1 to prohibit the trafficking of wildlife in Hawai'i. As the only non-profit in Hawai'i that has taken on the responsibility to assist in the recovery of Hawai'i's sea turtles, and having worked for the last 20 years to assist in the recovery of Hawai'i's endangered monk seal, we believe that this bill is an important tool to strengthen the ability to protect sea turtles, monk seals and other wildlife here and elsewhere in the world. Since this bill seeks to strengthen coordination between state and federal authorities and "...to remove any potential conflicts of law that unintentionally make Hawaii an attractive market for illegal wildlife trafficking...", we urge you to support it.

In addition, the imposition of penalties for violation of this law are extremely important for it to be taken seriously, and increasing the fine over \$200.00 for the first conviction is strongly recommended.

Mahalo for your kind consideration,

Hannah Bernard
Executive Director, Hawai'i Wildlife Fund

waltestimony

From: Frances Pueo <owlit1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 2:39 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: HB2502/SB2647 Ivory Wildlife Trafficking

LATE

I firmly support HB2502/SB2647 Ivory Wildlife Trafficking to Prohibit the sale of ivory Rhino horn and other and other endangered species parts and products.

Greedy people's only purpose is money gain and using our home Hawaii for their personal profit/sales resulting in the killing of these precious animals for their body parts.

What is absurd is anyone saying, "What about Aunty Emma's old ivory bracelet", that is total nonsense! When that ivory (which was once a fine beautiful animal) was killed recklessly, thoughtlessly, and cruelly.

It is important to take immediately action and stop those misusing our state, our legislature from being indirectly used in their crime for profit and the mindless killing of these wonderful souls.

Just because the killing is not being done in front of you, don't ignore this crime!

Frances Pueo, Pres. Hui Pono Holoholona
P.O. Box 943, Mt. View, Hi 96771
(808) 769-1128

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 3:23 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: fmcgilvray@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
FRAZER MCGILVRAY	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in STRONG SUPPORT of this bill to protect these animals and the humans that lay their lives on the line to protect them in their natural environment. Only last week, 3 wardens who protect gorilla populations in the Congo were murdered by poachers. It is time to stop this shameful trade in something that was only socially acceptable over a century ago.

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LATE

March 17, 2016

Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair of House Committee on Water and Land
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair, House Committee on Water and Land
Hawaii State Capital
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: SB 2647, Relating to Wildlife Trafficking

Dear Representatives Yamane, Cullen and Members of the House Committee on Water and Land

I am Gail Breakey, testifying as a private citizen in support of SB 2647. I have had the privilege of visiting Africa several times and have been fortunate to see many of the magnificent animals which are being trafficked in the wild. These animals are an incredible part of our world heritage, and we must do everything in our power to protect them and not allow them to become extinct.

On my most recent trip to Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia in 2015, I became aware that many Africans themselves have become committed to preservation of the heritage of their countries, in many cases putting their lives on the line to protect animals from poachers.

I urge you to pass this legislation and thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Sincerely,



Gail Breakey

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 3:01 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ellie.snyder@rare-dear.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eleanor Snyder	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. Hawaii has the opportunity to be a leader in this endeavor and we need to act upon it.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 2:58 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: oceanmana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nina Monasevitch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Ecosystems will not survive without the bio-diversity of wildlife. The rampant greed that drives the trade of Endangered wildlife is not only unconscionable & horrifically cruel but is a major factor in the peril of ecosystems including the ocean which is literally the planets life support system. We are way past "wake up call". Malama Pono.

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To the buyers, sellers, traders and supporters of illegal ivory, I want to say that it's not too late to be something other than a destructive waste of oxygen. Supporting a market that leads to the inevitable extinction of an animal as magnificent as the African or Asian Elephant is sickening, and should bring shame upon all those involved.

Elephants have roamed the earth for over 50 million years. Homo sapiens (us) have only been in existence for 0.001% of the existence of elephants, yet we've managed to almost wipe them out completely. The reason they're declining so rapidly is not only because of the demand of ivory, but because ignorant, insensitive, cold-hearted people take advantage of that demand for profit.

Soon, there will be no more elephants, and therefore no new stocks of ivory to trade. The market will eventually die, along with the elephants. By then, those who buy/sell/trade ivory will have to find another way to make profits. Why not start now? Why not salvage what's left of a creature that feels love and grief?

There's nothing more precious on this planet than life. When a person looks into the eyes of a newborn, or falls in love with someone, that feeling is indescribable. It's powerful. It's what moves us to want to do good things for the those we hold dear in this short life on Earth. Elephants have those same feelings, and they were here long before we were.

Those who don't mind the deaths of elephants so that a person can wear a tacky ivory necklace, or a pair of out-of-fashion earrings, obviously don't care about their future families. It's a selfish, brutal, heinous fetish with money and death that drives this market, and that obsession will pass down through the generations and become the gene that drives humans to extinction as well. At least we don't have another species killing us for our toe nails, though.

The estimated number of elephants killed daily is 96, with an estimated population of around 700,000 left in the wild. By comparison, that's equal to 91 million humans being murdered each day. How is this acceptable? Please think about the suffering that's being caused. Please think about the fact that we have no right forcing the extinction of such a large and glorious animal. Please think about the future of our planet, or there won't be one for much longer. Please dig deep within your dying hearts to find that last shred of decency, and do something for the good of mankind, and for the few elephants left on earth.

Just live life, and let others live life, in peace and harmony. We should be giving back land and resources to these creatures, not slaughtering them for skanky jewelry and trophies. Have some class.

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 1:46 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glenie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, This bill has a necessarily broad reach which will help stop the trade and decimation of several endangered and threatened marine and terrestrial species. Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban wildlife trafficking. Please use your integrity to support this bill and keep it as strong as possible so that it STOPS the unnecessary, cruel, deadly trade in animal parts. Mahalo and sincerely, janice palma-glennie kailua-kona

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 3:38 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: jsenhydra@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joy Silver	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need to protect ALL wildlife for future generations to enjoy.

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waltestimony

From: Steven Dick <ssdjr1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 1:52 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: SB 2647

LATE

To Whom it May Concern ~

As a Hawaiian resident I ma in full support of SB 2647, as I am saddened by the Ivory trade and it's presence on the Hawaiian Islands.

Please vote for the legislation as it is, in my opinion, the only humane answer to this ongoing issue.

Best,
Steven S. Dick
5728 Olohena Rd.
Kapaa, HI, 96746
808-212-1818

waltestimony

From: Tim grooms <groomster@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 2:47 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: support bill SB2647

LATE

Aloha My name is Tim Grooms I have lived on the north shore of Kauai for the last 26 years for the last 25 years I have owned restaurants I am now on my third one. I see hundreds of people every day, Here lately part of my conversation is regarding this bill I hear over and over from my patrons of how important this bill is in order to protect our endangered wildlife as well as how inhuman people can be to our wildlife. One thing I love about Kauai people is there compassion for nature and just wanting to do the right thing in life. PLEASE I urge you to support this bill SB2647 . let Hawaii people be proud to help support the well being of our endangered animals. Thank you sincerely Tim Grooms

waltestimony

From: Tim Sawyer <sawyer@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 2:40 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Please support bill HB2502/SB2647

LATE

Please support bill HB2502/SB2647

Thank you!

waltestimony

From: gnkasai@hawaiiantel.net
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 3:42 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: 3-18-16 Support SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

LATE

I humbly ask that you please support HB2502/SB2647 to prohibit the sale of ivory and other endangered species parts/products.

Aloha,
Gladys Kasai

Sent from my iPad

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 3:54 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ashleigh.smith.mn@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashleigh Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support bill HB2502/SB2647! It is absolutely wrong that we are continuing to slaughter animals for decorative purposes and flippant purposes.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 6:29 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: rick.debra@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debra Drayton	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Poaching and encroaching on the endangered animals natural habitats are accelerating the demise of these great animals. Please support and pass this bill.
Remember: Extinction is Forever.

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 5:59 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mauimartha@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha E. Martin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this bill. It helps stop the murder and selling of endangers animals. They need protection so they do not become extinct.

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 5:10 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: dorothe.bowers1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dorothy Bowers	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE PASS this bill for the sake of our children, our state, and our planet! We in Hawaii of all people should understand the tragedy of losing native species to extinction. We should be doing everything possible to protect what we have left among our marine species and the other species covered by this bill. The world is a global community of interconnected ecosystems. The oceans should have taught us that well by now here. The current laws are clearly not adequate. We must pass this law now to close the loopholes and give our state officers the authority to collaborate in this vital work. We citizens cannot afford to let individuals make money at the expense of whole species. Please act now. Mahalo, Dorothy Bowers

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 4:51 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mounaflor@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mouna Ghoussoub	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii can be a major player in the protection of species that are likely to go extinct otherwise. We have to usher the era where humans become again custodians and protectors.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 4:50 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: gobows58@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terry Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB2647 Relating to Natural Resources. The animals listed in this bill need our protection to prevent their extinction. Please help to eliminate Hawaii's shameful standing as a leading state for illegal wildlife trafficking.

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MICHAEL J. K. FLEETWOOD

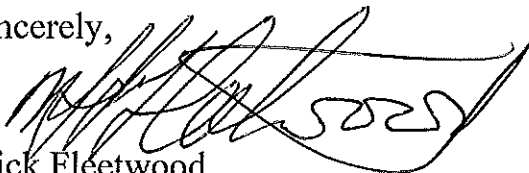
March 17, 2016

Dear Representatives Yumane, Cullen, and members of the Water & Land Committee,

As a longtime resident and small business owner in Lahaina, I understand how important our state's natural heritage is to our economy, our culture, and the picture we present to the rest of the world. It is with this in mind that I offer my strong support for **SB2647**, a bill related to wildlife trafficking. Most of the species it protect may not be native to Hawaii, but this legislation would help ensure that Hawaii is not a destination or transit point for illegal wildlife products like smuggled ivory, rhino horn, tiger pelts, and many others that are contributing to the ongoing global poaching crisis. We know, from data compiled by conservation organizations and the federal government, that Hawaii is a significant market for these items, and we owe it to ourselves, to future generations, and to these species to do what we can to prevent this from continuing.

It is my understanding that reasonable exceptions are made for musical instruments, museum pieces, bona fide antiques, and for native cultural practices. With these in place, we should move forward with the strongest possible protections for wildlife. Doing so will help to make Hawaii a national and global leader on one of the most pressing conservation issues of our time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mick Fleetwood', written over a horizontal line.

Mick Fleetwood

waltestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:01 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: TrinsTutu@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

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SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Betty Steinberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I don't think any animal should lose its life or be hunted to extinction, so men can use the tusks or hides for monetary gain. Please support this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:08 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: chai.blairstahn@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

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SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chai Blair-Stahn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge you to support this bill that would help to protect endangered animals and impede the illegal ivory trade. Hawai'i has a wonderful opportunity to make a difference and protect the lives of the few remaining species that are already endangered. Please take action and support this legislation.

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waltestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:43 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lsimgod@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

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SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leilani Sim-Godbehere	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a Kauai veterinarian and resident of Hawaii. Please support and help pass this bill. SB2647. The longer we wait the more likely the carnage will continue. Mahalo, Leilani Sim-Godbehere, DVM

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waltestimony

From: Michael Kroeger <michael_kroeger@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:27 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: Donna Gadomski
Subject: WAL testimony

LATE

To whom it may concern,

Hello, my name is Michael Kroeger, and I am a resident of Maui county in Hawaii. I have lived here for 10 years and am deeply committed to this place. As a big part of my life is animal conservation and welfare activism I am also deeply committed to causes protecting animals, especially species that are statistically threatened with extinction. Upon learning that states like California and New York have recently(really?) passed legislation banning the commercial trade of illegal animal products, I was happy, although logically I assumed this had been done long ago because, well, it's just wrong.

Then I heard that my State, beautiful Hawaii had, because of this, been given the dubious honor of being the #1 market in the USA for illegal ivory. How can this be? To think that it's legal to sell elephant parts half a world away from where they roam seemed impossible to believe. We are better than this. I do not support the confiscation of "heritage heirlooms" or anyone else's property. I support the halting of TRADE in illegal animal products, regarding the commercial activity, not personal possession of items. I am writing to pledge my support for the bill SB2467. Thanks for your time. Please contact me with any questions /concerns you may have regarding this message.

Michael Kroeger
Haiku, Hawaii

898-283-8114

waltestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:56 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: tcsteinberg@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

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SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Steinberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. I live on Kauai & would hate Hawaii to become the number market for ivory. Thank you.

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Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:00 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: elizabethmatthews001@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

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SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
K Elizabeth Matthews	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I hope we will stop the trafficking of endangered species parts in Hawaii. We need to stop illegal ivory distribution and sales. We need to be a voice for wildlife!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 12:28 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: jinxlarue@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

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SB2647

Submitted on: 3/18/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tatiana knoll	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: We need to take a step in the right direction to stop the trafficking of wild and endangered animals, so many animals are facing extinction due to trophies and Ivory , we need to stand united to show the world that we do not support the reckless and selfis h behavior and that we care about these animals

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Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 2:19 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: tmc farms@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Carey	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: stop trafiking in hawaii...

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 5:30 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: wojocop21@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

SB2647

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
karen wojcikowski	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: We need to ban the sale of ivory and other animal parts. These elephants, rhinos and other animals are being poached and killed everyday at an alarming rate. 65 elephants killed each day, depriving babies of their mothers. In 5 years our elephants and rhinos will be gone. Our lions and tigers gone. Please pass this bill and save our animals from extinction. I don't want to look at another elephants face hacked off just so poachers can have their ivory to illegally sell. Let's pass this Bill.

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waltestimony

From: Leslie Wood <bdzzle.lk@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 8:24 AM
To: waltestimony
Subject: · HB2502/SB2647: Ivory-Wildlife Trafficking; prohibits the sale of ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species parts and products.

Dear Representative Yamane:

Please support this bill to prohibit selling items made from endangered species. Elephants and rhinos are killed to make products. Modern medical science has not proven that ivory earrings, ivory statues, or any other objet d'art provides a health benefit to humans.

Live in harmony with nature - we don't have another. Mahalo.

With Warm Aloha,

~Leslie Wood

waltestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 9:29 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: jmccay@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM

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SB2647

Submitted on: 3/18/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James McCay	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I will be extremely confused and disappointed should this not pass. Malama Pono, Please! Mahalo, James

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 11:25 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: divadiver@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM
Attachments: Screen Shot 2016-03-18 at 11.23.50 AM.png

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SB2647

Submitted on: 3/18/2016

Testimony for WAL on Mar 18, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julie Steelman	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I travel to Africa annually. Every year there are less and less elephants and they are VERY fearful of humans. There is NO ALOHA in this! We must stop the distribution of ivory or horns, in any way, in order for these animals to be around for our children and grand children to enjoy. They are violently slaughtered for their horns and tusks. Please stop being a part of the UGLY ivory trade.

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