

**HB493**

**HD1**

**PROPOSED**



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES



**HUMANE SOCIETY**  
INTERNATIONAL

**TO: Honorable Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro**  
**Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee**  
**March 18, 2014, 10:00am, Room 016**

**SUBMITTED BY: Inga Gibson, Hawaii Director, The Humane Society of the United States & Teresa Telecky, PhD, 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, Earth Trust (Kailua), 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 493 Proposed SD1, Relating to Animal Cruelty; Ivory**

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)-Humane Society International urge the Committee's support for HB 493 SD1, 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, with the below exemptions.

This bill is based on HB 2183 (Rhoads) that was recommitted despite close to 500 testimonies in support and its unanimous passage out of both the Economic Development and Judiciary Committees, due to concerns from (4) ivory and antique dealers. HB 493 proposes exempting the below ivory products to address their concerns:

- Antique ivory, including mammoth, and vintage Hawaiian ivory and heirlooms;
- Asian elephant ivory legally acquired prior to 1975 and African elephant ivory legally acquired prior to 1990 per the Endangered Species Act;
- Walrus and Whale ivory legally acquired prior to the enactment of the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

These exemptions are per the February 25, 2014, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director's Order<sup>1</sup>. HB 493 SD1 uses the same standards and definitions as the federal Order, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's *Identification Guide for Ivory and Ivory Substitutes*<sup>2</sup> "which was developed to give information about a nondestructive and visual means of tentatively distinguishing clearly legal ivory from suspected illegal ivory."

Furthermore, HB 493 SD1 does **NOT** prohibit the following:

- Personal/private possession of ivory; the bill only relates to sale;
- Passing down of native Hawaiian or family heirlooms made of ivory

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.fws.gov/policy/do210.html>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.fws.gov/lab/ivory.php>

- Ivory for display for museums, educational or research purposes;
- Other ivory or ivory items as permitted by the USFWS;
- Appraisals of ivory for personal possession for insurance purposes

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,<sup>1</sup> 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 California<sup>2</sup>; 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 origins<sup>3</sup>. 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:

- 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 African<sup>4</sup> 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 warhogs, 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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>

<sup>4</sup> California has the second highest amount of ivory for sale; however, the state prohibits the sale of certain elephant ivory.

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, warhog 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 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 States<sup>5</sup> 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:

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<sup>5</sup> 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](http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/Ivory_Trade_Report.pdf)

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

A 2008 study of ivory markets in the United States<sup>6</sup> 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.

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<sup>6</sup> See footnote 1.

- Most shopkeepers selling ivory knew of the international ban on trading ivory. Some were confused about the year this came into effect and whether it applied to domestic sales. Some owners and managers of shops admitted having pieces made after 1989, despite the illegality of importing such items.

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

Hawaii has long been a thriving hub of commerce and tourism between the Asia Pacific region and the United States mainland. Our close proximity to Asia also provides a convenient route for illegal wildlife to be trafficked into our State. As the 2008 and 2013 surveys demonstrated, a staggering percentage of ivory items for sale in Hawaii came from illegal or unknown origins. HB 493 would help to 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 HB 493 SD 1



**TO: Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**FROM: Elly Pepper, Wildlife Advocate, Natural Resources Defense Council**  
**DATE: March 17, 2014**  
**RE: Support for HB 493 SD1 – Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing on 3/18 at 10am**

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On behalf of our 1.3 million members and activists, including more than 2,500 in Hawaii, we are writing to urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to support House Bill 493 Senate Draft 1, 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 in the majority of circumstances. 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.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup>

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.<sup>4</sup> 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.<sup>5</sup> Since buyers are willing to pay any price to obtain these status symbols (e.g., \$22,000 per pound of rhino

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

<sup>2</sup> World Wildlife Fund, Black rhinoceros, [http://wwf.panda.org/what\\_we\\_do/endangered\\_species/rhinoceros/african\\_rhinos/black\\_rhinoceros/](http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/endangered_species/rhinoceros/african_rhinos/black_rhinoceros/); IUCN Red List, [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org).

<sup>3</sup> World Wildlife Fund, Tiger Population, [http://wwf.panda.org/what\\_we\\_do/endangered\\_species/tigers/about\\_tigers/tiger\\_population/](http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/endangered_species/tigers/about_tigers/tiger_population/).

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

<sup>5</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup>

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).<sup>7</sup> As prices have increased, so has poaching, with an estimated 30,000 elephants killed in 2012.<sup>8</sup>

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.<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup>

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.<sup>11</sup> The vast majority of the items for sale were jewelry (80%), followed by netsukes (12%), human figurines (4%), animal figurines (<1%), and chopsticks (<1%).<sup>12</sup> Almost 90% of the ivory items for sale in Hawaii were likely imported illegally or are of unknown origin.<sup>13</sup> 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.

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<sup>6</sup> *Rarity Value*, *supra* note 4.

<sup>7</sup> 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>.

<sup>8</sup> 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](https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/african_elephant_summit_background_document_2013_en.pdf).

<sup>9</sup> 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](http://www.cites.org/common/resources/pub/Elephants_in_the_dust.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> 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](http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/Ivory_Trade_Report.pdf).

<sup>11</sup> Martin & Stiles, *supra* note 9, at 93.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 94.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*



The vast majority of ivory in Hawaii comes from China, where the number of registered ivory factories and ivory retail outlets has risen.<sup>14</sup> 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.<sup>15</sup> Most packages containing ivory are not marked as required by federal laws, but are instead mislabeled as “crafts” or “bone.”<sup>16</sup> Much of the ivory coming to the U.S. is purchased illegally over the Internet, often from sites based in China.<sup>17</sup> Ivory also enters the U.S. by falsely claiming to meet U.S. import exceptions.<sup>18</sup>

Currently, Hawaii’s ivory law 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. HB 493 SD 1 will narrow these exceptions by requiring sellers to meet documentation requirements recently proposed by the federal government. This will make it more difficult for sellers to pretend that their ivory is old when it is actually from recently poached elephants. Further, by covering all types of ivory, HB 493 SD 1 will make it more difficult for sellers to claim that the ivory comes from a legal source of ivory when it is actually from elephants. Lastly, the increased penalties proscribed in HB 493 SD 1 for those who violate Hawaii’s ivory law will act as a deterrent for wildlife traffickers.

While HB 493 SD 1 includes some exceptions not contained in the ivory bills originally introduced in the House and Senate, it would still be a significant step towards ending Hawaii’s involvement in the elephant poaching crises. 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 an issue that 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 493 SD 1. Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [viviansuet@hotmail.com](mailto:viviansuet@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB493 on Mar 18, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 11:43:24 AM  
**Attachments:** [Share Alert.jpg](#)

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**HB493**

Submitted on: 3/15/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 18, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Vivian S. Toellner	Hui Pono Holoholona	Support	No

Comments: Requires dogs or cats that are captured or killed in a snare or trap to be reported to a county animal control officer. Establishes the offense of cruelty to animals by trapping as a misdemeanor. Hui Pono Holoholona has witness many snared animals. At [www.hphhawaii.org](http://www.hphhawaii.org) you can see some of the animals and their injuries. Attached is an Alert we sent out. I would like to bring up this point...if an individual was trapping or snaring for food, they would check their efforts very often, to get the meat fresh or put the animal out of it's misery quickly. But that is not the case at all. It is sick to see what we have seen...very very inhumane...true cruelty. Studies show human abuse can begin with animal abuse. We must stand up in our community and say we respect life and YES even want animal issues dealt with humanely. Aloha and Mahalo for this opportunity to submit 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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [Lynn Roebuck](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 493 SDI  
**Date:** Friday, March 14, 2014 8:27:56 PM

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PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1! The hearing is scheduled for next Tuesday, March 18th at 10:00 am. Please help stop poaching and the demand for the tusks of endangered elephants Thank you,

Lynn Roebuck

**From:** [Daniel Tham](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 12:42:05 AM

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PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1!

**From:** [Cindy Gregory](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ban Ivory! Support HB 493 SD1!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 1:51:47 AM

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Aloha,

The great state of Hawaii can set a precedence for the elephants and tell the world that they do not support the slaughter of elephants for commerce!

**PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1!**

Having visited Hawaii last year with my family, one of the things that impressed me most about the people there is that they truly embrace nature and the earth. I believe that we have a duty to protect our earth and all it's creatures. Please take a stand for the elephants and support HB 493 SD1!

Mahalo!

Cindy Gregory

**From:** [Janice Ashby](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 3:29:19 AM

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Dear Sir

Please will you support the bill to end the selling of Ivory in Hawaii. People from across the world (I myself live in London UK) are watching with hope that you act to save elephants from a terrible death by stopping the market for Ivory goods. I would love to visit your beautiful country. Many thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [ashley prout](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 5:38:28 AM

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PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1! The hearing is scheduled for next Tuesday, March 18th at 10am! SAVE ELEPHANTS before E stands for Extinction. PLEASE.

Ashley

[Ashley Prout McAvey](#)  
[144 Shelburne-Hinesburg Road](#)  
[Shelburne, VT 05482](#)  
[Home Office: 802-264-9640](#)  
[Cell Phone: 802-598-9428](#)

**From:** [Abhi Kulkarni](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 7:05:45 AM

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Dear Chairman Hee and Members of Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to add my support to Bill HB 493 SD1. I am not from Hawaii but have traveled there few times. I am glad to see Hawaii taking up the lead in the fight to protect the elephants; hope my home state of California does the same soon.

We cannot let special business interests (ivory dealers) continue with the unregulated ivory import and sales in US and continue to contribute to the demise of elephants. US is the 2nd largest illegal ivory market and the key reason is lack of verifying CITES certificates and the age of ivory as traders have been known to use bogus certificates or 'yellowing' the illegal ivory with coffee or soda to make it look antique. Not to mention this illegal trade is boosting the very terror groups we are fighting in Africa.

Considering all this, a ban on ivory sales is a common sense approach to shut down one avenue of this illegal trade.

Thank you.

Abhi Kulkarni



**From:** [Margaret Sueoka](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 8:59:40 AM

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Please give this bill your full support.

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

**From:** [Sue S Scott](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 10:02:16 AM

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I am writing to ask that you support bill HB492 SD1 regarding the trade of ivory in Hawaii. Prohibiting the sale of ivory will go a long way toward preventing the deaths of elephants slaughtered for their tusks. The loss of their lives for the purpose of profiting from amusing trinkets is a tragedy. You can help. Please support this bill.

Thank you,  
Susan Scott  
6931 Pomaikai St.  
Kapaa, HI 96746

**From:** [leslie.labrava@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.labrava@gmail.com)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HD 493 SD 1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 10:12:02 AM

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Absolutely a yes vote on this. Who are we to perpetrate these atrocities?!

Thank you.  
Leslie Kornblatt  
Po box 987  
Puunene 96784

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [octopus@maui.net](mailto:octopus@maui.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB493 on Mar 18, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 10:22:50 AM

---

**HB493**

Submitted on: 3/15/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 18, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rene Umberger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support HB493 HDI, proposed SD1. Just as Hawaii stood up against shark slaughter for their fins, we must stand up against elephant slaughter for their tusks! 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.

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**From:** [Alice Saul](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 10:26:42 AM

---

I am writing to request that you please support HB493-SD1 to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade.

These magnificent, intelligent animals are being savagely attacked so that their tusks can be crafted into forms of adornment.

If we continue to believe that we were given dominion over the earth, we must honor our responsibility to protect and sustain our fellow travelers.

Thank you.  
Aloha,  
Alice Saul

Alice Saul  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
(res) 395-0121  
(off) 949-2511

**From:** [Judy Mick](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 493 SD 1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 11:17:43 AM

---

Aloha- I ask that you support HB 493 SD 1 to protect elephants and stop the illegal and inhumane ivory trade. I inherited ivory jewelry and despite it's beauty and material value, it saddens me deeply to know an innocent animal gave it's life so part of its body could adorn a human. Please support this bill. Mahalo.  
Judy Mick, Kailua

**From:** [Becky](#)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 11:48:29 AM

---

Support this act to stop the ivory trade  
and butchering of elephants.

Rebecca Gray  
Resident of Waikiki, HI



---

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Click Here!



**From:** [lynne123hawaii@yahoo.com](mailto:lynne123hawaii@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 1:24:45 PM

---

please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!  
Thank you, Lynne wood

From my HTC Sensation 4G on T-Mobile. The first nationwide 4G network

**From:** [Denise Dresner](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HAWAII - please end ivory trade - SUPPORT HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 5:24:15 PM

---

Dear Hawaiian lawmakers,

[Re: HB 493 SD1](#)

I am writing you to ask you to please support HB 493 SD1 to make ALL TRADE IN IVORY illegal in the state of Hawaii and to lead the way in closing down the ivory trade in the US.

This would make Hawaii the most civilized and compassionate state in the nation, and demonstrate a true understanding of the crisis facing elephants and the critical need for legislation to protect them.

You are of course aware of the grim and horrific reality of this crisis, with elephants clinging to their survival as a species in the face of unrelenting and unspeakably barbaric poaching that is reducing their numbers at the rate of 100 per day.

To use the words of the Clinton Global Initiative's Partnership to Save Africa's Elephants – "Stop the killing, stop the trafficking, stop the demand." By passing HB 493SD1, you will be playing a crucial part in furthering these goals. Your state will have earned the respect, admiration and gratitude of not only conservationists but people all over the world who care about the survival of this remarkable species.

I am confident you will pass this bill, so I wish to offer my THANKS and CONGRATULATIONS to you .. I hope all the other states will show similar wisdom and morality and follow your lead.

Sincerely,

Denise Dresner  
Washington, DC

**From:** [MMMHahalo2000@aol.com](mailto:MMMHahalo2000@aol.com)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!"  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 7:51:41 PM

---

Aloha Chair and committee,  
I had been supporting HB 2183 to stop the sale of ivory in Hawaii., but in the confusing world of the Hawaii State Ledge, that issue and concern has now morphed into this bill, which originally concerned dogs and cats in Hawaii and traps.

Please support HB 493 SD 1

Mahalo,  
Mike Moran Maui

**From:** [William Harris](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Saturday, March 15, 2014 9:46:34 PM

---

please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!

**From:** [Simone](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 12:57:22 AM

---

15 March 2014

Dear Hawaiian lawmakers,

Re: HB 493 SD1

I am writing you to ask you to please support HB 493 SD1 to make the selling and importing of ivory illegal in the state of Hawaii and to lead the way in closing down the ivory trade in the US.

Ending the trade in ivory in your state would make Hawaii the most civilized, progressive and compassionate state in the nation, and demonstrate a true understanding of the crisis facing elephants and the critical need for legislation to protect them.

Of course you are aware of the grim and horrific reality of the crisis, with elephants clinging to their survival as a species in the face of unrelenting and unspeakably barbaric poaching that is reducing their numbers at the rate of 100 per day. At this rate of killing they are facing the likelihood of extinction in less than 10 years.

It is also well known that poaching and ivory sales fuel the activities of terrorist groups and militias that threaten the security of not only African nations but the US as well, as criminal syndicates now operate transnationally with destabilizing effects across the globe.

To use the words of the Clinton Global Initiative's Partnership to Save Africa's Elephants – "*Stop the killing, stop the trafficking, stop the demand.*" By passing HB 493SD1, you will be playing a crucial and leading part in furthering these goals. Your state will earn the respect, admiration and gratitude of not only conservationists but people all over the world who care about the survival of this remarkable species.

I look forward to offering to you my deepest thanks and congratulations as soon as this bill is passed, and I hope all the other states will follow your lead.

Sincerely

Simone Fields

Sent from my iPad

From: [Nile](#)  
To: [JDLTestimony](#)  
Subject: Supporting HB493 SD1  
Date: Sunday, March 16, 2014 6:38:44 AM

---

To Chair Clayton Hee and the Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Hawaiian lawmakers,

Re: HB493 SD1

I am writing to urge you to support HB 493 SD1, to make the selling and importing of ivory illegal in the state of Hawaii and to lead the way in closing down the ivory trade in the US.

Ending the trade in ivory in your state would make Hawaii the most civilized, progressive and compassionate state in the nation, and demonstrate a true understanding of the crisis facing elephants and the critical need for legislation to protect them.

Of course you are aware of the grim and horrific reality of the crisis, with elephants clinging to their survival as a species in the face of unrelenting and unspeakably barbaric poaching that is reducing their numbers at the rate of 100 per day. At this rate of killing they are facing the likelihood of extinction in less than 10 years.

It is also well known that poaching and ivory sales fuel the activities of terrorist groups and militias that threaten the security of not only African nations but the US as well, as criminal syndicates now operate transnationally with destabilizing effects across the globe.

To use the words of the Clinton Global Initiative's Partnership to Save Africa's Elephants - "Stop the killing, stop the trafficking, stop the demand." By passing HB493 SD1, you will be playing a crucial and leading part in furthering these goals. Your state will earn the respect, admiration and gratitude of not only conservationists but people all over the world who care about the survival of this remarkable species.

I look forward to offering to you my deepest thanks and congratulations as soon as this bill is passed, and I hope all the other states will follow your lead.

Sincerely,

Nile Nugnez  
53 Woodford  
London SE17 2TN  
United Kingdom

**From:** [Victoria Anderson](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 6:44:09 AM  
**Attachments:** [YoungElephant.doc](#)

---

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee:

I urge you to support HB493 SD1. Elephants are poached for their tusks at the shocking rate of 1 elephant killed every 15 minutes; at this rate, we face the imminent extinction of elephants in 12 YEARS. Moreover, elephants cannot survive having their tusks cut off; their faces are often cut from them while they lie dying of cyanide poisoning or other terrible, excruciating deaths. I'm sorry to disturb you by attaching the picture of this young elephant below, but if we are to make informed decisions, we must bear witness to their suffering.

Juxtapose this with the fact that Hawaii is, shockingly, the SECOND largest retailer of illegal ivory in the US after New York, and you can see the relevance of our role here in Hawaii in protecting this magnificent species from terrible suffering and extinction.

I would be there Tuesday morning, but am traveling to Washington DC for a conference on Animal Sentience and Public Policy Mon and Tues.

In the meantime, please find more information here:

<http://hpr2.org/post/ivory-ban-legislation-advances-house>

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/24731013/animal-related-bills-begging-for-attention-at-state-capitol>

Mahalo; I look forward to meeting with members of the committee on another occasion.

--

Victoria B. Anderson  
Associate Professor of Linguistics  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa  
[vanderso@hawaii.edu](mailto:vanderso@hawaii.edu), 808-956-8602



**From:** [Dixon Smith](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 7:16:39 AM

---

**Please support HB493 SD1; Protect our fast disappearing elephants from the blood ivory trade!**

**Dixon & Penny Smith  
Kailua**

**From:** [David Sofio](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** please support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 7:17:59 AM

---

I'm more than a little horrified at the truth I've been hearing about elephant slaughter for ivory & hope we can make a difference here in Hawaii in curtailing this inhuman and inhumane practice.

David Sofio  
(808) 590 9077

**From:** [Heidi Osterman](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 7:24:53 AM

---

Dear Honorable Representatives,

Thank you for your compassion and leadership. Hawaii is poised to be a global leader in elephant conservation. Please support HB493 SD1 to stop the ongoing massacre of elephants by ending the sale of ivory in Hawaii.

I know the good people of Hawaii want to halt the extinction of elephants and set an example for the rest of the states. May my state of Maryland follow in your footsteps.

Sincerely,

Heidi Osterman  
Clarksville, MD

**From:** [Rosemary Karlsson](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB493 SD1 - ivory  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 7:45:09 AM

---

**Please support this to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!**

**No one needs ivory to survive, except the elephants. Killing them to use their teeth for decorations is barbaric.**

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

**From:** [erna lund](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 2183 Prohibit Sale of Ivory/alternate HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 9:50:01 AM

---

Please Support to Protect Elephants from the Blood Ivory Trade. We must demonstrate that we are a humanitarian, humane peoples and give voice for the voiceless and vulnerable. No, we do not need the luxury of ivory for decorative purposes at the expense of the bloody life/death of an elephant for his two canine teeth/tusks.

As a Kama'aina for almost 50 years(Hawaiian in spirit) we must maintain the ethical, moral image and in-truth of Hawaii/Hawaiians either by birth/indigenous,/residents.

Yes we rely on your legislative representation to speak these truths.Mahalo and Aloha,

Erna Lund

**From:** [Laurie Pottish](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB496 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 10:38:39 AM

---

Aloha:

Please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade.

Mahalo,

Laurie Pottish  
Pukalani, HI

**From:** [Lisa Scharin](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ivory=poaching=death=extinct!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 11:30:58 AM

---

PLEASE follow in the “footsteps” of China and America crushing and burning the stockpiles of Ivory, and the Philippines as well. I am fighting for America to BAN Ivory and the President has committed to helping wildlife! I also want to see the END of trophy hunting for rhinos, lions and elephants. These animals are endangered and MUST be protected!!!

Please destroy the ivory you have! Although it is sad the elephants died in “vain”, we cannot afford to fuel this horrific business, which is also tied to drug and weapon trafficking, human slavery and other illegal activities! It destroys habitats, villages and the indigenous people’s way of life, quality of life, tourism that is positive for the country- such as Africa, etc.

In the 21st century, we cannot tolerate or allow this barbaric, senseless killing of living beings who feel as we do and are important to the health and ecosystems and the balance of this earth!

Do what is right!!!! Help end poaching and death-to void extinction!!!

Thank-you!

Lisa Scharin, SC, USA

**From:** [Andrea](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!"  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 1:58:20 PM

---

Aloha Senate Judiciary Committee,

**PLEASE SUPPORT HB493 SD1** to prohibit the sale of ivory. With only an estimated 11 years until elephants are extinct in the wild the passage of this bill is crucial. Simply put, the sale of ivory kills elephants. Please ban the sale of ivory overall, regardless of its age. Equally important, please ban the possession of ivory, exempting antique items, defined as from elephants killed before 1900, that has appropriate documentation. At the crossroads of the Pacific, a ban with legitimate fine and prosecution for violators has the potential to make a deep impact on the ivory trade and ultimately afford greater protection of elephants.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ganshet and Andrea Nandoskar  
440 Lewers Street, Apt. 702  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
Tel. 808-923-2697  
[birdofparadise@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:birdofparadise@hawaii.rr.com)



**From:** [mary & robert](#)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 2:13:16 PM

---

Please support this bill to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!

Mary Menacho  
West Hawaii Humane Society  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Kona Hawaii

**From:** [Katie Drager](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Bill: HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 2:42:45 PM

---

Dear Seante Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to urge you to support bill HB493 SD1 in order to protect elephants. Hawaii's role in the ivory trade is inexcusable. We have the opportunity to do our part to protect these beautiful creatures from ivory hunters; let's take this necessary step.

Sincerely,  
Katie Drager, Ph.D.

--

Katie Drager  
Assistant Professor  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa  
Department of Linguistics  
[kdrager@hawaii.edu](mailto:kdrager@hawaii.edu)  
[www.katiedrager.com](http://www.katiedrager.com)

**From:** [Maryann Overstreet](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1 to protect Elephants!!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 3:10:20 PM

---

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

I'm writing to ask that you PLEASE support HB493 SD1 to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade. It's gruesome, inhumane, and threatens this beautiful and intelligent species!

Mahalo,  
Maryann Overstreet

**From:** [Leslie Wood](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 3:52:55 PM

---

Aloha.

Please support HB493 SD1 to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade. I want these animals to have a chance to survive in the wild and not ONLY in zoos.

Mahalo.

~Leslie Wood, Mililani, Hawaii

**From:** [9th Life Hawaii](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** PLEASE SUPPORT HB493  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 4:34:38 PM

---

I abhor the practice of killing elephant for their tusks for the Ivory trade.

Phyllis Tavares

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [ndavlantes@aol.com](mailto:ndavlantes@aol.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB493 on Mar 18, 2014 10:00AM\*  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 10:09:14 PM

---

**HB493**

Submitted on: 3/16/2014

Testimony for JDL on Mar 18, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	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.

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**From:** [M. Markl](#)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** House Bill 2183  
**Date:** Sunday, March 16, 2014 11:11:50 PM

---

Please support this bill. There are so many loopholes and elephants will be extinct soon. Many people in the world are ignorant that to get ivory the elephant has to be murdered. There is no excuse especially in Hawaii to allow this especially since many things can be made synthetically. This is not a life necessity. You are in a unique position to right horrific things that go on in the world and save beings lives. There are people who are so heartless they will do anything for what they want. Please do not allow them to get their way. If we want a humane and safe world, we have to stand up and vote for it. It has been said that the evil of the world continues because good people do nothing. Please stand and vote and urge your colleagues to vote and pass this bill now so what you do can be a model for hope in a hopeless world. Thank you. Mary

**From:** [Jennifer Chiwa](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of HB 493 SD 1 for 3/18/14 10:00 am Hearing  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 12:45:16 AM

---

Aloha, Members of the Judiciary Committee. Please support HB 493 SD 1 which, to my understanding, would protect elephants from being killed for their ivory. This would help make Hawaii a global leader in the preservation of elephants. Mahalo.  
Jennifer Chiwa



**From:** [Marilyn Coussoule](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 4:26:03 AM

---

Chair Clayton Hee and the Senate Judiciary Committee,

Please pass HB 493 SD1. The urgency to do everything humanly possible to save the elephant from the daily killing fields they now suffer is undeniable. It is the markets that drive the killing, of that we can be sure. All efforts in the field to protect this animal from this scourge are not adequate to the task. The real battleground is in the trade, the markets, the legal loopholes that the illegal trade seeks to travel through. Please, Hawaii, respond to this need, do not cave to the economic pressures traders put forth. There should be no economy worth the extinction or the persecution that we are all witness to. Please do the right thing. Ban ivory trade. Ban imports, Ban Ivory.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Marilyn Coussoule  
Lanesboro, MA 01201

**From:** [Tamara Birdsall](#)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony; All Reps](#)  
**Subject:** BAN IVORY!  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 4:57:07 AM

---

Dear Honorable Representatives of Hawaii,

I am writing to encourage you to position Hawaii as the global leader in elephant conservation and support HB2183. Today and every day until we act, 96 elephants will be slaughtered needlessly simply so people can buy ridiculous ivory trinkets.

I imagine there are some powerful people in Hawaii who want the poaching and related terrorism to continue. They don't care that elephants will be extinct in 10 years. But the world does care and the world is watching.

I thank you for demonstrating such courage and compassion and wish you and the beautiful state of Hawaii all the best.

Tamara Birdsall  
Berkeley, California

**From:** [Kathy Gumpel](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 5:05:54 AM

---

Please save the elephants. They are being murdered at the rate of a hundred a day; the prediction is they will be extinct in 15 years. Please stop the market based on irrational beliefs. At least don't you give in to the sellers located in Hawaii.

Kathy Gumpel, J.D.  
808/450-0507

**From:** [stacy\\_james](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 5:38:19 AM

---

Please support HB 493 SD1,

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,  
Stacy James

Las Vegas, NV  
USA

**Stacy James**  
**President**  
[www.AncientAnimalWisdom.com](http://www.AncientAnimalWisdom.com)  
[www.DazzleAfrica.org](http://www.DazzleAfrica.org)  
(c)702.332.1501 PST

Compassionate education is a graceful leap towards global peace.

**From:** [Lois Olmstead](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ivory and HB 493  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 5:43:33 AM

---

We are writing to request your support of HB 493 SD1. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to ban the sales of ivory products. Elephants are on the fast track to extinction because of the poaching which continues apace. Something in the neighborhood of 50,000 were slaughtered last year for their ivory.

What will we tell our grandchildren when the elephants are gone? That the commercial use of their ivory was more important than their lives?

Please pass this bill and make a statement to the world. Dry up the trade and save the elephants!

Donald and Lois Olmstead

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Marilyn Stuart](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 6:32:35 AM

---

Please support the prohibition of ivory sales in Hawaii. I was told that the hearing is scheduled for tomorrow at 10 am.

I have visited Hawaii several times and love the beauty of the islands but have found ivory on display at the marketplaces. It's so sad that beautiful elephants are being slaughtered for this ivory. Please help by supporting this action.

Thank you!

Marilyn Stuart  
Long beach, CA

Sent from my iPhone.

**From:** [Jerrisa Ching](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 6:50:36 AM

---

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

The public, including myself, asks for your kindness and power to please support the HB493 SD1 in order to protect elephants from ivory trade. Every 15 minutes, an elephant is murdered for ivory and becomes a highly endangered species in the world. Without elephants, we will have no ambassadors who will teach us compassion to preserve our Earth. So with due respect, please support the HB493 SD1 in order to protect our teachers --- our dear elephants.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jerrisa

**From:** [Michael Eaton](#)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ivory Ban  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 7:04:38 AM

---

Hello,

I would like to ask that Hawaii ban the ivory trade. Not only is it killing a beautiful endangered species, the Ivory trade is funding illegal and terrorist activity throughout the world, especially in the most vulnerable areas. Please stand up and help make change that can keep this killing from happening.

Thanks,

Michael Eaton  
Asheville NC USA



**From:** [Robin Willhite](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 7:05:31 AM

---

I spent every summer in Hawaii as a child, and visit quite often. We have friends and family that live there full time. WE LOVE HAWAII!

We beg you to please support the Ivory Sales Prohibition via House Bill 493.

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.

Robin Willhite

Living in California and in San Jose del Cabo, Mexico

**From:** [Mike Paredes](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please protect elephants-pass strong ivory restrictions without loopholes  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 7:32:44 AM

---

Hello Hawaii Senate Judiciary Committee:

Though we live in Maryland, my wife Nancy and I deeply respect and celebrate the Hawaiian culture. Nancy, in fact, dances in a halau here in Annapolis, and studies the culture through the hula.

We are very excited that Hawaii has the chance to save the lives of elephants by passing strong legislation to help end the ivory trade, which is decimating elephant populations. It is a broadly accepted figure that an elephant is slaughtered for their tusks every 15 minutes, and that by 2025, all wild elephants will be extinct. This cannot come to pass.

Please take the lead and pass strong legislation to help end the slaughter. Please don't allow loopholes that will be exploited by the small minority of people who don't care that a species that has walked the earth for millions of years is nearly wiped out in the last 50.

Thank you so much for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Michael Paredes  
232 Severn Drive  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
[mike.paredes@gmail.com](mailto:mike.paredes@gmail.com)

**From:** [owlit1@gmail.com](mailto:owlit1@gmail.com)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 8:08:33 AM

---

I support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!" Must we keep destroying the environment and animals on this planet? Now there are those targeting our elephants all for money -absolute Greed!

Will the children of tomorrows never see a living elephant in its own habitat because we humans killed them off this planet! Do we hold up a chess piece and say, this use to be part of an elephant, and the child says "What is an elephant?" and we turn to a page in a picture book and say, "we killed them all off".

Too many animal species in the 19th century have been killed off because no one thought they should be protected. Is the elephant next? Please make it illegal to sell, or trade any parts of this magnificent creature in our state. Lets be the leaders of doing "pono" and protect all parts of the elephant.

Respectfully yours,

Frannie Pueo, (808) 769-1128 P.O. Box 943, Mt. View, Hi 96771



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**From:** [Eleanor A. Harris](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 8:29:13 AM

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Hon. Members of the Committee:

I am writing to ask for your support of HB 493 SD1, as I understand that it will provide a strong ban on the sale of ivory. There appears to be more buzz about the need to protect African elephants from being poached to extinction for their tusks. Please do not allow commerce in Hawaii to contribute to this problem by permitting trade in ivory. Elephants are known to be highly social creatures that suffer greatly when members of herd are killed. And, the thought of the African elephants being wiped from the face of the earth is horrible.

My Hawaiian family would appreciate your support for HB 493.

Sincerely,  
Eleanor Harris  
20050 Rosewood Street  
Stilwell KS 66085



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**From:** [Linda Leveen](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** please support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 8:34:28 AM

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Aloha,

I respectfully ask for your support in passing HB493. At the current rate of elephant slaughter for their tusks, this species, the world's largest land animal, will be extinct in 12-15 years.

You have the privilege of helping to save this species. The cruelty of maiming, killing, and violence for profit is toxic to our humanity. What is the message we teach when we allow it?

What is the legacy we want to leave our descendents? I hope it will not be that a thirst for ivory was so great that we wiped out an entire species of extraordinary animals.

Thank you,  
Linda Leveen  
Waikiki

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**“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***

**From:** [Patricia Donegan](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 8:46:50 AM

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Dear Committee,  
Please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants.

Elephants are remarkable, intelligent, beautiful, and fascinating animals. They are extremely endangered, particularly by the ivory trade, and unless this trade is stopped, they will be extinct in a few years.

Any steps that can be taken to stamp out this utterly immoral trade should be taken. Profit is not the ultimate criterion for law and morality.

I want my grandson to grow up in a world where elephants still exist.  
Thank you,  
Patricia Donegan

148 Wai'ale'ale Street  
Honolulu, HI 96825

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Patricia Donegan  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa  
1890 East-West Road  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
donegan@hawaii.edu 808-956-3224, 808-205-9944