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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
H.B. NO. 2183
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PENAL CODE

Justin F. Kollar, Prosecuting Attorney
County of Kauai

House Committee on Judiciary

Tuesday, February 25, 2014
2:00 p.m., Room 325

Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Har, and Committee Members:

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Kauai submits the following testimony in **support** of H.B. 2183, Relating to the Penal Code.

African elephants are presently nearing extinction. The global trade in ivory is already an illicit activity, and the trade in Hawaii is in furtherance of illicit activity not currently addressed in our penal code. This bill rectifies that shortcoming.

For these reasons, we **support** H.B. 2183 as written. We ask the Committee to **pass** the bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Respectfully,

Justin F. Kollar
Prosecuting Attorney
County of Kaua'i



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES



HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL

**TO: Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Har
House Judiciary Committee
February 25, 2014, 200pm, Rm 325**

FROM: Inga Gibson, Hawaii Director, The Humane Society of the United States-Humane Society International and on behalf of the following organizations;

ACE Foundation (Hong Kong), Animal Welfare Institute, Annamiticus, Care for the Wild International, Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, Elephant Advocacy, Elephants DC, Hong Kong for Elephants, Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), Pro Wildlife, Shark Allies, The Humane Society of Canada, Wild Aid, WildLifeRisk (Hong Kong)

RE: STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2183, Relating to the Penal Code; Sale of Ivory; Elephants

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)-Humane Society International urge the Committee's support for HB 2183, which would prohibit any person from importing, selling, offering to sell, or possessing with intent to sell, any ivory product (teeth or tusks) from any species of wildlife.

This measure is in response to *S.C.R. 149 that unanimously passed the Hawaii Legislature in 2013*. The Resolution asked Hawaii residents and businesses not to buy or sell ivory of unknown origin. Unfortunately, despite notice being provided to retailers, Hawaii continues to sell ivory of unknown and likely illegal origin, and without any documentation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

To summarize, it is legal to import, export and sell on the United States domestic market certain types of elephant ivory depending on the age of the ivory, the date the ivory was acquired or imported, and whether the ivory is from an Asian or African elephant. These variables are difficult for the public to comprehend and difficult for authorities to implement and enforce.

The difficulty of enforcing these laws cannot be overlooked. Ivory is a term that can refer to the tusks of Asian or African elephants, or the tusks of extinct mammoths (dug up from the frozen tundra of Siberia or Alaska), or the teeth of hippos, walrus, sperm whale, narwhal, warthog or boar. Only experts, using special equipment, can tell the difference between Asian and African elephant tusks, between elephant and mammoth tusks, or between ivory tusks and the teeth of other species. Even then, it is not always possible to tell the difference between ivories of these

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

closely related species. The fact that ivory carvings can be made from other mammals, including extinct ones that are not regulated by international or domestic law, offers an easy means for smugglers to get around legal requirements by simply claiming elephant ivory carvings to be those of another species. As an example of the enforcement problems, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) seized ivory carvings being imported from Hong Kong. The subject was importing 56 ivory carvings (mainly “netsukes” which are small ivory carvings of animals or people) in his baggage, and told the Wildlife Inspector that they were all mammoth ivory and did not require a permit. He had receipts from Hong Kong shops where he had purchased the items, stating that they were “mammoth tusk carvings.”

The carvings were sent to the USFWS National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory to be tested. Out of the 55 carvings tested, ten were made from ivory from African or Asian elephants (these items were seized), while another 6 carvings were made from ivory from extinct mammoths or mastodons. However, the majority of the carvings could not be determined with accuracy to be either elephant ivory or the ivory from mammoths. In fact, 29 carvings were made from “elephant ivory of an indeterminate source.” Furthermore, ten of the carvings were found to be “carvings made from dentine (ivory) of an indeterminate source,” presumably meaning that it could not be determined even which type of animal the ivory originated from. If one of the most advanced wildlife forensics laboratories in the world has difficulty distinguishing between ivories, and thus between potentially legal or illegal items, it is almost impossible to expect the average ivory buyer to be able to do so. The only logical conclusion, therefore, is that the sale of all ivory items must be prohibited in order to halt the increased poaching of elephants.

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

This investigation also found:

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

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

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

- 24,004 ivory items were found in 657 outlets in sixteen towns and cities visited in the United States. Hawaii is the third largest retail ivory retail market in the United States after California and New York. The United States has the second largest ivory retail market in the world after China/Hong Kong, as determined by numbers of items seen for sale.
- 7,400 ivory items, or nearly one-third of the total, appeared to have been crafted after 1989, making their importation illegal. Inspection of pieces (mainly of Chinese origin) in shops suggested that many figurines, netsukes and jewelry items were recently made. Some African items also looked recently made.
- The United States legally imported some 3,530 tusks and about 2,400 raw ivory pieces between 1990 and 2005 and some of this material was illegally sold into the commercial market.
- Over 40,000 worked ivory items, excluding personal effects, were legally imported to the United States from 1995-2007. Previous studies found that ivory workshops in Asia and Africa produce fake antiques. Thus, even the imported worked ivory into the United States that seems old could be recently made.
- Federal and state authorities rarely inspect shops or Internet sites for illegal raw or worked ivory.
- Some contraband gets past Customs and there are no effective internal ivory transport and retail market controls.

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

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

⁴ See footnote 1.

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

Hawaii has long been a thriving hub of commerce and tourism between the Asia Pacific region and the United States mainland. Our close proximity to Asia also provides a convenient route for illegal wildlife to be trafficked into our State. As the 2008 and 2013 surveys demonstrated, a staggering percentage of ivory items for sale in Hawaii came from illegal or unknown origins. HB 2183 would end our state's participation in the brutal ivory trade and would establish Hawaii as the national and global leader in protecting elephants.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB2183

February 25, 2014

**Testimony from Born Free USA's CEO, Adam Roberts
To the House Judiciary Committee
In Support of H.B. 2183, to Ban the Sale of Ivory in Hawaii**

On behalf of Born Free USA, I would like to express my firm support of Representative Karl Rhoads' bill, H.B. 2183, to ban the sale of ivory in Hawaii. The elephant poaching crisis has become increasingly severe over the past several years, creating a desperate and urgent need for legislative solutions such as this one. Unfortunately, the U.S. is the second largest ivory market in the world, and we cannot afford to wait any longer to take action.

Bloody Ivory

The ivory trade is, and always has been, a bloody business: entire elephant herds, matriarchal groups including grandmothers, mothers, daughters, granddaughters, gunned down to satisfy global demand. It is estimated that more than 76,000 elephants have been poached since January 2012 (possibly an underestimate), and the elephant killing fields of the 1970s and 1980s appear to have returned.

Reports out of Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe reveal that hundreds of elephants have been poisoned with cyanide for their ivory. Elephants are being poached in Kenya's Maasai Mara game reserve and 30 or more elephants may be poached daily in Tanzania.

And where elephant carcasses are not telling the story, ivory seizures surely are. Just this year, more than 1,000 elephant tusks were seized in Hong Kong, having been shipped in a container sent from Nigeria; more than 700 pieces of ivory and whole tusks were uncovered in Malawi in the back of a truck, hidden under bags of cement; and 259 tusks were uncovered by customs agents in Dubai, in a container marked "wooden furniture." Additional shocking quantities of seized ivory can be found at www.bloodyivory.org.

Africa's elephant population of 1.3 million was more than cut in half before the 1989 "uplisting" of all populations to Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which cut off all ivory trade that was primarily commercial. But, pressure from southern African countries to weaken this ban succeeded starting in 1997, and led to stockpile sales of ivory from Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. As a result, the global ivory marketplace was perceived to be open for business once again, and poachers and profiteers have leapt into action ever since in anticipation that they would once again be able to profit from dead elephants—and they were right.

U.S. Ivory Crush

On November 14, 2013, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sent a global message that ivory belongs to elephants, and that it would put its confiscated ivory permanently out of reach by smashing it to pieces. I attended the U.S. ivory crush in Denver, Colorado at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge. This event followed in the footsteps of similar symbolic destructions in Kenya, Gabon, and the Philippines.

This event featured the destruction of six tons of elephant ivory seized by dedicated U.S. wildlife law enforcement agents over more than two decades. Huge tusks—some raw, some carved; walking canes with ivory handles, ivory inlays; statues spread out across a long table, intricately carved, and some, with deadly irony, depicting elephant images; and a glass box brimming with jewelry: ivory necklaces, ivory bracelets, ivory earrings.

Each piece of ivory, large or small, worked or not, was bloody ivory. Each piece represented a loss of life, the slaughter of an innocent symbol of the African savannah, the African forest, or the Asian forest. Pile after pile of the ivory was loaded into a giant rock crusher and pulverized with a jarring sound.

Speaking at the ceremonial destruction of this pricey wildlife contraband, Dan Ashe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director, noted that the “lifeless pile of ivory represents thousands of slaughtered elephants,” and he referred to the smuggled ivory as little more than an “emblem of greed and callous indifference.”

The ivory crush was not only a message about crushing ivory and destroying its value. The ivory crush was about crushing elephant poaching, wildlife trafficking, and all of the destructive practices that threaten wild animal species across the globe.

Cynicism and solutions

Surprisingly, the U.S. ivory crush—a dramatic symbolic gesture meant to send a powerful global message—has been met with some criticism. Some likened the ivory crush to prohibition, suggested that the U.S. government should have sold the ivory to “legitimate ivory interests,” and claimed that taking ivory off the market increases its profitability since the merchandise becomes more scarce.

These same concerns may be naively applied to A. 2183, but this self-interested perspective blithely ignores conservation history, and the fact that the loss of half of Africa’s elephants came during a time when elephant ivory could be sold in a so-called regulated trade. Giving a value to ivory makes it acceptable; making it acceptable makes it marketable; making it marketable makes it profitable; making it profitable means slaughtered elephants. After the 1989 ban on ivory sales, ivory became taboo, markets evaporated, prices decreased, and elephant populations stabilized.

It is this vicious supply and demand cycle that requires a state legislative solution. If we prohibit the trade of ivory in Hawaii, the supply will evaporate, and with it, the acceptance of this material and also the demand for it.

Before the ivory crush began, Director Ashe asked whether we would be “witness or solution to this ecological disaster.” With the fate of the world’s elephants once again uncertain, with poaching escalating and becoming increasingly militarized, and with ivory moving to America, Malaysia, and China, we have no choice but to all be part of the solution. All ivory is bloody ivory, and our children deserve a future in which elephants are safe in the wild.

I sincerely hope that the Judiciary Committee, and then both the House and the Senate of Hawaii, vote in favor of this crucial piece of legislation. A. 2183 could herald a shift in the way the states of this nation deal with the ivory trade, and help to bring much-needed relief to the ravaged elephant populations of the world.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Adam M. Roberts

Chief Executive Officer, Born Free USA

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Dear Sirs,

Good evening. Thank you Representative Rhods for your hard work in sponsoring HB2183.

As you know, Ivory is the outcome of relentless poaching of African elephants, which also supports terrorist activities. Please put an end to the trade and importation of ALL ivory in and to Hawaii. Please support HB2183.

This effort by the HSUS and the state of Hawaii to end the ivory trade is a landmark movement. Hawaii has always been a progressive and compassionate state, and I urge you to take the lead in ending the ivory trade immediately.

Thank you very much for your time and all the work you do for citizens in your state and all over the world.

Sincerely,

Heidi Osterman
Clarksville, MD



TO: Honorable Chair Rhoads and Vice-Chair Har
FROM: Elly Pepper, Wildlife Advocate, Natural Resources Defense Council
DATE: February 24, 2014
RE: Support for HB 2183 – House Judiciary Committee Hearing on 2/25 at 2pm

On behalf of our 1.3 million members and activists, including more than 2,500 in Hawaii, we are writing to urge the House Judiciary Committee to support HB 2183, which would prohibit the importation, sale, offer for sale, and possession with intent to sell, of any ivory product (teeth or tusks) from any species of wildlife. The Natural Resources Defense Council is a national not-for-profit environmental organization.

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 A dramatic and likely catastrophic example is the sharp rise in poaching of black rhino for Asian traditional medicines, which has played a huge role in reducing populations from several hundred thousand to around 4,838 and led to the extinction of the West African subspecies in 2013.² The trade in tiger bones for Chinese medicine, along with other factors, has reduced tiger populations by 97% from about 100,000 at the turn of the 20th century to 3,200 today, with three subspecies (Bali, Javan, and Caspian) driven to extinction by the 1980s, and one – the Sumatran tiger – with only 400 remaining individuals.³

As these cases and others have shown, the rarer a species gets, the more people desire them due to the economic and psychological values they attach to rarity—something a 2006 study referred to as the anthropogenic Allee effect.⁴ According to this study, as long as there is a positive correlation between a species' rarity and its value, and the market price exceeds the cost of harvesting a species, harvesting will cause further declines, making species even rarer and more expensive, which in turn stimulates even more harvesting until there's nothing left.⁵ Since buyers are willing to pay any price to obtain these status symbols (e.g., \$22,000 per pound of rhino

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

² World Wildlife Fund, Black rhinoceros, http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/endangered_species/rhinoceros/african_rhinos/black_rhinoceros/; IUCN Red List, www.iucnredlist.org.

³ World Wildlife Fund, Tiger Population, http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/endangered_species/tigers/about_tigers/tiger_population/.

⁴ Franck Courchamp, et al., *Rarity value and species extinction: The anthropogenic Allee effect*. PLoS Biology 4(12): e415 (2006).

⁵ Id.; see also Liza Gross, *A Human Taste for Rarity Spells Disaster for Endangered Species*. PLoS Biology 4(12) (2006), doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.0040439.

horn; \$1,300 per pound of ivory), the market price typically covers the cost of harvesting. This is particularly true for species whose parts are actually being used as luxury items, like elephants and rhinos, since the buyer's entire reason for purchasing them is to display wealth and/or social status. The rarer the item, the more expensive it becomes, and the more prestige the buyer gains by acquiring it.⁶

This is exactly what has happened with elephant ivory. As demand for ivory has boomed over the past five years, ivory prices have skyrocketed. This is particularly true in China where the market for illegal ivory has accelerated at the same time that household consumption expenditure (i.e., amount spent on goods and services per household) has increased. Between 2002 and 2004, the wholesale price paid by carvers and ivory processors for illegal raw ivory doubled (from \$150 to \$350 per kilogram); and it doubled again between 2005 and 2010 (to \$750 per kilogram).⁷ As prices have increased, so has poaching, with an estimated 30,000 elephants killed in 2012.⁸

While the general public seems aware of the huge role Chinese demand for elephant ivory has played in elephant poaching and the illegal ivory trade, many don't realize that the U.S. also contributes significantly to this problem as the world's second largest retail market for ivory.⁹ Indeed, the most recent ivory survey of the U.S., conducted in 2008, found 24,004 ivory items for sale in 657 outlets in 16 towns and cities across the U.S.¹⁰

Hawaii is one of the epicenters of the U.S. market, as the third largest ivory market in the country following New York and California. The 2008 ivory survey found 23 outlets – mainly antique shops and tourist markets (i.e., conglomerations of stalls, kiosks or shops in a large open area or multi-story building) – selling 1,867 ivory items on Oahu.¹¹ The vast majority of the items for sale were jewelry (80%), followed by netsukes (12%), human figurines (4%), animal figurines (<1%), and chopsticks (<1%).¹² Almost 90% of the ivory items for sale in Hawaii were likely imported illegally or are of unknown origin.¹³ In other words, almost 90% or 1,478 ivory items could have been from recently killed elephants. Further, according to the Humane Society of the United States, Hawaii has what is likely the largest online ivory marketplace in the country, with seven major retail outlets on the internet offering, combined, approximately 1,153 ivory objects for sale, all of which could very well be illegal.

⁶ *Rarity Value*, *supra* note 4.

⁷ CITES Secretariat, *Elephant Conservation, Illegal Killing and Ivory Trade*, at 13, SC62 Doc. 46.1 (Rev. 1) (2012), <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/62/E62-46-01.pdf>.

⁸ CITES, IUCN & TRAFFIC, *Status of African elephant populations and levels of illegal killing and the illegal trade in ivory: A report to the African Elephant Summit* (2013), https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/african_elephant_summit_background_document_2013_en.pdf.

⁹ Esmond Martin & Daniel Stiles, *Ivory Markets in the USA*, at 5 (2008), <http://www.savetheelephants.org/files/pdf/publications/2008%20Martin%20&%20Stiles%20Ivory%20Markets%20in%20the%20USA.pdf>; UNEP, TRAFFIC, CITES & IUCN, *Elephants in the Dust: The African Elephant Crisis*, at 65 (2013), http://www.cites.org/common/resources/pub/Elephants_in_the_dust.pdf.

¹⁰ Martin & Stiles, *supra* note 9, at 5; *see also* Humane Society of the United States, *An Investigation of Ivory Markets in the United States*, at 6 (2002), http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/Ivory_Trade_Report.pdf.

¹¹ Martin & Stiles, *supra* note 9, at 93.

¹² *Id.* at 94.

¹³ *Id.*

The vast majority of ivory in Hawaii comes from China, where the number of registered ivory factories and ivory retail outlets has risen.¹⁴ The 2008 survey found that of the 1,317 ivory items in Hawaii that could be attributed to place of manufacture, 73% were from China. Ivory is smuggled to the U.S. illegally by individuals and via shipping carriers.¹⁵ Most packages containing ivory are not marked as required by federal laws, but are instead mislabeled as “crafts” or “bone.”¹⁶ Much of the ivory coming to the U.S. is purchased illegally over the Internet, often from sites based in China.¹⁷ Ivory also enters the U.S. by falsely claiming to meet U.S. import exceptions.¹⁸

Currently, Hawaii’s ivory law – which allows sales if the ivory was imported before 1989 or is at least 100 years old at the time of import and has not been altered since – mirrors federal law, which the federal government has recognized is riddled with loopholes that make it extremely difficult to enforce. Indeed, President Obama recently acknowledged the many problems with the federal structure for regulating ivory by proposing to amend federal rules and regulations, including banning all commercial imports of elephant ivory.¹⁹ However, the federal government’s initiative leaves some room for trade to occur—particularly in the intrastate market. Therefore, states must compliment the federal government’s efforts by enacting their own bans.

HB 2183 will close the loopholes created by the exceptions to current Hawaii law, drastically curbing Hawaii’s involvement in the ivory trade. By ending the antique and pre-1989 exceptions, sellers will no longer be able to pretend that their ivory is old when it is actually from recently poached elephants. Further, by banning all types of ivory, sellers will be unable to claim that the ivory comes from a legal source of ivory, and is thus legal, when it is actually from elephants. The fact that HB 2183 is a permanent ban ensures that we will not have to revisit this issue in the future. Lastly, the increased penalties proscribed in HB 2183 for those who violate Hawaii’s ivory law will act as a deterrent for wildlife traffickers.

To be one of the first states in the country with a strong ivory law would be a huge achievement for Hawaii, allowing the state to be seen as a leader on ending the poaching crises, which is currently garnering a great deal of attention both domestically and internationally. For these reasons, and those outlined above, we respectfully encourage you to support HB 2183. Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

¹⁴ *Elephants in the Dust*, *supra* note 9, at 63; HSUS, *supra* note 10, at 1.

¹⁵ Esmond Martin, *Are we winning the case for ivory substitutes in China*, *Pachyderm*, 40: 88-100 (2006).

¹⁶ Environmental Investigations Agency, *Made in China* (2007), <http://eia-global.org/news-media/made-in-china-how-chinas-illegal-ivory-trade-is-causing-a-21st-century-afri>.

¹⁷ Doug Williamson, *The Status of the U.S. Trade in Elephant and Hippo Ivory*, at 4, 26 (2004), http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/425/files/original/Tackling_the_Ivories.pdf?1345757077.

¹⁸ Martin & Stiles, *supra* note 9, at 18.

¹⁹ White House, Fact Sheet: 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>.

Ivory comes from elephants that are illegal to kill, making ivory itself illegal. Also, we're losing wildlife at a rate that is hard to comprehend. The ALOHA SPIRIT that our state considers its "Primary Unwritten Law" definitely has no room for illegal ivory from slaughtered elephants. Let's step up to the plate and, Show Our Aloha and STOP this greed based practice.... Malama Pono

Woody Adamz

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

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A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Jamie Watkins
U.S.A.

Sent from my iPad

HB2183

Submitted on: 2/22/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Aloha, Please do all you can to protect the elephants. These great creatures are endanger of extinction, let Hawaii do what it can for them. These beautiful creatures are worth more alive than dead, if only the takers would realize this. Humans pay big money to travel to exotic locations, like Africa & Hawaii to view life in it natural habitat. Creating far more revenue for their economy in the long run. Mahalo,

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

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

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. I thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

Please support HB2183! Ivory is primarily the outcome of poaching, the unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching also sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the Humane Society of the United States to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a top ivory market in the United States, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes. The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore, is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1,000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

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A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world, and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the United States must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the Humane Society of the United States for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,

Vanessa Carbia

To:

JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

reprhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Hawaii is such a beautiful location. Although I have never been, my friend went for years as part of a family vacation and my sister attended the University of Hawaii. I would love to visit some day!

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,

Lee Ann McIndoo,
147 Deer lake Road, R.R.#2,
Port Sydney, Ontario,
CANADA, POB 1L0

I STRONGLY URGE you to SUPPORT HB2183 to Protect ELEPHRFRIENDS!!!

I am beyond shocked to know that Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation. Tens of thousands of Elephants are murdered EVERY YEAR for their tusks....and for what??? for human greed!!!!

Ivory belongs on the ELEPHANTS, NOT humans!!!!

These highly intelligent, sentient beings should not be Murdered for human vanity!!!

Current federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

PLEAAAAASE do the right thing and Support HB2183 To Protect these magnificent living beings!!!!

Mahalo for your time,

Tina Bounds

Dear Judiciary Committee Members, Thank you so much for your service.

I sincerely ask you to please support HB2183, to prohibit the sale of ivory. Please help these beautiful magnificent, yet vulnerable creatures. They nurture, care for, communicate, and protect their own much like we do, yet they are no match for man's cruelty and greed. The elephants need our protection. We must speak up for their welfare or within a little over a decade they will be gone forever. Please. Let the State of Hawaii do what is pono and be brave enough to upset some (those who feel they would suffer financially) in order to protect those that cannot protect themselves.

On behalf of the elephants and myself, Mahalo.

Stephanie Tapia
3317 Hoolulu Street
Honolulu, HI 96815

--

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well.

We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183!

In deep gratitude for your courage and compassion for the Elephant and the people of Africa.

Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183.

Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching and the unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an *end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.*

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes.

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includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, *I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii, by ending the trade and importation of ivory (raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.*

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Patricia Joanides

Woodacre, CA 94973 USA

*If we have no peace it is because we have forgotten
that we belong to each other. ~ Mother Teresa*

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Luise Frech
Germany

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade

immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.
Helena D'Agostino
PO Box 4206
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

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Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Stephen Ceacle
Los Angeles, California USA

--

There is no such thing as an off-duty Cop!

February 22, 2014

To: Committee on Judiciary

From: Shanelle Gomes-McEnroe

Regarding to: Bill H.B. No. 2163 H.D.1, Relating to parental parity.

My name is Shanelle Gomes-McEnroe and I am a student in the Bachelor's degree Social Work program at University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am writing in support of Bill H.B. No. 2163 H.D.1 relating to parental parity.

As a parent of a young child and a child of separated parents I, I understand the need as well as the importance of how beneficial it is for a child to have both parents in their life equally to support their growth and well-being. I believe that when parenting is delegated to a mother only, it leaves a children feeling like they have an absent father, or often missing their father causing them a sense of lost that could affect their physiological and social well-being.

In addition to further support this bill in a study done by the Oregon State Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC) called Parental Evolvment workgroup they investigated local and national trends regarding best interest standards for children of separated parents, it was found that "parenting time decisions impact children and families for the rest of their lives, often influencing future inter-generational patterns" (SFLAC).

I agree with H.B. No. 2163 H.D.1 that a shared parenting schedule would maintain as well as strengthen a child-father relationship as well as increase the emotional stability of a child growing up with separated parents. I also believe that having the support of two parents would built greater self-esteem among youth causing them to do better in their everyday life, as well as promoting positive decision making.

Thank You for your time and reading my testimony.

Shanelle Gomes-McEnroe

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. I grew up coming to Hawaii every summer as my Dad taught at the University, and I love it so much. I send my thanks to Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183!

Mahalo nui loa. PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183.

Ivory is tied to poaching. I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is with much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
sonia aggarwal

Dear Sirs,

We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa: Poaching kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day.

The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years.

Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I ask that Aloha state does the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,

Nigel Goodman | Director | Gaea Pharma | Manchester | Moscow | **M: +49 151 51 11 19 31** | E: ngg@gaea.co.uk
| www.gaea.co.uk

We need you to support this bill banning the sale of ivory! Killing animals for their teeth is barbaric! Let's have aloha for elephants.

Rosemary Karlsson
PO Box 492266
Keaau, HI 96749
808-966-6589

Dear Sir,

Following up from my initial letter, I would like to thank Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for sponsoring HB2183 for hearing and which is up for a vote on Tuesday the 25th.

It is surprising to many that Hawaii is the second largest retailer of ivory in the U.S. As you are well aware with the continuing mass slaughter of elephants across Africa, this iconic species is on the fast track to extinction. As the alarming numbers of elephants being poached by organized global crime syndicates hits news headlines continually, it's becoming global consenous that the only way to safeguard the world's remaining elephants is to have a *unilateral ban on all trade in illegal elephant ivory* which will in turn abate the destruction of local communities, especially those whose economies depend on tourism, and will also counter the alarming revelation that the billions of dollars illegal wildlife trafficking is funding terrorism in Africa which also makes it a national security issue. By passing this bill into law, Hawaii tightens the loopholes in this illicit trade and becomes part of the global leaders in elephant conservation.

Thank you again, for your time and efforts, as well as those of HSUS's initiative on this critical issue to help end the illicit trade in elephant ivory.

Mahalo,

Kindest regards,

Penelope Wells
Anchorage AK
907 602-5783

P.S. altho. I reside in Alaska, I have and will continue to spend wonderful vacations in your warm and welcoming Aloha state.

Aloha Committee Members,

The purpose of this brief communication is to respectfully yet seriously request your support for HB 2183 to ban ivory sales in Hawaii as per the specifics of the proposed legislation. It is simply shameful what is happening to the elephants of the world, embarrassingly and disturbingly so. I strongly support this bill and sincerely hope that you will as well.

Respectfully and with aloha,
Patrick Linton
96743

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

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PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Patricia Howitt
Castro valley, CA

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Best regards,

Paul Fusch
California, USA

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.
Monica Collins
San Ramon, CA USA

Dear Sirs,

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Lois Meredith, Ph.D.

Please please please act now to help stop elephant killings. It's time for us all to start thinking how we can do the most good to create a kinder, more just and humane world for all of us -- people, animals, the earth.

I have worked with elephants up close in a sanctuary in Thailand. I have seen their relationships with each and their babies, so similar to humans. You have the power to stop the tragedy of their senseless and cruel deaths.

Thank you, I am counting on you to support this bill.

Linda Leveen

--

“In fact, if one person is unkind to an animal it is considered to be cruelty, but where a lot of people are unkind to animals, especially in the name of commerce, the cruelty is condoned and, once large sums of money are at stake, will be defended to the last by otherwise intelligent people.”

– Ruth Harrison, *Animal Machines*

Please help to protect these incredible creatures and let them keep their ivory and their life. They are such family oriented animals, they are smart, emotional {they cry} please use all your clout and anything else it takes to outlaw ivory, save these guys from cruelty and death.

much aloha in advance

carol chang

Dear Sirs and Ladies -

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. I thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

I just returned from a wonderful week in Maui. But I avoided shopping because I could not bear the thought of encountering a gift shop that sold ivory items, knowing that an elephant was greedily slaughtered for someone's souvenirs..

That is why I'm asking you to PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco, which is where I live.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

I am confident that Hawaii -- a compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people -- will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,

Kristie Eugene
177 Chattanooga St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

I am writing to support Hawaii State Bill 2183 banning ivory. Every ivory trinket or statue represents a dead elephant. An African elephant is killed every 15 minutes for its tusks. At this rate the African elephant will be extinct in 10 years. In addition to this tragedy it is well documented that the funds raised by poaching elephants are being used to fund terrorist groups. I am hopeful that Hawaii State Bill 2183 will be passed.

Linda Allan

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I would like to thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory being now the outcome of the unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching also sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Among the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

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A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Marilyn Coussoule
Lanesboro, MA USA

Dear Members of the House of Representatives,

Aloha, I hope this finds each of you well. I write to request your support of HB2183, which prohibits any person, firm, partnership, or corporation from importing, selling, offering to sell, or possessing with intent to sell any ivory product. Ivory is largely the outcome of poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching also sponsors terrorism. I urge the committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory in and to the state of Hawaii.

I hold Hawaii in the highest regard. I have visited this paradise regularly, both for business (I am a medical director for a medical device company - Covidien GI Solutions) and for pleasure. It's been a long standing tradition for my extended family to visit the islands together every couple of years or so; most recently it was Maui in May 2013. Over the course of my life, I'd estimate I've visited the islands between 10-15 times. I've traveled rather extensively and I can truly say that Hawaii is one of my favorite places on the earth, absolutely magical and stunningly beautiful with warm people. On the other side of the equation, I am an animal lover with the utmost respect and reverence for elephants, acknowledging their intelligence, complex social structures, and key contributions to ecosystems. There is no reason that a place as amazing and pristine as Hawaii should be sullied by the ivory trade and the suffering, cruelty, and corruption that lies behind it.

As such, it is with much aloha that I support this effort to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" US ivory market, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco. To that end, I'd like to extend a warm thanks to Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183.

Thank you very much for addressing this important issue; please support HB2183

Mahalo nui loa,
Jennifer Marler

143 28th St.
San Francisco, CA 94131
USA

A heartfelt thanks to Representative Rhoads for his efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Sincerely,

Nicke Mecaskey Hetzel

Plano, TX 75093 USA

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa. This is a world problem and I am writing to you from the United Kingdom to urge you to do the right thing and protect the precious remaining elephants.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly

Joanne Smith
31 Holly Avenue
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 2PU
England

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Best,

Jenny Casares
California, USA

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in my state, the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I am a resident of both Hawaii and California and I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

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A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident that my state, the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, we of the the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Rosemary Alles
PO Box 1430
Kamuela, HI 96743

&&

Software Engineer
NASA/SOFIA Mission
Mountain View
CA 94040

Dear Sirs,

First, I sincerely thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! I am a Mom of two beautiful girls, age 5 and 1/2. I deeply concerned about the devastating global ivory trade and the current decimation of the earth's wondrous elephants.

I implore you to **PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183!** The United States must stop our participation in the horrific ivory trade. The ivory trade not only kills 100 elephants per day, but also sponsors terrorism! It is truly a genocide of another species and, if the slaughter does not stop, the elephants will be gone from this earth by the time my girls graduate from high-school.

Hawaii can be true a leader here, true champions, true heroes, for all children, for the people of Africa, and for the world, by passing HB2183 without hesitation! Please do the right thing by the earth's last elephants. Children deserve to grow up in a world with elephants - we teach our children that "E is for Elephant", not Extinction.

Elephants are profoundly deserving our greatest protection and our greatest admiration.

I thank you for your time and your efforts and I thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Warmest regards,

*Barbara Peterson
Westwood, New Jersey
201.722.2814 (h) 201.602.4311 (c)*

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Carol Nash

USA -California

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

NICOLE SCHRANK

Dear Sirs,

I have traveled in the African countries and seen these amazing animals, these elephants that are being poached.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is the outcome of unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is established that poaching sponsors terrorism. I urge your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory in and to the state of Hawaii. I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism. The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000 plus rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism, which includes the Westgate mall attack in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii. The Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Riess, Berkeley, California

Suzanne Riess

700 The Alameda
Berkeley CA 94707

Thank you Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for sponsoring this excellent bill for holding the hearing.

- Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentient animals.

- Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks (teeth). Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in the near future at the current rate of killing of 96 killed per day - that's 1 every 15 minutes.

- Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

I greatly appreciate and support your excellent work!

Sincerely,

Helen LeBrecht

coeur3@mac.com

I am writing to request that you support HB2183, and protect elephants.

Thank you,

Margaret Sueoka
6295 Olohena Road
Kapaa, HI 96746

It is critical that HB2183 become law. Please vote in favor of this groundbreaking legislation that will put Hawaii in the forefront of the fight against elephant poaching.

--

Hale Anderson

310-597-8078

hale1005@gmail.com

High Definition Video Production

www.featurefactoryhd.ne

I am writing to ask you to ban the trade in ivory in Hawaii. Save the lives of elephants, who are intelligent beings with highly complex social lives. Please help stop the murder of elephants. Sincerely, Laurie Salen, San Francisco

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the unmitigated and relentless outcome of the senseless slaughter of tens of thousands of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Susan Corsaut-Brosz
California, USA

HB2183

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: I strongly support this measure. While we work to dilligently protect our own endangered species, it is certainly our duty to do so on a world wide basis. Nobody needs ivory; lets prohibit sale here in Hawaii. Please vote in favor. Mahalo, Mike Moran kihei

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

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

- How could you NOT?
- Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of illegal ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentient animals.
- Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks (teeth). Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in as few as 12 years due to the current rate of killing.
- Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

Dixon & Penny Smith

We DO Vote!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Eleanor Williams
United Kingdom

Please prohibit the sale of ivory in Hawaii by supporting HB2183.
It is incredulous that humans can kill such a majestic animal or any animal for material gain.
Thank you for your consideration.

Diane Endo
625-6525

Sent from my iPad

As a Kama'aina for the past 40 years, I can personally provide Testimony both as a long-time Hawaii resident and as one who had purchased Ivory products not knowing/realizing the fatal circumstances of elephants--Now with education from The Humane Society of the United States I must urge your support of HB 2183. Prior to this education I did not know that removing the tusk of an elephant was fatal/death to that elephant--in my naivete and lack of education/information I purchased ivory bracelets, necklaces and I so regret this very selfish act.

Much appreciation to HSUS in initiating and presenting this crucial Bill for consideration and your support in passing. Again Please Support HB 2183 as I am sure that so many if not most citizenry are not aware of the killing and poaching of elephants in this Brutal, Greedy trade in Ivory.

Mahalo and Aloha,
Erna Lund
P.O.Box 20807
Seattle,WA 98102
ernalund@yahoo.com

Dear Sirs,

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes. The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore, is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

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PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183, and I thank you for your time and effort, and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Nancy Marx Schubarth
1318 The Alameda, Apt. 348
San Jose, CA 95126
(408) 201-2648

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Lilly Kohler
Bad reichenhall
Germany

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Anna Battersby
London, United Kingdom

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,

Amala Kohler
Germany

HB2183

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183! Dear Sirs, Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa. PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii. It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco. I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone. It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya. A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii. As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately. I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue. Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

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HB2183

Submitted on: 2/22/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183; to prohibit the sale of Ivory. Thank you, Lynne wood

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to respectfully request that you support HB2183 to protect these magnificent, intelligent animals, the elephants, from the savagery they suffer at the hands of those profiteering from the sale of ivory. Efforts at education alone have not succeeded, and sadly will not alone be enough; only an outright ban on the purchase and sale of ivory can put a dent in the continual butchery.

Thank you for considering my plea.

Aloha,

Alice Saul
Honolulu, Hawaii
Bus: (808) 949-2511
Res: (808) 395-0121

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue. Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Bodhi Kohler
Germany

Hello,

I would like to thank Karl Rhoads, the sponsor of HB 2183. I would very much love to see Hawaii put an end to the trade of elephant ivory. Elephants are on the edge of extinction and they need all of our help. I have great hope that Hawaii will do what it takes to keep these animals from their demise. Illegal ivory is unfortunately also involved in the terrorist world, where ivory is used to trade for weapons.

I am not a resident of Hawaii, but have vacationed for years on the islands of Maui and Kauai; since I was 6! I love your state and hope to continue to visit for many years to come. Please do Hawaii proud by passing this most important bill.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sally Peterson
Pacific Grove, California

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Andrea Glass
San Francisco, CA 94131

HB2183

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Robinson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Kristin Dodds
San Francisco, CA USA

HB2183

Submitted on: 2/22/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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Dear Sirs,

Aloha! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

As a long time resident of Hawaii, I urge you to PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent WestGate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

We are privileged to live in such a compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people. I am confident our Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and our beautiful people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, our Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Much Aloha,
Cindy Walker
Haiku, Hawaii
USA

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. I thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa. I visited your wonderful big island in 2005 and I thought it was heaven on earth! Seeing you make this big step in the effort to save elephants has made me love Hawaii even more and I hope to visit again soon!

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Judith Reynolds
24648 Thomas Ave.
Hayward, Ca. 94544

I am writing in support of the bill to ban ivory. Having lived in Uganda for 3 years, I've had personal experience with these majestic animals. Killing them to quench the Asian thirst for beautiful carvings is wrong. I was tempted once, in the old Zaire, to buy a beautiful ivory necklace. It was so cheap, but I knew it was wrong, and would not feel into that mentality. Many do not think as I do. Cutting off the market is the only way to stop this market. Please support the bill to end the sale of ivory.

Thank you,
Ellen Jacobs
Kealakekua, Hawaii 96750

Smile on....

Hello,

I'm writing you urge the upcoming vote on Tuesday to be one in favor of elephants. They have been poached for their ivory for years, and estimations are one dies every 15 minutes. At this rate man will be responsible for the extinction of this iconic species. The pursuit of ivory destabilizes African communities and monies fuel terrorist agendas. The worst damage is to the elephant populations themselves.

Elephants are the most sentient and emotional, and loving beasts. Their family bonds and nurturing by aunties and cousins within the herd are exemplary and honorable. Their instincts for memory and following ancient ancestral routes for water and food goes back millions of years. They are to be revered alive, not with a dead tusk as a trinket.

This past year I started knitting hats, crafting gourd birdhouses with elephant motifs, and piecing together mosaic garden stepping stones, to sell. The money generated I give to Save the Elephants and The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust. My little enterprise is Craft for Elephants, You can find and like me on facebook.

More people are coming on board, recognizing this desperate situation. La Bing Bing, a Chinese actress, and Yao Ming, a basketball star, are helping in public awareness.

Now it is Hawaii's turn to take a leadership role, in banning trade and possession of ivory. Your state could be a landmark state and set a global precedence.

The elephants don't have time for lengthy deliberations. Legislation is before you. Please act now and offer protection for elephants,

Sincerely,
Ricki Duckwall
Mt. Hood Oregon U.S.A.
[541 352 7487](tel:5413527487)

To:

JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
reprhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Betty Ottoson

To Whom It May Concern:

Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation! Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks (teeth). Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in as few as 15 years due to the current rate of killing. This is unacceptable and a true tragedy. Please pass House Bill 2183.

Thank you,
Alexis E. Jamison

I am writing in support of HB2183 to help Elephants and ban ivory trade in Hawaii. Please help halt the senseless killing and extinction of these wonderful animals simply for their teeth. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Claire Nakasue
Oahu

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

I grew up in Hawaii and went to school at Castle High School in Kaneohe. I still have many friends and family in Hawaii and we feel very passionate about this issue. Elephants are beautiful and majestic creatures, highly intelligent, and gentle giants. I cannot believe they are on the brink of extinction as I write this letter to you now. Their lives depend on our actions and our policies. Let Hawaii be a leader in taking a humanitarian stand against the frivolous and criminal acts of poaching for their ivory.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,

Bertha Braddock

San Francisco, USA (formerly Kaneohe, Hawaii)

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in support of ivory trade ban in Hawaii (HB2183). Primarily for 2 reasons:

1. The US is 2nd largest market for illegal ivory trade where illegal ivory is laundered as legal using the pre-1989 loophole. Terror groups in Africa are funding their activities using ill gotten gains from ivory trade.
2. Save the elephants from sliding into extinction. I don't want our future generations to see these majestic animals only in books and videos.

I urge the members to support this ban.

Thank you,

Abhi Kulkarni

"Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all".

Dear Sirs,

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

sincerely janet miller

Dear Sirs/Madams,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

Next week I leave on a two week vacation to the Big Island, one of several vacations spent in your beautiful land. It seems a very appropriate time to ask for your support on HB2183.

Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Donna Canali
San Francisco, California

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Lisa Kucukdogerli
California, USA

PLEASE SUPPORT hb2183 TO PROTECT ELEPHANTS: please support the bill so that it makes it illegal for all ivory to be sold in Hawaii.

We are the second largest retailer of ivory, and that is not something to be proud of. Even Prince William of England has had all ivory removed from the Buckingham, so as to make a point that it is not acceptable, even as a collector's item, whether it be old or new.

Jenny Morris

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to request that the beautiful state of Hawaii ban be the first state in the Union to draw a line in the sand and ban ivory sales -- to beckon to other states such as New York and California to follow suit.

35,000 elephants were slaughtered in Africa in 2012; it is now reported that an additional 50,000 were killed last year. This ongoing slaughter must stop or we will lose this iconic and magnificent species to extinction.

People are approaching this matter in many ways, but probably the most significant thing that can happen is to have the market dry up. The biggest culprit, by far, is China and it is critically important that the United States and its states light the way for China and other countries to follow suit.

Please vote to ban ivory sales Hawaii.

Thank you.

Donald and Lois Olmstead
3343 Huertas Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Sent from my iPad

Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentient animals. Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

Aloha,

Fawn D. Liebengood

DEAR ADVOCATES!

**WE CONTINUE TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP TO END HAWAII'S PROLIFIC
IVORY TRADE!**

URGENT UPDATE

Please Act Before Tuesday The 25th of February!

Hawaii's Ivory ban bill, HB2183 is coming up for a vote.

PLEASE SUBMIT TESTIMONY in FAVOR of HAWAII STATE BILL HB2183 BANNING IVORY. Act Now!

The bill is scheduled to be heard next Tuesday, February 25th, 2014

You must write prior to Tuesday.

House Judiciary Committee. Email:

JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Also, please Include a thanks to Judiciary Chair Karl Rhoads, the sponsor of the bill

(and note Hawaii connections, if any, in out of state testimony):

Judiciary Committee Chair Rhoads' Email:

reprhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov

You may find more information here:

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2014/hearingnotices/HEARING_JUD_02-25-14_.HTM

If you have questions, please write:

march.for elephants@gmail.com

Warmly,

March for Elephants San Francisco

~ SAMPLE LETTER BELOW ~

IF YOU HAVE A HAWAII CONNECTION - PLEASE MENTION IT. A second home, an Ohana, relatives, or even if you simply visited and loved it etc. Legislators in Hawaii love to see a Hawaii "connection".

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Doris Frisch
California

Dear Hawaii Legislators,

Greetings and Mahalo nui loa! We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183!

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Tamara Birdsall

Berkeley, CA 94702

Dear Sirs,

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critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.
Cynde Gragert
USA

Aloha,

I am asking that you please support this bill for these reasons:

~ Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation. We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentient animals.

~Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks (teeth). Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in as few as 15 years due to the current rate of killing.

~Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

The very thought that the African Elephant could become extinct is not acceptable. And all for money driven trades. We can actually do something that will affect this problem in some way, be it small or large. Please support this bill!!!!

Mahalo for your time, Mary Menacho

Good afternoon-

I first want to thank Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for sponsoring this bill and for holding the hearing.

Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentimental animals.

Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks (teeth). Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in the near future at the current rate of killing of 96 killed per day - that's 1 every 15 minutes.

Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes.

By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

PLEASE support HB 2183 - I thank you and the elephants thank you.

Thanks,

Ann Lewis

annlewis509@yahoo.com

Philadelphia, PA

END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Liora G Davis,
Plantation, Florida 33317
USA

HB2183

Submitted on: 2/23/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Biltoft	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha! The only effective way to stop the illegal ivory trade is to eliminate the market. It is virtually impossible for a non-expert to distinguish illegal/poached from legally acquired ivory. The only practical way to stop the illegal ivory trade is to ban the sale and distribution of all ivory. This should also include rhinoceros ivory, which is inadvertently omitted from HB 2183. Thank you for considering my testimony.

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

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

Dear Judiciary Committee:

First, thank you to Chair Rhoads for introducing this critical bill, at this critical time. Please, please show your *very strongest* support for HB2183, prohibiting the sale of ivory in the state of Hawaii! As someone who has volunteered yearly at an elephant sanctuary in Thailand, I know firsthand how intelligent, compassionate, and sentient elephants are. I don't want to live in a world where elephants have become extinct--what a bereft world that would be.

Hawaii can make a huge difference for elephants, by being at the forefront of laws that help stem the massacre of elephants. We did it with the Anti-Shark Finning initiative. Hawaii turns out to be, incredibly, the 2nd largest retailer of illegal ivory in the US! And it's too easy for sellers to hide behind loopholes that allow the sale of pre-1989 ivory, since no one has on site equipment to verify the age and provenance of the ivory. The only solution is to outlaw all ivory sales outright!

Reputable estimates (see iworry.org) are that one elephant is poached EVERY 15 MINUTES so his or her ivory may be cut off, sometimes while she lies dying. At this rate, elephants will be extinct in the wild in 12 years.

Please push this bill through as soon as possible! This is a critical time for elephants!

My students and I testified before the Econ. Devt and Business Committee on 2/4/14, and created a large poster and flyers to increase awareness about the horrific suffering of elephants at Humane Advocacy Day on 2/14/14. Unfortunately, the Judiciary hearing is set to conflict with our class time, or we would be there again. We'll be there in spirit.

Many thanks,

--

Victoria B. Anderson
Associate Professor of Linguistics
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
vanderso@hawaii.edu, 808-956-8602

DO the right thing

Please support HB2183 to Protect Elephants

Mahalo

Take care.

“People don’t care how much you know,
until they know how much you care”

Dennis Lubrano

PET FRIENDLY Animal Activist
Best Friends Animal Society Network
<http://network.bestfriends.org/>
Hawaii Go Local Team Leader
<http://www.bestfriends.org/>

On Facebook:

[Dennis Lubrano](#)

[Dennis Lubrano Studio](#)

[Seniors Helping Animal Rescues Everywhere](#)

[Seniors Helping Animal Rescues Everywhere BLOG](#)

[Helping Animals In Hawaii](#)

[Harley Davidson Riders Helping Animals](#)

[Helping Animals In Nevada](#)

[Helping Animals In Las Vegas](#)

[Pet Sitterz](#)

"If your Dog is Fat, You need to Exercise"

"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die, I want to go where they went."

Will Rogers

"Health is the greatest gift, contentment the greatest wealth, faithfulness the best
relationship."

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Lindsay DuRoss
USA

Dear Hawaiian Lawmakers,

Thanks so much for holding this hearing to consider banning the trade of ivory in your state! I am a New York state resident and attended the January meeting as our legislature, led by the wonderful Mr. Sweeney, carefully considered a NY ban. These are exciting times for elephant lovers (and terrorism and illegal wildlife trafficking haters!).

Hawaii-be the leader the elephant needs! Your state is beautiful and shines a spiritual light across our whole country which is why I plan to visit next year with my family. Support HB2183, an IVORY BAN IN HAWAII and set the tone for the global movement composed of millions of people calling for the immediate and permanent cession of ivory trade.

Thanks you!

Sharon Goldstein

Brookville, NY

Member, ElephantsDC

Dear Sirs,

I am a former Big Island resident (1989-1997) and still maintain personal and professional ties to the islands.

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Best regards,
Peregrine McGehee
Los Angeles, California

I SUPPORT HB2183- I have just been informed that Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! Absolutely horrible! This bill HB2183 is a landmark to show the world, we here in Hawaii stand tall to protect this already endangered species by prohibiting the sale of any parts (ivory) of this majestic beautiful creature we call the elephant. Are we humans so shamefully greedy for monies we would make this species extinct?

Respectfully Yours,

Frannie Pueo,
P.O. Box 943
Mt. View, Hi 96771

Dear Hawaii State Legislature:

I am a scientist with a Kenyan-based organization called Save The Elephants (STE), and I am writing you in regards to the new bill on ivory sales (HB2183) sponsored that promotes control of the illegal trade of ivory in Hawaii. I am grateful that this Bill will be discussed tomorrow.

I have worked with Inga Gibson of the Humane Society on the issue and SCR 149 that passed last April (2013). Incidentally, I was fortunate to still be in Hawaii during last year's legislative session because I had just ended a 5-year post working with the **Hawaiian monk seal for NOAA** before engaging in the fight to protect Africa's elephants. For my current post with STE, I work between Kenya and Seattle.

I would like to kindly encourage you to please support the passing of HB2183 on ivory sales. A new law that prohibits all domestic sales of ivory in Hawaii would be a bold move, however bold moves at this time are exactly what is needed to stamp out the current epidemic of elephant poaching and illicit ivory trafficking that continues to threaten the species with extinction in our lifetime

Though the recent announcement of tighter ivory sale restrictions by the US government are very welcomed and needed, a stricter state law in Hawaii would go above and beyond what the federal government can do with its new proposed rule that is expected to go through in June. Essentially HB2183 would effectively close any remaining loopholes that the new federal proposed rule cannot. Incidentally, Senator Sweeney in New York is also currently looking to close the same ivory sales and trafficking loopholes in his state that the Hawaii Legislature can now for Hawaii.

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

emanating principally from the Far East-- and some of these illicit trinkets and carvings appear to make it to Hawaiian shores.

While in Kenya, I also came to better appreciate that African governments cannot battle the illegal ivory trade alone—ivory-consuming nations must get tougher laws in place that are faithfully enforced. In Nairobi, where I was staying, the Westgate mall terrorist attack occurred just 5 miles down the way while I was there. Some reports indicate that the terrorist group responsible may have financed

Its operations with proceeds from ivory trafficking. As security issues dominate Kenyan politics (and that of many African nations), its important for the U.S. and other ivory consuming nations to stand together with African nations, and do their part to effect the change that is needed to protect elephants and human communities alike.

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

However, a few events in the last several weeks are encouraging that momentum is building to resolve the poaching/ivory crisis: mainland China destroyed 6 tons of stockpiled contraband ivory (6 Jan), Hong Kong just agreed to destroy its similar stockpile of 30 tons (23 Jan) and recently a Chinese national caught trafficking ivory through Kenya received the maximum sentence under Kenya's new Wildlife Law (\$230,000 USD or 7 years in prison if not paid for hiding 3.4kg of ivory in his luggage). Passing the ivory sales bill into law in Hawaii will show that the State stands strong with the elephants and African countries trying to protect their natural heritage, and will add needed momentum to turn this crisis around.

Thank you again for giving this important cause your attention and considering scheduling a hearing for HB2183.

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

Sincerely, Kathleen

Attached is a photo I took last February while still living in Hawaii of illegal ivory for sale at a Chinese New Year event in Honolulu

-- the seller at the kiosk told me that it was no problem to sell these at the time

.
Ivory tusks can only be gotten from dead elephants-- so though the carvings seem small they represent an entire life lost.

Please pass HB2183 and be a part of the preservation of these marvelous animals. This is the very least we can do and shameful if we don't.

With Hawaii being one of the main buyers it is truly our responsibility

Thank you for your attention.

Ginger Towle, President
West Hawaii Humane Society
Box 1208, Kailua-Kona, Hi 96745
808-320-2051

Aloha Members of the Committee on Judiciary. Please support HB 2183 which would prohibit the sale of ivory. Federal laws are not enough to protect elephants from being killed for their ivory. Passing this bill would make Hawaii a global leader in prohibiting the sale of ivory just as banning the sale of shark fins did. Mahalo.

Jennifer Chiwa

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Noelle L Schiller

We here in South Africa are pleading for you to ban the trade in any form in Ivory.

The animals suffer horrific deaths at the hands of poachers. Many calves are left orphaned & traumatized as these are highly intelligent & social animals. Our childrens wildlife heritage is being destroyed to supply the rest of the world with "trinkets".

Our Game Rangers are being killed in contact with the poachers who are armed with the latest in arms, leaving their families without bread winners.

Please, we beg you, ban the trade in ivory - if there is no demand - the supply will stop!

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-mail.

Mikki Hardy
37 Kirkness Road,
Pierre van Ryneveld,
Pretoria,
South Africa.

Sent from my BlackBerry® wireless device

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear friends,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Your name

Emily Goldfarb

RoadMap Co-Director

San Francisco, CA.

www.roadmapconsulting.org

415-566-5480

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Claudia Cooper CA USA

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Lindie OBrien
Canada

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Julie C Price
United Kingdom

Good afternoon- I first want to thank Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for sponsoring this bill and for holding the hearing.

Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentimental animals.

Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks (teeth). Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in the near future at the current rate of killing of 96 killed per day - that's 1 every 15 minutes.

Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes.

By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

PLEASE support HB 2183 - I thank you and the elephants thank you.

John Lewis

Producer

Nancy Glass Productions

o: 610.668.1668

f: 610.668.1687

c: 310.809.6201

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Sharon Cohen
United States

Dear Sirs and Madams,

Please support HB2183. Elephants are being slaughtered by poachers, by the thousands. Rangers trying to protect them have been murdered by the hundreds. All to get the ivory from the elephant tusks. To make carvings that are sold, to make money---many many millions of dollars, very likely being funneled to terrorists. If there were no place to sell these carvings, their value would plummet, and perhaps the elephant and those that protect them will be saved.

Hawaii, a progressive, beautiful, state could be very significant in helping to end this slaughter. Please support HB2183 to end the ivory trade immediately. I have vacationed in Hawaii twice and each time found her people, her land and her values ones to be honored. Thank you for that. I ask that you continue your progressive policies and ban the ivory trade.

All good wishes,
Kathleen Brannigan
Oakland, CA 94610

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Stacy Davis
Virginia, USA

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warm Regards,

Leah Chapman
5326 Via Carancho
San Diego, CA 92111

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly. Rachel York Bridgers
NC, USA

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I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue. Be well and Mahalo Warmly.

Haydé Ardalan

Aloha,

Mahalo to all of you for realizing the grave threat to our elephants and considering a ban on ivory. A special Mahalo to Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for holding the hearing.

My family and I visited Hawaii and enjoyed a fabulous vacation! One of the things that impressed us most about the Hawaiian culture is that the people really embrace nature and respect our mother earth!

I believe that it is our duty to protect the animals that we share our planet with and I can not imagine our earth with out our elephants. We can not turn a blind eye, or expect that someone else will take care of this problem. We all, as citizens of the earth, must come together and put a stop to the slaughter of the elephants.

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Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

Sincerely,

Kelly Brimmer

Aloha,

Please support HB2183 and prohibit the sale of ivory in the State of Hawaii.

It is not necessary to kill, cause pain and suffering to our elephants for Jewelry purposes.

The elephants can not speak for themselves and they are counting on us to look out for their well being.

Please share your Aloha Spirit and Compassion towards these innocent elephants and support HB 2183

Thank you for your kindness towards the animals, God's Creatures.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Helene Navaro

I urge your committee to pass House Bill 2183, allowing for the protection of elephants by prohibiting the sale of ivory, here in Hawaii. With Hawaii being the second largest retailer of ivory, behind New York, a clear message can be sent to the rest of the nation that we Hawaii residents are committed to the protection of the mighty elephant.

Poachers massacre elephants strictly for their ivory tusks, leaving behind thousands of carcasses and increasingly pushing this animal towards extinction. The ivory trade is directly causing this, please send a clear message that we will not tolerate this senseless killing.

Please pass HB 2183 and let us do our part to conserve this beautiful creature for future generations.

Mahalo,
TJ Dow
Honolulu

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Teresa Bradford
Oakton, VA
USA

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Jesse Allread
Auburn, CA USA

Aloha,

Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentient animals.

Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks (teeth). Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in as few as 15 years due to the current rate of killing.

Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

Mahalo nui loa for acting for animals!

Tracy Huff

Sent from Windows Mail

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Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Alicia Slavich

California

Aloha,

Mahalo to all of you for realizing the grave threat to our elephants and considering a ban on ivory. A special Mahalo to Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for holding the hearing.

My family and I visited Hawaii last summer for a special celebration and enjoyed a fabulous vacation! One of the things that impressed us most about the Hawaiian culture is that the people really embrace nature and respect our mother earth!

I believe that it is our duty to protect the animals that we share our planet with and I can not imagine our earth with out our elephants. We can not turn a blind eye, or expect that someone else will take care of this problem. We all, as citizens of the earth, must come together and put a stop to the slaughter of the elephants.

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Sincerely,

Cindy Gregory

February 24, 2014

Dear Lawmakers of Hawaii:

Hawaii has the historic opportunity to turn the tide FOR elephants in the United States of America – and around the world. The iconic, majestic, empathic and family-driven species is being slaughtered in mass at a rate of extinction of 96 per day – that's 1 killed every 15 minutes.

Please support HB2183 which would outlaw ivory trade across the beautiful Aloha state. Ivory trade in Africa and Asia has direct links to terrorists, criminal gangs, and tyrants including the brutal dictator of North Korea, Kim Jong-Un. We must turn the tide.

Elephants are the largest land mammals on the planet. They are highly intelligent, communicate sub-sonically, serve as protectors of migratory species across ecosystems, and represent rudimentary symbols of Strength, Wisdom, Family, Wonder and Friendship to children around the world.

Hawaii, for every child who learns “E” is for "Elephant" - “E” for “Elepani” - when they discover their ABCs - support HB2183.

We know that only 1 percent of the African elephant population has survived from a century ago. We know 1 elephant is killed every 15 minutes for its tusks.

We know approximately 96 elephants, sometimes far more, are killed every day to feed the \$18 billion global ivory trade. We know that legal trade has created law enforcement loopholes for illegal smugglers, poachers, and buyers.

We know after China the United States is the second largest buyer of ivory in the world - trading in both illegal and legal ivory worship. We know Hawaii is the second largest consumer of ivory after New York.

We know action in Hawaii would immediately support efforts to ban ivory trade in other states including New York, Vermont, Colorado, and New Jersey.

In 2014: the Year of the Elephant, we know that ivory comes from suffering and death at the cost of lives and price of extinction. We also know YOU can make a difference – not only for future generations and national security – but for the elephants themselves.

Please SUPPORT HB2183 and back this just and noble cause to protect elephants from extinction while defending national security by ending all ivory trade in beautiful Hawaii. Please also amend HB2183 to classify the first offense punishment for those found guilty of trading ivory punishable as a Class C Felony - not a mere misdemeanor.

We must act NOW in order to beat the rate of extinction engulfing the elephant species - from Africa to Asia as imported "products" called ivory are consumed on a global scale. The elephants don't have much longer at this rate of slaughter. We must send a clear message to the world that elephants matter, not ivory products.

Support an IVORY BAN IN HAWAII and set the tone for the global movement composed of millions of people calling for the immediate and permanent cession of ivory trade. Hawaii take the lead on this URGENT and key bipartisan issue.

Please stand with the elephants against those profiting from blatant acts of extinction. Tusks are part of living elephants. Ivory buying in 2014 perpetuates the death of the elephant species.

To promote elephant welfare Elephants DC was formed after tens of thousands of people united in cities across the world for the International March for Elephants on Oct. 4, 2013, which called on a score of governments to immediately ban ivory. National Geographic called it the first global march for another species.

Elephants DC is part of a national coalition, known as the People's Movement for Elephants, working with lawmakers on a complete federal ivory trade ban. Concurrently we believe that state leadership is essential for the elephants at this crucial juncture with the remaining herds being increasingly decimated by poachers.

Hawaii - be the leader the elephants need. Let Congress know that Hawaii takes the future existence of elephants on earth quite seriously and does so with a vested interest in our children's future and national security. SUPPORT HB2183.

Thank you.

Jen Samuel

Jen Samuel

Elephants DC, president

@elephantsdc

www.elephantsdc.org

From: lovetranscendsallboundaries@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 4:52 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

LATE TESTIMONY

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A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Casey Accardi
US, NY

har3-Micah

From: linda lembeck <kanaio@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 5:09 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Please support HB2183 to Protect Elephants

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183; to prohibit the sale of Ivory. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

LATE TESTIMONY

Linda Lembeck
H.C. 1, Box 958
Kula, HI 96790

har3-Micah

From: ashley prout <ashleyprout@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 5:15 PM
To: JUDtestimony; Rep. Karl Rhoads
Subject: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Ashley McAvey
Vermont

From: Cindy Gregory <cindyatnc@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 5:21 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Ban Ivory!!!

LATE TESTIMONY

Aloha,

Mahalo to all of you for realizing the grave threat to our elephants and considering a ban on ivory. A special Mahalo to Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for holding the hearing.

My family and I visited Hawaii last summer for a special celebration and enjoyed a fabulous vacation! One of the things that impressed us most about the Hawaiian culture is that the people really embrace nature and respect our mother earth!

I believe that it is our duty to protect the animals that we share our planet with and I can not imagine our earth with out our elephants. We can not turn a blind eye, or expect that someone else will take care of this problem. We all, as citizens of the earth, must come together and put a stop to the slaughter of the elephants.

Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentient animals. Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks. Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in the near future at the current rate of killing of 96 killed per day - that's 1 every 15 minutes.

Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

Sincerely,

Cindy Gregory

har3-Micah

From: April Hansen <blackbiba@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 5:31 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Rep. Karl Rhoads
Subject: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. I thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes. The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. We must stop this elephant genocide today before it is too late. Also, amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
April Hansen
San Francisco, CA

har3-Micah

From: Barbara Mayer <bamayer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 6:44 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Please support HB #2183!

LATE TESTIMONY

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183 to prohibit the sale of ivory!

Thank you,
Barb Mayer

--

MS; nature, science educator
20 years classroom instruction
curriculum and web author
Waimānalo, HI, USA

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 10:15 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: brendarc@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2183 on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM

HB2183

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Please support this bill. We need to stop allowing a demand for ivory. Close the loopholes that allow any ivory to be sold. Papers can be forged. Elephants cannot be brought back from extinction. If the ivory trade continues as it is (with Hawaii as the second biggest retailer in the US), elephants will be gone before 2030.

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

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

har3-Micah

From: Hema Desai <hemidesai@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 4:24 AM
To: JUDtestimony; Rep. Karl Rhoads
Subject: SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

LATE TESTIMONY

URGENT UPDATE on February 21st, 2014: OK FOLKS, YOU NEED TO ACT! Hawaii Ivory Bill HB2183 coming up for a vote.

To:
JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
reprhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly.

Mrs Hema Desai

har3-Micah

From: Spud Coolzip <spud.coolzip@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 4:27 AM
To: JUDtestimony; Rep. Karl Rhoads
Subject: SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

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As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Best regards,
Jon Wesenberg
523 S Jackson St
Batavia, IL
60510

LATE TESTIMONY

har3-Micah

From: Nancy <nancykweil@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 4:54 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Stop Ivory Trade

I hope I am not too late to plead the beautiful State of Hawaii to put a stop to the ugly trade of ivory. Hawaii of all states should be sensitive to the value of protecting the earth's species. The frivolous use of most ivory as trinkets will give us little comfort once the majestic animals are wiped out.

We enjoy traveling to Hawaii and all it's natural wonders, from the landscape to the sea life. And we always do our best to help preserve it. Please do your part to preserve our endangered wildlife.

Thank you!

Nancy Weil
Portland, Oregon

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 12:03 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2183 on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM*

LATE TESTIMONY

HB2183

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for JUD on Feb 25, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: Ginger Chock <gtchock@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 10:21 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Please support HB2183 to Protect Elephants

LATE TESTIMONY

I am in full support of this bill. Elephant poaching is a brutal, inhumane practice that is causing the world's elephant population to diminish at alarming rates. I'm shocked to learn that Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory, we are in a unique position to make positive change. I urge you to show compassion for these beautiful creatures and support this bill!

Ginger Chock

har3-Micah

From: Suyin Phillips <suyin@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 9:47 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Please support HB2183 to Protect Elephants

LATE TESTIMONY

I strongly support this bill. Elephant poaching is a brutal, inhumane practice that is causing the world's elephant population to diminish at alarming rates. I'm shocked to learn that Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory, we are in a unique position to make positive change. Please support this bill!

Suyin Phillips
Adjunct Professor
Social Sciences, Human Development
Kapi'olani Community College, University of Hawaii
Suyin@hawaii.edu

LATE TESTIMONY

PETITION for the allowing of the selling of estate Ivory (elephant, walrus, mastodon, fossil ivory, whale sperm whale, baleen, vegetable ivory, inlaid ivory on objects and musical instruments, (piano, violin, stringed bows, guitars, ukulele) and other items in the secondary market, estate, auction, art gallery, antique dealers, retailer, collectors. HAWAII SB2024 and HB2138, OBAMA ADMISTRATION

NAME ADDRESS EMAIL SIGNATURE

Booy Marie 3372 E. Mene Rd Honolulu HI 96822

Tom Cunningham 640 Poipu Dr Hanalei HI 96825

Linda Cunningham 640 Poipu Dr Hanalei HI 96825

Keith Kashi 12000 Ventura Blvd, 119

Napua Lambert 41-781 Aiea St Waimanalo

Tommy Strickland 86-275 Helene Rd 96792 strickst@gmail.com

Norman Sambata 20 321 Helene St Waimanalo HI 96792

TA CAMPBELL 2146 STAR RD HONOLULU HI 96815

John To 60 N. Bernice St #140 Honolulu HI 96817

Linda Lymbury Alii Antiqua 31 Mahanui Ave

KEALL LYN 819 Factory St Honolulu HI 96813

Alakamani T. James 822 Second St Pearl City HI 96782

Franklin Townsend P O Box 2924 Aiea

Shahar

Freida Nahapii 45-654 Pua Aloha St Ewa

Vivian Padilla 84-918 Tarantula St

John 1031 Ala Napuani St #401

Cheryl Lewis 1528 GLEN AVE WAILANA HI 96786 N/A Cheryl Lewis

Robert Johnston 2916 Date St 21-E Hono HI 96816

Charlis Lee 1122 1st Ave Hono HI 96816

Linda KAMUKAANA 10 Pua 51097 Elele HI 96705

Jon Chung 2701 Puhonua St Honolulu 96822

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Felix Navarro 45-510 Kamehameha Hwy Kaneohe navarrofelix@gmail.com

G. CORREA 41-549 Flo Flia PL. WAIMANALO

Phyllis Markwart 91-209 Kamehameha St 96782

Phyllis Markwart 146 PAUKILANI WAY KAILUA 96734

Micko M Markwart 146 Paukilani Way Kailua HI 96734

Monet J. Shida 91-1280 Noaia St Ewa 96706

Linda Martin 58-165 AKAHAKA ST, LAIE, HI 96763

Carren Ornellas 87-1702 Mohihi St, Waiancee 96792 c-naylon@yahoo.com

Handwritten signature

TESTIMONY

- August R. Ornelas 47-1702 Mohihi St. Waianae 96792 *Cruz*
- Gregory Pang 245 Star Rd. HNL, HI 96813*
- Patricia *94-1080 ANANI - MILWAU 96789*
- Daniel A. Flurn 660 La Scala Dr. Mesquite NV 89027 94010
- William ~~Wong~~ 1108 SANCHEZ BURLINGAME, CA
- Valerie J. Mandel 41-970 Mahuku Pl. Waimanalo HI 96795
- ANN ZHANG 382-9623
- SAM LORTRAKUL 1145 HONA ST. HONOLULU, HI 96811 (808) 999-7145
- Jody A. Watts 91-1021 NAPOO ST, KAPOLEI, HI 96707
- DM Woodman 301 Kahilacya Ka. Uel HI 96754
- Melvin Pang 3148 Ala Ilima St. #503, Hon, HI 96818
- Jody Watts 91-1021 Napoo St., Kapolei, HI 96707
- Josce Wapowale 29933 Hon HI 96820
- Steven Engedue 46-405 HoloKaa St Kaeoale, HI 96744 808 777 9624
- Gary Cohen 120 MAONO PL HNL 96821 808 377 1278
- Roderick Cotton 150 MAONO RD. Napoolea HI 96721-808-377-1278
- Chen 1855 10th Ave Honolulu HI 96813
- Taru Makishima 1133 Waiamanu St #1206 Honolulu HI 96814
- Chris Shimizu 3577-40 Pima St. Hon. HI 96822
- Marie Rapaloe 95-710 Halei St Mililani 96789
- Raymond Rapaloe 98-1254 Kaahumanu St Suite 170 Pearl City 96782
- David E. Rapaloe same as above
- Brenda K. Reichel 820 West Hind Dr. #1229

against Ivory #B2183 SB 2024

har3-Micah

From: Joe Gregory <jgregory69@windstream.net>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 3:10 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Necessary ban on ivory

LATE TESTIMONY

Aloha,

Mahalo to all of you for realizing the grave threat to our elephants and considering a ban on ivory. A special Mahalo to Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for holding the hearing.

My family and I visited Hawaii and enjoyed a fabulous vacation! One of the things that impressed us most about the Hawaiian culture is that the people really embrace nature and respect our mother earth!

I believe that it is our duty to protect the animals that we share our planet with and I can not imagine our earth with out our elephants. We can not turn a blind eye, or expect that someone else will take care of this problem. We all, as citizens of the earth, must come together and put a stop to the slaughter of the elephants.

Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentient animals. Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks. Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in the near future at the current rate of killing of 96 killed per day - that's 1 every 15 minutes.

Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes. By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservatory.

Thanks,
Joe Gregory

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Sir,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, **unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA**, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly

Pat Powers
California

Dear Hawaiian lawmakers,

Re: HB2183

I am writing you to ask you to please support HB2183 to implement the law against ALL TRADE IN IVORY in the state of Hawaii.

This would make Hawaii the most advanced, compassionate and wise state in the nation as regards understanding the crisis and taking action to help close down the trade in the USA.

LATE TESTIMONY

You know all the grim and horrific facts about the crisis today, with elephants clinging to their survival as a species in the face of unrelenting and unspeakably barbaric poaching.

You know that around 100 elephants are being slaughtered every single day for their tusks. You know that the only way they will survive is if all trade is shut down. Of course China is the biggest culprit and unless they stop the demand, elephants will continue to be killed in their thousands.

Hawaii's initiative in this important bill has earned the respect and thanks of conservationists and ordinary people all over the world. I have no doubt you will pass this bill, and I would therefore like to offer my THANKS and CONGRATULATIONS to you .. I hope all the other states will follow your lead.

Sincerely,

Denise Dresner
Washington, DC

har3-Micah

From: Pam Verrey <pamverrey@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 3:12 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: HB 2183 Prohibiting the Sale of Ivory

LATE TESTIMONY

The time has come to stand up for the lives of elephants. I believe the only way to save these animals is to make their slaughter less valuable to poachers. Please support this bill.

Pamela Verrey
Honolulu 96816

--
-Pam

har3-Micah

From: Rachel Ceci <rachelccec@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 3:34 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: PLEASE support HB 2183

LATE TESTIMONY

Good afternoon-

I first want to thank Judiciary Committee Chair Rhodes for sponsoring this bill and for holding the hearing.

Hawaii is the 2nd largest retailer of ivory in the nation! We can only save elephants by prohibiting the sale of their parts (ivory) which drives the massacre of these highly intelligent and sentimental animals.

Tens of thousands of elephants are poached every year for their tusks (teeth). Scientists estimate that the African Elephant may be extinct in the near future at the current rate of killing of 96 killed per day - that's 1 every 15 minutes.

Federal laws are inadequate and contain many loopholes.

By passing this law, Hawaii has the chance to be a GLOBAL leader in elephant conservation!

PLEASE support HB 2183 - I thank you and the elephants thank you.

Rachel Ceci
RachelCCeci@gmail.com

har3-Micah

From: Jean Shirk <jean@shirkmedia.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 3:45 PM
To: JUDtestimony; Rep. Karl Rhoads
Subject: Please support the total BAN on ivory sales in Hawaii

Ladies and gentlemen:

LATE TESTIMONY

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching: the unmitigated and relentless poaching of African and the endangered Asian elephant. It is well established that the proceeds from poaching also sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw, antique, or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

I support the effort by the Humane Society of the US to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa and Asia. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is bound for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years – unless WE act. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

Hawaii is known as a compassionate, progressive and dynamic state. I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts, and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Jean Shirk
Shirk Media
jean@shirkmedia.com
510-332-4195

From: JM LEE <jmlee23@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 4:02 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Precious Life

LATE TESTIMONY

SUBJECT: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183. Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

It is with great pride and much aloha that I support this effort by the HSUS to end the ivory trade in the Aloha State, unfortunately a "top" ivory market in the USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well and Mahalo nui loa.

Warmly,
Jennifer Lee
California, USA

LATE TESTIMONY

har3-Micah

From: TSLEEK@GWI.NET
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 4:02 PM
To: JUDtestimony; Rep. Karl Rhoads
Subject: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183
Expires: Friday, February 28, 2014 7:00 PM

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Gentlemen:

I want to extend my deep thanks to Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183.

I ask you to PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is a horrific, brutal product of poaching through the relentless killing of African elephants. I urge your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory in and to the beautiful state of Hawaii, where my sister-in-law visited and my colleague Joan MacDonald, recently moved from Maine to retire.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. 35,000+ elephants are killed each year. That is 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes.

The elephant is a highly intelligent and sensitive being with a right to live like you and me. He was not placed on earth to be a slave to humans or be brutalized for a trinket. He is a keystone species to the earth's balance. Yet he is slated for extinction within 10 years if the killing does not stop. Among the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is well known that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - including the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

I have always thought of Hawaii as a beautiful and compassionate state, and dearly hope the Aloha state will do the ethical and morally right thing for these elephants, for the people of Africa, the people of Hawaii and of the world. When the killing stops, new pathways will open to compassion and a more healthy and positive commerce.

Hawaii can be THE LEADER in the US to take on a strong and unequivocal role to end the ivory trade immediately!
Please end the ivory trade. Thank you and God bless you for your time and efforts on this critical issue.

Most sincerely,

Elaine Tselikis
South Portland, Maine

From: Tamara Birdsall <birdsalltamara@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 4:24 PM
To: JUDtestimony; Rep. Karl Rhoads
Subject: END IVORY TRADE! SUPPORT HB2183!

Dear Sirs,

First, a sincere thanks to representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB2183! Mahalo nui loa!

While I don't live in Hawaii full time, I visit often and have many friends who do. I am so proud of Hawaii for making the best progress in the U.S. to end the despicable ivory trade.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2183! Ivory is (primarily) the outcome of poaching. The unmitigated and relentless poaching of African elephants. It is well established that poaching (also) sponsors terrorism. I am urging your committee to encourage enforcing an end to the trade and importation of ivory (whether raw or vanity) in and to the state of Hawaii.

I write on behalf of all victims, human and animal alike, of the horrific poaching crisis in Africa. Poaching sponsors terrorism, kills 35,000+ elephants each year, 100 a day and an astounding 1 every fifteen minutes; The elephant, a keystone species and Earth's grandest terrestrial herbivore is slated for extinction in the wilds of Africa within 10 years. Amongst the human victims of poaching are the 1000+ rangers who were murdered in the line of duty in the past 10 years alone.

It is also well established that the killing of critically endangered wild animals and the sale of their body parts is funding terrorism - which includes the recent Westgate mall attack and the killing of innocent human victims in Nairobi, Kenya.

A compassionate, progressive and dynamic state, a state of by and for the people, I am confident the Aloha state will do the right thing by Earth's last elephants, the people of the continent of Africa, the people of the world and the people of Hawaii.

As global citizens, as the gateway to the east, the Aloha state and the USA must take on a strong and unequivocal leadership role to end the ivory trade immediately.

I thank you for your time and efforts and thank the HSUS for its initiative on this most critical issue.

Be well!
Tamara Birdsall
1443 Cornell Ave
Berkeley, CA 94702

har3-Micah

From: INSPIREVISION@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 4:26 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: HB 2183 - SUPPORT

LATE TESTIMONY

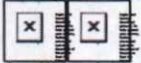
Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

Please support and pass House Bill 2183.

I only wish we had taken steps like this long ago.

The pictures from the link below show how an elephant survivor suffers after being attacked and injured by ivory poachers. The mercilessness of the butchery of these beautiful and intelligent sentient beings for pieces of ivory trinkets or decor is intolerable to our social conscience.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/02/27/battle-for-the-elephants_n_2768184.html#slide=1878051



Elephant Poaching, Timber Theft Cost World Billions Annually, Officials Say

"People from around the world are outraged that organized criminal networks are robbing the world of our elephants, rhinos, tigers and other wildlife, purely for the profit of a very few outlaws," Downes said.

Please pass HB 2183.

Mahalo,
Jane Shiraki
Honolulu