

**HB493**

**HD1**

**PROPOSED**

**LATE**

**TESTIMONY**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of**  
**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
**Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on**  
**JUDICIARY AND LABOR**

**Tuesday, March 18, 2014**  
**10:00 AM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

**In consideration of**  
**HOUSE BILL 493, HOUSE DRAFT 1, Proposed SENATE DRAFT 1**  
**RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY**

House Bill 493, House Draft 1, Proposed Senate Draft 1 proposes to amend the Hawaii Revised Statutes by adding a new Chapter titled “Unlawful Sale or Trade of Ivory Products”, whereby the import, sale, offering for sale, or possession with intent to sell (including internet sales) any ivory product is prohibited. The 1<sup>st</sup> violation for such an offense would be a misdemeanor, and the second offense or subsequent offenses would be class C felonies. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill.**

African elephants are spiraling toward extinction as illegal poaching and ivory trade continue to decimate their numbers. Tusks are traded internationally and sold world-wide, often after being carved into trinkets and then being identified as some other animal tusk, or claimed as a “pre-act” tusk, meaning that it had been harvested before the 1990 international treaty (CITES) which made ivory trade illegal in many countries. In 2008, the Humane Society’s investigative report concluded that the United States was the second largest ivory market in the world. Hawaii is the third largest retail ivory market in the United States after California and New York. The Report estimated that 90% of the ivory for sale in Hawaii was imported illegally or of unknown origin.

Without laboratory analysis, it is impossible to identify ivory as to its age or even the animal type, especially if the ivory has already been carved. Fraudulent documents are frequently used to claim the ivory is pre-1990 origin, or of another species. Hawaii has one of the largest online ivory markets, but a recent survey by the Humane Society concluded that most of the ivory items could not be confirmed to be of legal origin. The Department believes that the extinction of these magnificent animals is imminent if we do not halt the ivory trade by passing these laws.

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**JESSE K. SOUKI**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

**From:** [Jean Shirk](#)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1 - NO ivory sales  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 2:55:57 PM

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Honorable Representatives,

I've been a visitor to your beautiful, unique state many times over the years. It's truly a haven for all kinds of wildlife. Thank you for your compassion and leadership. Now, Hawaii is poised to be a global leader in wildlife conservation, particularly as it relates to the endangered elephant population. Poaching is at an historic high, and the price of ivory, cut off the faces of murdered animals, is feeding an international syndicate of criminal activity. And beautiful Hawaii is the THIRD LARGEST market in the United States for the sale of this illegal blood ivory! Please act NOW to stop this senseless slaughter of these beautiful animals – Hawaii should be proud to take a stand! **Please support HB493 SD1** to stop the ongoing massacre of elephants by ending the sale of ivory in Hawaii. Let's shut down the Chinese carving factories, and preserve this iconic species for all our generations to come. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jean Shirk  
Shirk Media  
[jean@shirkmedia.com](mailto:jean@shirkmedia.com)  
510-332-4195

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rezentesc@aol.com](mailto:rezentesc@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB493 on Mar 18, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 10:28:08 AM

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**HB493**

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

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>
Cynthia K.L. Rezendes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Chair Hee and members of the JDL committee: I wish to register my opposition to the proposed SD1 in it's current form. As someone who specifically collected carved ivory jewelry from Ming's prior to their closure for not only it's beauty but it's inherent value as an investment, it appears to me as if this bill could potentially make myself or other collectors criminals if we decide to sell our collections. I would respectfully request that it be made clear that jewelry be exempted from this proposed language since it is also impossible to get verification of the origin of this ivory from a business that is no longer in business. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

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:** [Elise Allen](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ivory trade  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 10:37:35 AM

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I understand Clayton Hee sponsored HB 493 SD1, in an effort to stop the ivory trade. This is wonderful news and I hope will be well supported. As I am sure you already know, elephants are slated for extinction in 10 years! What a horrific thought!! Also, since Hawaii is the 3rd largest retailer of ivory, I feel this bill needs to be acted upon swiftly! Thankyou so very much for your time. I am confident you will do the right thing by the worlds last elephants, and lead the nation with the strongest bill against the ivory trade. I will be proud to visit Hawaii!! Be well, and Mahalo nui loa. E.A.Allen

**From:** [Lori Sirianni](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 1:32:55 PM

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Dear Chairman Hee and Members of the Hawaii Senate Judiciary Committee:

I'm writing to ask you to please support HB 493 SD1, which will be heard March 18th. Like many Americans, I hope to visit the beautiful state of Hawaii, but I want to visit an ivory-free Hawaii and visit knowing that I will not see blood ivory in any stores or shops I patronize. As a New York State resident working to also ban the sale of all ivory in my home state, I urge you to please support HB 493 SD1.

The ivory trade is primarily the result of poaching. The immeasurable suffering of gunshots, snares, and poisoned arrows that can take weeks to slowly kill elephants through excruciating pain and suffering, decimating entire herds and leaving orphaned baby elephants to die. 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 wholeheartedly support the 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 USA, possibly next only to New York and perhaps ahead of San Francisco. President Obama issued an Executive Order on July 2, 2013 establishing means to end the ivory trade and reduce poaching and its related terrorist activities. I urge you to please learn the facts regarding the poaching crisis and ivory trade. Any legal ivory trade (which is currently permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) of "pre-ban" or "pre-convention" so-called antique ivory, as well as new raw elephant imported by trophy hunters, is a cover and conduit for the massive illegal trade. The only solution is to completely ban all ivory trade. I hope you do so, for the very survival of endangered Asian and African elephants.

Sincerely,

Lori Sirianni  
21 Knox Ave.  
Upper  
Buffalo, NY 14216  
(716) 870-1670

**From:** [stlilac@aol.com](mailto:stlilac@aol.com)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1!  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 2:54:31 PM

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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,

Michelle Uglow  
Las Vegas, NV  
USA

**From:** [Denise Kaufman](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ivory  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 3:43:25 PM

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Dear Chair Hee and Senate Judiciary Committee:

My name is Denise Kaufman and I have lived in Kauai since 1972. I fully support the passage of House Bill 493, Senate Draft 1 and applaud your leadership in these efforts. The killing of elephants must stop and I'm proud to have Hawaii lead the way in helping stop the massacres.

With gratitude,  
denise



**From:** [kbakar2@comcast.net](mailto:kbakar2@comcast.net)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB 493 SD1 to Prohibit the Sale of Ivory  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 4:11:51 PM

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Dear Chair Clayton Hee and the Senate Judiciary Committee of the State of Hawaii:

Hello - I am writing to urge you to support HB 493 SD1 prohibiting ivory sales (with some exemptions) in the beautiful State of Hawaii that my family and I visit often.

I have been following Hawaii's progress with this bill for several months, and am extremely hopeful that law makers will take the lead at this critical time to save elephants from extinction by passing what will be the strongest law of its kind in the nation.

Please support HB 493 SD1 to stop the ongoing massacre of elephants by ending the sale of ivory in Hawaii. Please - it is the right thing to do. This planet does not need ivory, but we do need elephants!

Thank you,

Karen Bakar  
Walnut Creek, CA

**From:** [Kathie Maffitt](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Elephants and Ivory  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 6:09:13 PM

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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,  
Kathie Maffitt  
Salem, NH

**From:** [SUYIN PHILLIPS](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 6:51:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [pastedGraphic.pdf](#)

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Senate Judiciary Committee,

Please support this bill to protect elephants from extinction. Elephant poaching is one of the most brutal practices still in existence. Please help end this inhumane practice and trade.

Suyin

Suyin Phillips  
Adjunct Professor  
Social Sciences, Human Development  
[Suyin@hawaii.edu](mailto:Suyin@hawaii.edu)

[www.kcc.hawaii.edu](http://www.kcc.hawaii.edu)

**From:** [INSPIREVISION@aol.com](mailto:INSPIREVISION@aol.com)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [igibson@humanesociety.org](mailto:igibson@humanesociety.org)  
**Subject:** Support for HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 7:33:29 PM

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Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

Please support this important bill. Ivory was bestowed on the elephant. Ivory, stolen from the elephant by brutally killing them, becomes nothing more than a skeleton piece, and killing elephants is a gruesome, criminal act. Please help stop the suffering of these sentient beings who are appreciated and admired for who they are globally.

[Clinton calls on world leaders to end African elephant slaughter - CBS News](#)

Excerpt: African gangs, some with links to organized crime, hunt the animals in order to make a fortune from selling tusks to merchants.

[Clintons Say to End Ivory Trade, Everyone Needs to Act](#)

"Only by working together can we beat this crisis, break the nexus between trafficking and terrorism, and make sure these incredible creatures will roam the earth for generations to come," the Clintons wrote.

Mahalo,  
Jane Shiraki

**From:** [Jennifer Morris](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ivory Bill  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 8:44:27 PM

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Please support bill H493 SD1.

I think it's an important statement to not only ban the sale of ivory in our state but also to lead by example. I don't want tourists visiting our islands and coming away with the idea that we just do our own thing and don't care about the elephants.

I remember visiting Thailand and one of the store operators asked me if I wanted to buy Ivory and I walked away feeling absolutely disgusted that the country would support that. And prior to that moment I was having such a great experience. Is that the feeling we want to give our tourists when they walk out of a shop here? That we care more about money and sales then preserving the elephants? Hawaii is such a special place and the idea of killing elephants just doesn't match all the other things about Hawaii. It's a seedy, greedy trade and it doesn't belong here.

Sincerely,

Jenny Morris  
Honolulu, HI

Sent from my iPhone 5

**From:** [Rosemary Alles](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Alles, Rosemary](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 8:53:01 PM

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Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well. We thank Representative Rhoads for his worthy efforts in sponsoring HB493 SD1! Mahalo nui loa.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB493 SD1. 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.

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 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

**From:** [Stephanie Ryan](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade.  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 9:13:36 PM

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Dear Senate Judiciary Committee;

Elephants are amongst the world's most intelligent species. With a mass of just over 5 kg (11 lb), elephant brains are larger than those of any other land animal. In addition, elephants have a total of 257 billion neurons, three times more than humans. The elephant's brain is similar to that of humans in terms of structure and complexity.

Elephants exhibit a wide variety of behaviors, including those associated with grief, learning, mimicry, play, altruism, use of tools, compassion, cooperation, memory, and language. All indicate that elephants are highly intelligent; it is thought they are equal with primates. Due to the high intelligence and strong family ties of elephants, it is morally wrong for humans hunt and kill them for blood ivory trade.

Please support HB493 SD1; to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade. We can not endanger one of the oldest and most intelligent species on earth for the financial gains of a few.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephanie Ryan  
Oahu SPCA  
Founder and President  
808-349-3475  
[stephanie@oahuspca.org](mailto:stephanie@oahuspca.org)

Save a life. Spay and neuter all your pets!



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [babyjean@hotmail.com](mailto:babyjean@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB493 on Mar 18, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 10:56:11 PM

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**HB493**

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

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>
Ronnie Perry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the total banning of ivory products. The destruction of the elephant for ivory is a very disturbing trend and we need to do all we can to prevent the extinction of our beautiful creatures. Please support this bill Mahalo, Ronnie Perry

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:** [Judy Maxwell](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ivory  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 11:52:52 PM

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Please ban all ivory! We have lost so so many elephants. To be poached and killed is so important to stop. One elephant dies every 15 minutes. Please keep your well known gentle people happy.

Thank you  
Judy maxwell

**From:** [Ginger Der](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** elephants  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 12:31:04 AM

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Please help protect elephants from the blood ivory trade. You are our elected representative and the vote is supposed to occur today.  
Mahalo, Ginger Der, (808)349-9482

**From:** [Ginny Tiu](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 12:43:37 AM

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Dear Chair Hee and Committee members,

I humbly ask you to please support HB493 SD1. At the rate that elephants are being poached for their ivory, they will become extinct in a few years. These intelligent and peaceful creatures do not deserve to be slaughtered in such an inhumane way. Their faces are chopped off, while they are still alive, so that the poachers can quickly get their tusks, and they slowly and painfully bleed to death. And all for what? Ivory trinkets, jewelry, and carvings to "adorn" our homes? We truly must be more responsible to the world that we share with other creatures, and to our future generations, and not allow those who selfishly want to make a profit, with no consideration of the consequences, do as they please.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.  
Ginny Tiu

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Lindsay DuRoss](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 493 SD1  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 3:35:36 AM

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Hello,

I just wanted to email my support to ban ivory in Hawaii. An elephant is killed every 15 minutes for their ivory. I don't want to live in a world where E stands for Extinction and not Elephant.

My godmother lives in Hawaii and I have spent many marvelous vacations there visiting her and exploring this great state.

I appreciate you reading my email.

Thank you,  
Lindsay DuRoss  
Silver Spring, MD

**From:** [elise.ney@gmail.com](mailto:elise.ney@gmail.com) on behalf of [Elise](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please enact a STATE IVORY TRADE BAN!  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 3:36:17 AM

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The International Elephant March of DC is calling on Hawaiian Lawmakers to consider immediate protection of the planet's endangered elephants, by passing an urgently needed state ivory trade ban. If i laws are not put in place immediately, elephants will be forced into extinction in 10-15 years. the time to act is NOW!

Thank you,  
Elise Ney  
Washington DC

**From:** [PATRICIA STILLMAN](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Dr. and Mrs. Mark Stillman  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 3:39:36 AM

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Our generation will either be known for the generation that saved elephants or the generation that watched and did nothing as the elephants became extinct. Ivory must become Taboo, "Out of Sight, Out of Mind."

We are a greedy species and when the consumer sees something others have and own, that might have social status or monetary value, it becomes an object that is desired. This is also known, literally as one of the seven "deadly" sins. Please take action to ban all ivory before it is too late. The excuse that people will lose money is a greedy statement about our own species. An elephant's tusk must only have value to the elephants. Millions around the world are watching your actions with hopes that Hawaii votes for the elephants rather than against their right to live and flourish.

Patricia Stillman and Dr. Mark Stillman Pepper Pike, OH

**From:** [Johnambenja](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** My support on ivory trade  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 3:49:47 AM

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Hi am john abenja from Kenya, pliz pliz I want to urge you to just try to STOP all ivory trade,,,,because of our next generation pliz,,,have Marcy on this ANIMALS PLIZ,  
John



**From:** [Christina LaMonica](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Stop The Blood Ivory Trade  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 4:07:28 AM

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My name is Christina LaMonica and I'm from Akron, OH.

I work with the Elephant Neighbors Center in Nairobi, Kenya, educating communities on the benefits of Wildlife and the devastation that poaching is having on the environment and the economy.

The attached photo depicts an elephant whose tusks are being hacked off its face with an ax. The elephant is still alive when this happening. Often times, the raw ivory is smuggled out of Africa and into China where, it can be carved into jewelry, trinkets, statuettes, etc.

Do you own Ivory? If you do, this is where blood Ivory comes from. If you wear Ivory or display it in your home, you literally have a dead Elephant on your hands.

**HAWAII, stand up and join us! Say No to Ivory and help stop the illegal blood ivory trade!**

Sincerely,  
Christina LaMonica  
Elephant Neighbors Center, U.S.A.

**From:** [Chad Remis](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** NO MORE IVORY  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 4:47:38 AM  
**Attachments:** [PastedGraphic-1.tiff](#)

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My name is Chad Remis and I'm from Cuyahoga Falls, OH. I work with the Elephant Neighbors Center in Nairobi, Kenya, educating communities on the benefits of Wildlife and the devastation that poaching is having on the environment and the economy. The attached photo depicts an elephant whose tusks are being hacked off its face with an ax. The elephant is still alive when this happening. Often times, the raw ivory is smuggled out of Africa and into China, where it can be carved into jewelry, trinkets, statuettes, etc. Do you own Ivory? If you do, this is where blood Ivory comes from. If you wear Ivory or display it in your home, you literally have a dead Elephant on your hands. HAWAII, stand up and join us! Say No to Ivory and help stop the illegal blood ivory trade! Sincerely, Chad M. Remis Elephant Neighbors Center, U.S.A.

*Office: (330)217-1996*

*Mobile: (330)352-9139*

*Fax: (888)839-0961*

[chadremis@me.com](mailto:chadremis@me.com)

**From:** [nicolelauren33](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Elephants" Tusks, Elephants" Lives  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 5:42:18 AM

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Dear Hawaii,

PLEASE CHERISH ELEPHANTS! END THE IVORY TRADE NOW AND SAVE ELEPHANTS FROM DEATH, TRAUMA, PAIN, TORTURE, HUMILIATION, AND THE MOTHERS' BABY ELEPHANTS FROM A DEATH SENTENCE BEING FORCED TO FEND FOR THEMSELVES ALONE, BROKEN-HEARTED, AND DEPRESSED, OR STOLEN AND FORCED INTO TRAUMATIZING CAPTIVITY, AS AN OBJECT OF HUMAN ENTERTAINMENT and PROFIT! :'(

Thank YOU Hawaii,

Nicole Schrank, MSW  
Florida

**From:** [Michele Chavez-Pardini](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** support HB493 SD1  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 6:27:39 AM

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**Senators,**

**I am writing to ask that you support HB493 SD1. I was shocked to discover that Hawaii is one of the largest purchasers of ivory in the United States. Please support this important action to protect elephants from the blood ivory trade!**

**Sincerely Mahalo,  
Michele Chavez-Pardini  
P.O. Box 2538  
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743**

**From:** [Brian DePalma](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please save the elephants!  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 6:36:36 AM

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PLEASE SUPPORT HB 493 SD1!

We are all in the universe together, inextricably linked to one another by the very fabric of our cosmos. Please save our elephants!

**From:** [Lisa Scharin](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Elephants!  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 7:49:58 AM

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Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you to urge you to PLEASE pass a COMPLETE ban on Ivory in and out of Hawaii!

Elephants are in grave danger of beaching extinct if we do not get serious about this illegal trade and become more aggressive fighting against poaching!

Many countries have destroyed their stockpiles, China, Phillipines, and the Main land-America. It is TIME for Hawaii to join in this cause!

Not only do we need to protect elephants, we also must combat all the other illegal activities that are associated with poaching and the illegal trade of wildlife. Gun and human trafficking, drug trafficking, etc.

We cannot allow for these magnificent animals to vanish tom this planet!!!! PLEASE BAN IVORY and HELP Elephants and help the fight for illegal trade of wildlife and body parts too! HORRIFIC!!!!

Thank-you,  
Lisa Scharin  
South Carolina, USA

**From:** [Stacy Davis](#)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Protect the Elephants  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 7:57:07 AM

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Dear Sirs,

Greetings! I hope this finds you well.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB493 SD1! 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,  
Stacy Davis

Falls Church VA