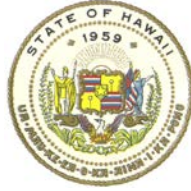


**SB 2647**

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on  
WATER, LAND & AGRICULTURE  
and  
JUDICIARY**

**Wednesday, February 10, 2016  
3:20 pm  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2647  
RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES**

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

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

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

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

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

**KEKOA W. KALUHIWA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

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

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

The Department notes that Section 183D- (e) provides certain exceptions that would apply to all covered species. This may be problematic due to potentially conflicting federal law. Under the Federal Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), the federal government regulates the possession and trade of all marine mammals and marine mammal products. Only the federal government may authorize exemptions. The Department would support a complete moratorium on the sale and distribution of protected marine mammal products unless authorized otherwise under the Marine Mammal Protection Act or other federal law.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES

**TO: Honorable Chairs Gabbard and Keith-Agaran and Committee Members  
Senate Water, Land, Agriculture & Judiciary Committees  
February 10, 320pm**

**FROM: Inga Gibson, Hawaii Senior State Director, The Humane Society of the  
United States, [igibson@humanesociety.org](mailto:igibson@humanesociety.org), 808.354.3211**

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

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

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

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

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

Trafficking in ivory, rhino horn, and other illegal wildlife products has become a very lucrative trade that fuels the poaching of many protected wildlife species and creates insecurity for both people and wildlife in many remote vulnerable areas. At \$8-10 billion per year, the illegal wildlife trade ranks as the fourth most lucrative international criminal activity, behind narcotics,

counterfeiting, and human trafficking. Evidence and seizure data suggest that wildlife trafficking is linked to transnational organized crime and even African armed militia with terrorist connections in the case of elephant poaching. Professional traffickers take advantage of lax enforcement controls to move illegal ivory across the globe. The likely annual income from ivory to militia in the entire sub-Saharan range generates millions of dollars for these terrorists, including the Lord's Resistance Army, to buy weapons, hurt innocent people and destabilize governments.

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

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

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

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

Hawaii will be hosting the IUCN Conservation Congress in September this year, the first time the Congress is ever held in the United States. Tens of thousands of the world's leading animal protection and conservation leaders will gather here to discuss the most pertinent conservation

challenges. SB2647 is Hawaii's opportunity to showcase its proud tradition and legacy of wildlife conservation on the world stage.

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



**Testimony of Dr. James C. Deutsch  
Director, Wildlife Conservation  
Vulcan Inc.**

**In Support of**

**SB 2647 – Relating to Natural Resources**

**Before the**

**Senate Committees on  
Water, Land & Agriculture  
and  
Judiciary & Labor**

**Hawaii State Legislature**

**February 10, 2016, 3:20 pm**

**V U L C A N . C O M**

Chairs Gabbard and Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

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

Vulcan Inc. is working to tackle our planet's hard problems by exploring innovative ideas and implementing creative solutions. We are driven by our Chairman and CEO, Paul G. Allen, and his desire to make a measureable impact. Across our projects and initiatives, we gather and share foundational data to inform global solutions to the world's biggest challenges, react nimbly to changing needs and new technologies, release the power of public engagement and reimagine what philanthropy can accomplish.

Over the past 40 years, the world's lands and seas have lost about half of their animal populations, with dire consequences for the function of ecological systems, the services they provide us, and the future of all life on Earth including our own. The single greatest cause of this loss, especially for large and charismatic wildlife species, has been overhunting and overfishing. A key driver has been the trade in wildlife products such as shark fin, rhino horn, elephant ivory, and live pets which has attracted organized crime and become the fourth largest criminal trade in the world.

505 Fifth Ave S Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98104  
206 342 2000 Tel  
206 342 3000 Fax

To: Senate Committees on Water, Land & Agriculture and Judiciary & Labor  
Re: Deutsch Testimony in Support of SB 2647 – Relating to Natural Resources  
Date: February 10, 2016  
Page 2 of 3

At Vulcan, by marrying our technology development and storytelling capabilities with our impact-driven philanthropy, we are working to address wildlife trafficking, while collecting data that will inform long term strategies to protect endangered species and secure a future for wildlife and ecosystems. Some of our work includes:

**Foundational Data:** The [Great Elephant Census](#) is the first pan-African aerial survey, providing updated and accurate data about the number and distribution of African savanna elephants and the poaching crisis they face. This data is vital to inform immediate protective actions and long-term conservation management plans for governments and NGOs in Africa.

The ambitious [Global FinPrint project](#) will collect the first comprehensive data on relative shark abundance across the world's coral reefs, enabling us to gauge the conservation status of shark species and populations and the health of reefs and to work with policy-makers to plan for the recovery of these vital apex predators.

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

V U L C A N . C O M

**Strengthening Communities:** In Zambia, the [South Luangwa Conservation Society](#) works with local communities and the national wildlife agency to protect and conserve one of the largest remaining populations of elephants in Africa and enable communities to deal with human-wildlife conflict and benefit from tourism.

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

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

The needless killing of these animals is resulting in the extirpation of wild populations and a rapid decline in marine and terrestrial ecosystem health. Yet despite widespread support for the conservation of these animals, taking concrete action to protect these species continues to be difficult.



To: Senate Committees on Water, Land & Agriculture and Judiciary & Labor  
Re: Deutsch Testimony in Support of SB 2647 – Relating to Natural Resources  
Date: February 10, 2016  
Page 3 of 3

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

We were pleased to be joined by many of our friends in the conservation community, organizations which also support SB 2647, to pass Initiative 1401 by a 40-point margin, winning in all 39 counties in Washington State, from the most liberal to the most conservative. We are grateful that the Hawaii state legislature is considering legislation to build upon the success of Initiative 1401, and protect even more species of animals in a state as ecologically diverse as Hawaii.

**Now we are joining together again to support SB 2647 here. Hawaii is critical in the global fight to save wildlife by combatting trafficking. Hawaii is the third largest state market for illegal elephant ivory in the U.S., and the only one of the top three states where a similar law is not yet on the books. In 2015, five Hawaii residents were charged with over 20 counts of illegal activities associated with wildlife trafficking. Hawaii can lead by example, with her strong cultural ties across the Pacific to Asia, the world's primary market for illegal and unsustainable wildlife products. In discussing plans to close domestic ivory markets in China, President Xi has specifically alluded to the importance of governments everywhere taking similar action. Hawaii's people have suffered the loss of myriad species endemic to these islands and have fought to preserve a culture that cares for all living things—that experience and perspective can now help to save some of the most valued and threatened wild creatures on Earth.**

V U L C A N . C O M

Finally, in September Hawaii will host the **World Conservation Congress**. Passage of SB 2647 will show global leadership on wildlife conservation and encourage others from around the globe to pass similar laws and protect humanity's most cherished inheritance.

I appreciate the consideration that this committee has given to this bill, and thank Chair Yamane and all of the other cosponsors for moving this bill. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I urge your support of HB 2502.

I welcome any questions you may have.

**From:** [Ginger Towle](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Protecting Wildlife from Extinction SB2647 SUPPORT  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 4:44:33 PM

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February 8, 2016

Bill SB2647 - Protection Wildlife from Extinction SUPPORT  
Scheduled hearing Feb. 10, 2016, 3::20p.m.

Attention - Chairs -Gabbard & Keith-Agaran - Water, Land Agriculture &  
Judiciary

It is extremely important that we take the plight of these animals seriously. Hawaii needs to step forward and restrict sales of all ivory, rhino horn and other endangered parts. There should be no exceptions to permitting the continued import and sales when we know how devastating this is to these animals. We are supposed to be the protectors!!

We have all read the reports and know what the future holds if we do not act swiftly.

**PLEASE PASS THIS BILL!!**

Ginger Towle - President  
West Hawaii Humane Society  
Box 1208  
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745  
towle@hawaiiantel.net  
808329-2051

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [HGHAWAII@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HGHAWAII@GMAIL.COM)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 12:34:58 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Harvey Gerwig	Hawaii Rifle Association	Oppose	No

Comments: The Hawaii Rifle Association is **STRONGLY OPPOSED** to this bill. However we would support the exact language in HB2502-HD1, with all amendments as passed out of Representative Yamane's committee last week. Thank you, Harvey Gerwig, HRA President

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)



**HUMANE SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL**

**TO: Honorable Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara and Committee Members  
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture**

**Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor**

**February 10, 2016, 3:20PM**

**FROM: Iris Ho, Humane Society International, [iho@hsi.org](mailto:iho@hsi.org), 301.258.1407**

**RE: STRONG SUPPORT of SB2647, relating to natural resources**

Humane Society International (HSI) urges the Committees' strong support of SB2647, which would protect critically imperiled species from wildlife trafficking by prohibiting the sale, offer to sell, purchase, trade, barter for, or distribute the part or product of covered animal species. The covered animal species include elephant, rhinoceros, tiger, great ape, hippopotamus, tiger, lion, cheetah, jaguar, leopard, pangolin, monk seal, shark, ray, sea turtle, narwhal, whale or walrus. This measure is part of a growing national and global momentum to save iconic and beloved species from poaching, animal cruelty and the threat of extinction. It presents Hawaii with a unique opportunity to join the international community's collective response to combat wildlife trafficking.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We are core members of Global March for Elephants and Rhinos (GMFER), an organization that has affiliates in 130 individual cities around the world. These cities have participated in annual global marches which have been cited by experts as key to the global consensus against illegal wildlife trafficking. Earlier this year, the marches were singled out by U.S. Department of State's news platform, ShareAmerica, as one of the three big wins for elephants of 2015. They said, "According to experts, these marches keep political pressure on leaders to protect the world's largest land animal. We are also core members of March for Elephants - San Francisco, a GMFER affiliate. Currently, Hawaii is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest trader of ivory in the United States. The people are looking to Hawaii to pass a ban on the trade of ivory so that Hawaii will not become the largest ivory market in the nation. Now that New York and California, currently 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> largest traders of ivory in the United States have passed ivory and rhino horn bans, it is possible that Hawaii will become the largest hub for this trade. One elephant is killed every 15 minutes. Approximately 96 elephants are killed each day to make useless trinkets and statues. In addition to these senseless deaths, many rangers who are protecting elephants, rhinos and other wildlife are killed as well. Keith Swindle, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee with the Division of Law Enforcement in Honolulu has stated that 130 rangers have been killed by poachers in Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo in the past several years. This number represents more deaths than the sum of all United States Fish and Wildlife Service rangers and special service agents who have died while in service in the history of our country. Illegal wildlife trafficking is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest criminal activity after drugs, arms and human trafficking. Ivory and rhino horn trade have been directly linked to the illegal activity of these criminal syndicates. By passing SB 2647, Hawaii will become a role model for other states to pass similar bans and together, help end the deadly poaching of these endangered and magnificent beings. Unless action is taken now, we will lose these intelligent and emotionally sentient creatures forever. We urge you to pass SB 2647.

Kind regards,

Rosemary Alles  
Julie Callahan

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



**From:** [Maria Mossman](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:22:16 AM

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Dear Sirs,

It is estimated that upwards of 35,000 elephants continue to be slaughtered for their ivory every year. At this rate of poaching, the two species of African elephants (savannah and forest) could disappear from the wild within a generation. The window of opportunity for saving them is rapidly shrinking. As you are aware, the most significant way that elephants can be saved from extinction is by ending consumer demand for ivory and closing down domestic ivory markets, everywhere.

Between 2010 and 2012 over 100,000 elephants were brutally slaughtered for their ivory. Tanzania alone has lost 60% of its elephant population, and Mozambique around half. The trade is fuelled by organized criminal syndicates and widespread corruption, and terrorist groups are also involved in, and partly funded by, poaching and trafficking.

In 2014, the US government announced federal initiatives to ban ivory, and in July 2015 President Obama proposed new regulations that would virtually eliminate all ivory trade in the US. In February 2015, China imposed a 1-year ban on the import of carved ivory, and in May announced it would 'take measures to strictly control its ivory trade until eventually halting commercial processing and the sale of ivory and its products'.

Hawaii is now one of the largest states to allow the sale of ivory and the world is now asking why you have not put a ban in place.

**"Hawaii is a major American gateway to Asia. Tourists from the continent adore elephant ivory that's carved into ornate art and jewelry, and Hawaiian merchants are happy to oblige with sales.**

**A thriving ivory retail market has placed Hawaii behind only New York and California in sale volume at a time when massive numbers of elephants are being illegally slaughtered for their tusks. But now, after California's governor signed a ban on sales Sunday and New York instituted a ban last year, Hawaii stands alone among America's big three as a place where the artifact can be sold over the counter for cash."**

Elephants continue to be slaughtered across Africa, despite the many efforts of African nations trying to protect their heritage, and these magnificent creatures, the killings have not slowed down!

Rhinos are moving each day toward extinction, the worlds wildlife plummets at an exasperating speed. We could see many animals no longer on this earth if we do not tackle wildlife crime NOW!

The time is now for Hawaii to close down it's legal ivory markets and say NO to wildlife crime, and show the world you are a state of conservation. How can you host the IUCN World Conservation Congress when you still contribute to fuelling the ivory and rhino horn trade that will see elephants and rhinos go



extinct.

<http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/about/about-congress>

I ask you that you SUPPORT the BILL SB2647 with “NO AMENDMENTS” and save the worlds largest animal whilst there is still time.

I hope truly for the animals that you pass this bill.

Your sincerely

Maria Mossman

Founder [Action for Elephants UK](#)



**Hawaiian Humane Society**  
People for animals. Animals for people.

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

February 10, 2016

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair  
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Water, Land & Agriculture  
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor  
Hawaii State Capitol  
235 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

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

Senators Gabbard, Nishihara, Keith-Agaran & Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

Thank you for accepting this testimony on behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society in support of Senate Bill 2647. This bill prohibits the trafficking of threatened and endangered animals species, both wildlife and marine, allowing for specific exceptions. Our organization cares about the suffering of all animals and we support its prevention.

The needless and inhumane killing of the animals in order to obtain their parts and products threatens their extinction and undermines attempts at species preservation.

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

Sincerely,

Mary Steiner  
Policy Advocate



**Conservation Council  
for Hawai'i**

*Hawai'i's voice for wildlife*

*Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu*



Testmony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture  
And Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Hearing: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:20 pm  
Conference Room 224

In Support for SB 2647 Relating to Natural Resources

Chair Gabbard, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Vice Chair Shimabukuro,

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 2647, which prohibits the sale, offer to sell, purchase, trade, or barter of any part or product from various animal and marine species, and provides exceptions to this prohibition, including for traditional cultural practices protected under the state constitution, and imposes penalties for violations of the prohibition on trafficking animal parts and products, including specific administrative fines; effective January 1, 2017.

Many of the animals covered in the bill are on the verge of extinction. For example, an average of 96 elephants are killed each day for ivory. At this rate, they will go extinct in the next 25 years or so. Similarly, rhinoceroses are critically endangered and may also go extinct in the next few decades.

These magnificent animals are slaughtered for the sale of jewelry and trinkets, which are non-essential items. Hawai'i contributes to the endangerment and slaughter of these animals by allowing the trafficking of items made from elephant ivory, rhinoceros horns, and other animal parts.

Currently, we are the third largest market for elephant ivory in the country, third to New York and California. Soon, we may be the first because these states recently passed laws to ban the trafficking of elephant ivory.

It is hard to imagine a world for our children and future generations without elephants, rhinoceroses, and other wildlife at risk today. Please kokua and support SB 2647.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

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

President: Julie Leialoha | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rmitchell@elephantprotection.org](mailto:rmitchell@elephantprotection.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:31:07 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Mitchell	Elephant Protection Association	Oppose	No

Comments: This is feel good/do bad legislation that will hurt wildlife along with innocent people who own legal ivory or other wildlife specimens. This one-size-fits-all prohibition on trade of wildlife would strip local African countries and communities of their ability to balance sustainable use of wildlife with reasonable regulatory limits. Indirect hunting bans will strip conservancies of badly needed revenue from legal hunts. Permanent bans on ivory trade surrenders elephants to black market poachers. America's experience with prohibition and alcohol shows what happens when you take away all of the carrots and try to govern only using sticks. Black markets will flourish, animals will be reduced to nuisances, and local communities will find ways to get rid of them. Attached I'm sending IUCN's description of the White Rhino. South Africa saved this species from extinction by partnering with private land owners and allowing sustainable use, bringing them back from 50 animals to over 22,000. Meanwhile, countries like Kenya that prohibit hunting and any other consumptive use have watched Northern White Rhinos go extinct while they lost 60-85% of all of their other wildlife populations. Please look at the science, don't take tools away from African countries that they need to manage wildlife, allow successful conservation programs to flourish, and vote "No" on this bill.

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [hartmanb001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:hartmanb001@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 1:55:03 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Hartman	Whaler's Locker Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments: SB 2647 Please take note that this legislation is NOT based of factual information. Can any one of you show me illegal ivory being sold in Hawaii? Where is the evidence? How many trafficking violations are happening right now? (Show me) There is little or none. A lot can be done to help Hawaii environmentally and this is not even close. Defeat this Bill. Come talk to us about constructive ideas that will save our oceans and islands. We will help.

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**From:** [Andy Batlemento](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT SB2647  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 8:26:30 AM

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**Please SUPPORT SB2647 with No Amendments to prohibit the sale of ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species parts and products.**

The USA must close all of its loopholes that encourage and allow the sale of illegal ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species parts and products. We are losing the World's treasures and without animals that have been here for millions of years, the world will surely lose all of its magic. Future generations will never know the sound of a majestic elephant's trumpet or witness the loving nature between a baby rhino and it's mother, or see a playful lion cub or a baby giraffe in the wild . To not support SB2647 would be turning your back on all that is right and good in the world and not only that, you are turning your back on future generations that don't even have a voice in this matter... if they did, surely they would say that E is for Elephant... not extinction!

By **SUPPORTING SB 2647** you are saying that nature and life is far more important than a carving or a trinket that is worthless when you look at the big picture because the world needs Elephants and Rhinos and other endangered species more than it needs carvings, voodoo medicine and trophies of dead animals... the world needs its treasures and you have the power to help save them.

Thank you for your support. .

Andrea Batlemento

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 8:14:20 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
anita wintner	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support SB2647.

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**From:** [Barb Mackraz](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please support SB2647, to end wildlife trafficking  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 8:41:25 AM

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Dear Legislators,

I respectfully ask that you **support measure SB 2647 with NO amendments**, to end the sale of ivory, rhino horn, and the body parts of other endangered species in Hawaii. The horrible rise of wildlife trafficking in recent years is driving elephants and other iconic species to extinction, destabilizing Africa, and fueling terrorist organizations and international criminal networks. Hawaii is one of the biggest markets in the US for these goods. **Please, please put an end to this cruel and destructive trade.**

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,  
Barbara Mackraz



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [launahale@yahoo.com](mailto:launahale@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 10:35:02 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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**From:** [Bobby Grimes](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking"  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 9:03:44 AM

---

SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking

Please pass this Bill it is in all of Hawaii residents best interest and it will be a good thing for every human in this world. Mahalo nui.

Bobby Grimes

**Bobby Grimes**  
**Director of Development and Operations**  
**Haina Mill Earth Products LLC (HMEP)**  
**GEMCo Green Resources**  
**GGR Real Estate Holdings, LLC**

**Owner and CEO- Living Soils Services LLC**  
**Farm as School- Food as Medicine**  
**P.O. Box 107**  
**Paaulo, HI**  
**96776**  
**808.443.9232**

[Medium.com/@kenta/the-largest-compost-pile-in-the-world-31ac2c45950](https://medium.com/@kenta/the-largest-compost-pile-in-the-world-31ac2c45950)  
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[www.livingsoilsorganics.com](http://www.livingsoilsorganics.com)  
[www.iFarmhawaii.org](http://www.iFarmhawaii.org)  
<http://www.bobbygrimes.com/>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLoiTR4XpkQ>  
[www.picasaweb.google.com/biodynamichawaii](http://www.picasaweb.google.com/biodynamichawaii)

**"Biodynamic farmers work is grounded in an evolving understanding of the forces and substances that fashion living nature".**

Charlotte Mukai  
3512 Akaka Place  
Honolulu, HI 96822

SB2647  
RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES  
Senate Water, Land and Agriculture Committee  
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Public Hearing – February 10, 2016  
3:20 p.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 224

By

Charlotte Mukai, 2L, William Richardson School of Law, Student Animal Legal Defense  
Fund chapter member

I support this bill because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. Hawaii is the third largest ivory market in the United States and may grow as the California ban takes effect in July. SB 2647 will prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory as well as rhinoceros horn and parts of other protected animal species.

An average of 96 elephants are killed EVERY day, mostly for ivory. Blood ivory funds terrorist activities.

“The combination of improved international trade links and weak enforcement proves a powerful and extremely lucrative incentive for the criminal networks leading the poaching of African’s elephants.” - National Geographic

Hawaii should ensure that it cannot be part of this network by banning the trafficking in parts of or products made of protected animal species.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on this bill.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [cbrosius@yahoo.com](mailto:cbrosius@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 8:52:28 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris Brosius	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** [Cindy Walker](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support SB2647 Wildlife Trafficking  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 7:38:18 PM

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Dear Hawaii Legislators,

As a Hawaii resident, I felt compelled to write to you today to ask you to please support the very important Bill SB2647 with No Amendments.

This Bill will prohibit the sale of Ivory, Rhino Horn & other Endangered Species parts & products.

As the 3rd largest retailer for Ivory in the U.S., Hawaii is at a very important crossroads in the fight to Save Elephants & Rhino from Extinction. Every 15 minutes an Elephant is cruelly slaughtered for it's Ivory tusk, 100 Elephants a day are killed, 35,000 plus a year are killed, for their Ivory. Ivory that is turned into jewelry, made in to elaborate carving's. Why are we allowing Elephants to be killed for a trinket? Elephants are being decimated in South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, Congo and beyond for their horn. They will be extinct in just 10 years, in our lifetime, of we don't Stop the demand for Ivory and Ban the Trade.

Rhino Horn is simply made of Keratin, the same as our fingernails. If you believed in the myth of Rhino Horn curing cancer or curing sexual dysfunction, you could simply chew your own fingernails! Why is an innocent animal being mercilessly killed for it's horn? How can we let these keystone species year after year be slaughtered for a myth? For satiating an ego?

It's time we stand up as a culture and say times have changed, we know now where Ivory & Rhino Horn comes from, it comes from animals that must be killed to obtain it. Let's accept our responsibility in helping save these animals from extinction & not contribute to it. Let's say NO to Ivory, NO to Rhino Horn and any other product that comes from an endangered species.

The people of Hawaii are known for their love & respect of nature. Let's be an example to the rest of the U.S. States that we are doing the right thing by supporting Bill SB2647 That Hawaii citizens will not sit by and do nothing, we won't allow the African Elephant or the Rhino or the great African Lion to go extinct on our watch.

As a foster mom to orphaned Elephants & Rhino at The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya, this subject is very personal & vitally important to me. The devastation caused by poaching is beyond heartbreaking. So many innocent victims. Ivory poached from an Elephant is called Blood Ivory for a reason. The trade is destabilizing Africa, funding terrorism, killing Wildlife Rangers & Conservationists and murdering 100,000's of innocent Elephants, Rhino, Lions & many other animals.

As a Hawaii citizen, I feel it's extremely important that we lead by example, that we say Hawaii is NOT a gateway state to sell endangered animal parts and by doing so we support the passing of Bill SB2647 with No Amendments. We will not let these animals go extinct for a myth or a bracelet. We need to make a stand that we will not support the slaughter of innocent wildlife to support the ego & greed of others.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Cindy Walker  
Haiku, HI  
96708

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 1:22:30 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Dinner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We simply cannot continue killing and selling animals for superficial need if we wish to continue to live on this planet. We have a great opportunity here to keep Hawaii free from poaching victims.

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [d.morris64@comcast.net](mailto:d.morris64@comcast.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 8:09:28 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Diana Morris	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support this Bill with no amendments. Thank you.

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [douglasperrine@yahoo.com](mailto:douglasperrine@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM\*  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 11:05:20 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** [Eileen Larney](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:03:15 AM

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Dear Chairs Gabbard and Keith-Agaran's Water, Land, Agriculture & Judiciary Committees,

I am writing to ask that you please support Bill SB2647, that would prohibit the sale of ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species parts and products with NO amendments. There is a global crisis and Hawaii is a key player in the black market trade of wildlife products, particularly in elephant ivory - consisting over 85% of all product in Hawaii's current online retail market in wildlife products. As you have in the past with other animal welfare issues, please take a strong stance in support of this bill with no amendments. Opening the door for other species legal trade will not help the issue, only lead to even more underground illegal activities in wildlife trafficking. Please join the global community in support of this bill.

Sincerely,  
Eileen Larney

-----  
Eileen Larney, Ph.D.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [franny234@gmail.com](mailto:franny234@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 11:42:38 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Franny Brewer	Individual	Support	No

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

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**From:** [Jack Fay](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT SB2647-Wildlife Trafficking  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 4:49:08 PM

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Please support this important bill (SB 2647) with “no amendments”!

Thank you very much!

Jack Fay

**Jack Fay**  
**Jonathan Fay, P.C.**  
**PO Box 764**  
**Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0764**  
**Phone: 701.293.9190**

**North Dakota address:**

**500 Second Ave. N.**  
**Suite 400**  
**Fargo, ND 58102**

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February 8, 2016

Re: Senate Bill 2647 and Senate Bill 2642

Dear Senators:

I am writing in SUPPORT of the proposed Senate Bill 2647 that would prohibit trafficking in animal parts including many of those endangered species found here in Hawaii, such as the sea turtles and monk seals. As a state that sees millions of visitors each year, we know there are unscrupulous people who prey on visitors by selling to them animals parts from all around the globe. This bill would help protect those animals by increasing legal protection to those animals in their home countries and by making it more difficult for illegal activities to take place in Hawaii.

In addition, Senate Bill 2642 is more specific in protecting sharks and rays from being killed in protected waters. I strongly support this bill also.

Please consider the thousands of animals your vote may help protect. Please vote IN FAVOR of Senate Bill 2647 and Senate Bill 2642.

Mahalo for your consideration of these important laws.

Sincerely yours,

Janet R. Britt  
77-213 Mahiehie Street  
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
808-769-4343  
[janet@hilt.org](mailto:janet@hilt.org)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mendezj@hawaii.edu](mailto:mendezj@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM\*  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 8:54:16 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jlmilkyway@gmail.com](mailto:jlmilkyway@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 7:29:14 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
jeanne lindgren	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing in support of SB 2647. To me, it is essential that we pass this to take a stand to protect the world's land and marine animals. This world needs complete and balanced ecosystems to function properly, and to live in a world without these animals would be to live in a diminished world. Please do the right thing for Hawaii and for our future. Other reasons to support this bill include: We need a state law in Hawai'i because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban ivory sales. An average of 96 elephants are killed EVERY day, mostly for ivory. Blood ivory funds terrorist activities. Wildlife rangers protecting wildlife habitat in Afritca are killed in the line of duty. Elephant ivory is used to make unnecessary items, such as jewelry, trinkets, and netsuke (statues). Other animals are killed needlessly, and SB 2647 will protect all of them.

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Dear Members of the Hawaii Senate – WLA/JDL Committees,

On Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 3:20 pm you will hear bill SB 2647, a bill relating to the conservation of animals, specifically banning the sales of protected species and ivory products in the state of Hawaii. I implore you to defeat this bill as it will directly impair my future employment as well the livelihood of many honest, reputable small business owners, skilled craftsmen, and employees in our state.

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

With Aloha,

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

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jfischer@hawaii.edu](mailto:jfischer@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 04, 2016 3:28:38 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
joel fischer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SB2647: PLEASE SUPPORT THIS BILL! Thank you for introducing this bill. Our Hawai'i has to stay in the forefront of protection of our land and marine animals. I am literally jumping for joy that the passage of this bill will add to the protection of these significant animals that cannot protect themselves. Please pass SB2647. Thank you. Aloha, joel Dr. Joel Fischer Professor (RET.) UH, Manoa

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [petrask001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:petrask001@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 9:37:45 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Petras	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The trade in endangered species and their body parts is barbaric, and has no place in the 21st century. There is NO medicinal value or magical power associated with these body parts, and there are suitable substitutes for all of them, even for traditional cultural purposes (I oppose the exemption for cultural purposes as well). If the legislature is concerned about the economic impact of stopping the local endangered species trade, think of the impact of NOT stopping the trade. You can be sure that the reputation of the Aloha State will be dragged through the mud of public opinion, undermining the hard work of the visitor's bureau. Remember how people reacted to the slaughter of Cecil the Lion last year? Do we want that kind of attention for our state? And remember the Al Shabab attacks in Kenya a couple of years ago, resulting in hundreds of deaths and injuries? Those attacks were funded by IVORY sales. If you won't pass the bill because it is the right thing to do for the species we are blessed to share this planet with, then please do it in enlightened self-interest. And please, make the penalties meaningful. No one who is selling powdered rhino horn for \$40K a pound is going to care about a petty misdemeanor conviction and a meager fine.

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**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dcavebear@gmail.com](mailto:dcavebear@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 12:07:11 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keith Krueger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I wish to go on record as supporting SB2647. Our species is wiping out other species at an alarming rate - diversity is necessary to maintain a balance. Short sighted and/or greedy individuals who would destroy our ecosystems in order to sell trinkets or possess trophies represent the worst that our species has to offer - they are stealing the future viability of our planet from our children.

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**From:** [Kerry-Jayne Wilson](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT BILL SB2647 with "NO AMENDMENTS"  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 11:35:21 AM

---

SUPPORT BILL SB2647 with "NO AMENDMENTS"

We share this planet. We are one family. We are passing through this world. We are custodians of nature and all sentient beings; human and non human. Be brave. Be bold. Be smart. For now and for future generations.

SUPPORT BILL SB2647 with "NO AMENDMENTS"

Thank you

Kerry-Jayne

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [changkwaix@aol.com](mailto:changkwaix@aol.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 10:07:15 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kevin Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** [Kristen Moux](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Feb 10, 2016 Hearing at 3:20 for SB2647, SB2642 and SB2512  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 9:05:34 AM

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Aloha Senate,

This is in support of SB2647, SB2642 and SB2512. Endangered sea animals should be protected! These animals which provide such valuable support to our ecosystem need a chance to regain their population and grow their numbers before their species is disappeared from our earth forever. My grandchildren and their grandchildren deserve to grow up in a world where they can see these animals, too! Please represent the people and vote in support of SB2647, SB2642 and SB2512!

With Love,

Kristen Moux  
Kristen Moux Events  
Chat: 389-7421  
Write: [hello@kristenmouxevents.com](mailto:hello@kristenmouxevents.com)  
[www.kristenmouxevents.com](http://www.kristenmouxevents.com)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lberthold@yahoo.com](mailto:lberthold@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 1:51:27 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laura Berthold	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban ivory sales. An average of 96 elephants are killed EVERY day, mostly for ivory. These are important species to the world and should be protected. Ivory funds terrorist activities. People are killed over this. Elephant ivory is used to make unnecessary items, such as jewelry, trinkets, and netsuke (statues). Other animals are killed needlessly, and SB 2647 will protect all of them.

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**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [laurakaakua@gmail.com](mailto:laurakaakua@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 7:30:26 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laura Kaakua	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban ivory sales. We need a state law in Hawai'i because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. Hawai'i should not play a part in the daily killing of elephants, mostly for ivory. Mahalo for your consideration.

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**From:** [Laurie Pottish](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB2647  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 9:48:00 AM

---

I SUPPPORT SB2647.

Laurie Pottish  
2892 iwalani St.  
Makawao, Hi 96768

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lccrampton@gmail.com](mailto:lccrampton@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM\*  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 9:30:11 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Crampton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** [M. Markl](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB2647  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 10:12:21 PM

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Please educate people that tusks come from animals who are killed for them. Those who know and don't care, those animals are more important than their jewelry, etc. that comes at the cost of their life. Please pass this to slow down the extinction.

**From:** [Mary James](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB2647 Feb. 10, 2016 hearing  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 7:44:24 PM

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I support this bill. Elephant rhinoceros and other lives are more important than ivory or other products. We need to do whatever we can to stop the senseless killing of these wonderful animals.

Mary James

**From:** [mary & robert](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT SB2647: Wildlife Trafficking  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 1:42:04 PM

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Please pass this bill! We cannot risk elephants becoming extinct in our world. All for the sake of retailers and customers selling and buying ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species parts and products. This is a totally unnecessary thing to lose a species over. Should losing a species really be all about money and profit??? Should the human race use what it has until it is gone forever???

Hawaii is the nation's 3rd largest retailer of ivory and a magnet for illegal wildlife trafficking. Approximately 96 elephants are killed each day for their tusks and may be extinct in the wild within the next 10 - 15 years. We, as a state, can make a difference.

Do we, as a state, really need to be selling these items for profit when it risks eventually losing a species??? Is profit ever worth that?? I realize that 10 - 15 years may seem a long time off to worry about it now but do we wait until it is too late???

Again, please pass this bill.

Mahalo,  
Mary Menacho  
Secretary/Treasurer of West Hawaii Humane Society

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [megan.pittsley@gmail.com](mailto:megan.pittsley@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 8:39:22 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Megan Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [bondma@cs.com](mailto:bondma@cs.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 10:08:44 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Bond	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please be sure to pass SB2647. Though I live on Molokai I have been to Africa and seen the horrible slaughter of elephants. They are being killed at the rate of one elephant every fifteen minutes, and will be extinct by 2025 unless we stop the illegal poaching for ivory. It is essential that the Hawaiian government take a stand against poaching. We are the third-largest market for ivory in the US, mostly due to Chinese tourists. PLEASE PASS SB2647!

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**Testimony Submitted to  
the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture  
and Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
In Support of SB 2647  
February 10, 2016**

Chair Gabbard, Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

I am writing to offer my strong support for **SB 2647**, which would prohibit the sale, offer to sell, purchase, trade, or barter of any part or product from various animal and marine species, with limited exceptions.

I understand that many of the animals covered in the bill are on the verge of extinction, that, for example, an average of 96 elephants are killed each day for ivory, at which rate they could go extinct within as little as 25 years. Rhinoceroses and other species also are critically endangered. Hawaii contributes to the endangerment and slaughter of those and other animal species by allowing the trafficking of items made from elephant ivory, rhinoceros horns, and other animal parts.

According to Civil Beat, we are the third largest market for elephant ivory in the country. Because New York and California recently have passed laws to the trafficking of elephant ivory, we soon will become the largest market, so it is important that Hawaii play its part in preventing the extinction of those magnificent creatures.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Michael Sullivan  
Hilo, Hawai'i

From: [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
To: [WLA Testimony](#)  
Cc: [lincolnmichele@yahoo.com](mailto:lincolnmichele@yahoo.com)  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 6:15:05 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michele Lincoln	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: OPPOSED Please vote "NO" on the proposed legislation: SB 2647. The rationale for this law would dictate that other items must be included on the list of unsaleable products, in Hawaii, in response to atrocities committed around the world. If state legislation will stop global trafficking of illegal collectables and luxury items then ban the sale of all diamonds. "Blood diamonds" refer to the loss of human life for the sake of illegal diamonds. Human life is precious. We are created in the image of God. The general public cannot differentiate diamonds from crystals and rhinestones so these must be included in the ban as these items could contribute to the "Blood diamond" trade. Every object of precious wood that is endangered or threatened would have to be included in SB 2647. There are many other items that contribute to endangered species and habitats. Considering the impact Hawaii wants to make for the September convention and in all fairness and conservation of all these precious lives, the list of non-saleable items must be expanded. It must include any and all products from threatened and endangered species or their habitats. It will cripple our economy but will have the affect we are going for. This would "demonstrate Hawaii's leadership in global conservation in wildlife trafficking and endangered species." It sends a message around the world to where the problems actually exist. China and other Asian countries are the largest contributors to illegal trafficking of protected species. Americans contribute to their economy by purchasing products made by them. If you want to protect threatened and endangered species stop all economic trade with the offending countries. If nations would unite and stop economic trade, until the offending countries complied, it would save any animal you want to protect. Though this concept would be the most effective it would not gain huge support because it would affect economics. Yet, we are trampling on the rights of millions of law abiding American citizens in a wasted effort that will have little impact on illegal trade. Webster defines religion as "a cause, principle, or belief held to with faith and ardor" and religious means "devoted to that which is held to be of ultimate importance". Animal advocacy is one of the most prevalent and acceptable religions in our culture. It is one of the oldest religious practices. Today it is manifested in some corrupt charitable organizations, which advocate for animals in unscrupulous ways. Animals have been used to deceive mankind from the very beginning by taking some truth and manipulate it. It is the oldest trick in "The Book". Satan is the "father of lies". The same practices are exercised today by some advocacy groups. This

legislation is based on lies and deceit. "The LORD detests lying lips." Please protect Americans and the freedoms provided under our Constitution. The negative ramifications of SB 2647 will be far reaching, affecting many people that depend on you to protect them. Many Americans will be devastated by this bill as they will not be able to sell legally obtained ivory. Many artists will be out of work. It is offensive that some of our legislators feel compelled to pass legislation that will not ultimately save elephants but will cause great harm to their constituents. Law abiding, hardworking, tax-paying Americans in the legal ivory industry will be unemployed and those who have inherited or collected ivory will not be able to liquidate assets. We expect righteousness in our country's leadership with reasonable laws to govern our Country. China is the greatest offender in black market collectables yet we are choosing to punish tax paying Americans. North America is not on the list of black market ivory as listed by CITES the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (<http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/65/E-SC65-42-01.pdf>). It criminalizes an indigenous American art form of scrimshaw that was started by the American whalers. It is unconscionable what it will do to Alaskan tribes that depend on carving walrus ivory or selling fossil walrus and mammoth ivory. It is our Native American's heritage and source of income. Walrus and whales are protected and are not at risk. Mammoth are extinct like the dinosaur. It is ludicrous to think that banning fossil material is going to affect the elephant ivory trade. Each ivory has unique characteristics to identify them. If law enforcement agencies are currently unable to identify various ivories and ivory like materials, then this indiscriminate, encompassing statutory material is not the best solution. How will they tell the differences between bone, resin, tagua nuts (vegetable ivory), ivorine (plastic fake ivory) and anything else that resembles ivory? We all agree that something must be done to save endangered species. CITES is an international convention that is currently addressing the elephant poaching issue. If Hawaii is one of the most prolific in ivory sales, it would be of legal ivory. Our state is historically known across the country and internationally as a source for legal ivories including antique pieces, pre-1989 elephant ivory, pre-1972 whale teeth, fossil walrus, and mammoth ivory. It should also make you aware of the positive monetary impact it has on our state. Our Federal Government already has enforcement in place and is doing an excellent job. It would be redundant to have state and federal enforcement. Where would the funding come from for the individual state legislation enforcement personnel? Keep in mind how many tax dollars will be lost if legal ivory is made illegal. Many collectors have purchased ivory with the advice that it is an investment in art. Forbes Magazine "Collecting Smart" described collecting antique whale teeth as "positively sizzling" and encouraged it as an art collectable. Tax-paying voters have collections worth millions of dollars of legally obtained ivories and other legal animal products. This legislation is an unconstitutional taking. Also, factor in the higher unemployment rate and the necessity for more bankruptcy. It could cost our state millions of dollars and will not save elephants. If you really believe our state has a legitimate issue with illegal ivory, consider increasing the existing Federal enforcement agency with the current adequate laws, rather than criminalize your constituents with an overall ivory ban. Here is just one example of how many Americans SB 2647 would negatively impact. Fossilized ivory material is dug from the Alaskan tundra by natives. It is sent to Maui to a Hawaiian that polishes the material in preparation for artwork. Then it goes to local scrimshanders for artwork. It is sold on Front Street in a locally veteran

owned establishment; one of the oldest shops in Lahaina. Consider how many Americans this employs and the taxes paid along the way. Many of these people have no other source of income. It is shameful that wealthy individuals and organizations come to Hawaii to advocate for animals when we have a serious homeless crisis and overcrowded living conditions. Their efforts will cause more financial hardship for families living hand to mouth. The United States' individual proposed ivory legislation ultimately will not protect elephants. The eminent harm is greater to the American citizens! Please do not adopt legislation to ban the sale of ivory. Vote "NO" on SB 2647.

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**Cc:** [kupono.aina@gmail.com](mailto:kupono.aina@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 1:22:57 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mika Ashley-Hollinger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in full support of SB 2647....please take care of our Wildlife and protect any and all species. No selling or importing of endangered species materials. Please Support this Bill and Help Protect our Prcious Wildlife. mahalo Mika Ashley-Hollinger

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**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mmmmahalo2000@aol.com](mailto:mmmmahalo2000@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 6:22:59 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Gabbard. Your record speaks for itself on issues to protect animals and support humane treatment of them. Please direct the committee to take any actions to reduce the killing of elephants for any reason, bur especially for the ignorant actions of those who wish to promote ivory selling. Mahalo, Mike Moran  
Maui

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**From:** [mrrose@sonic.net](mailto:mrrose@sonic.net)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support SB2647: Wildlife Trafficking  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 9:47:55 AM

---

I am asking the committee to support SB2647 banning the sale of elephant ivory, rhino horn, and other exotic wildlife parts for sale in Hawaii and asking the committee to support the bill with No Amendments. Thank you very much.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [peggy@bondcarr.com](mailto:peggy@bondcarr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 11:30:59 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peggy Lucas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SP2647 and urge the Hawaii Legislature to pass this bill. Maholo Peggy Lucas Molokai

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Testimony of Rachel Neville  
Supporting with Amendments S.B. 2647 Relating to Natural Resources  
Committee on Water Land and Agriculture and Committee on Judiciary  
Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:20 PM Room 224

I support S.B. 2647 with amendments. The penalties are too low to serve as a deterrent and must be increased. Hawai'i is the third largest market in the United States for illegal ivory after New York and California. The United States is the second largest market for ivory after China. Hawai'i therefore has an obligation to create policies that will stem the flow of illegal ivory through the state.

Ivory kills elephants and people. At least 80 elephants are killed for their ivory every day. If the slaughter continues as it has for the past ten years, elephants may go extinct in the wild in our lifetime. The wildlife rangers in Africa's great national parks must carry military grade weapons to match that of the poachers. Many rangers have died protecting elephants. Money from ivory smuggling funds civil wars, terrorism and organized crime. National Geographic recently wrote an article describing how the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda sells poached ivory to fund its war and its practice of forcing children to become soldiers.

Although I am very pleased to see this bill introduced, the penalties must be increased in order for it to be effective. A fine of \$100 is not going to deter anyone from smuggling ivory. It is fair to assume that at least one person was murdered for every ivory trinket carved from an elephant tusk. The penalties should reflect that fact.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony,

Rachel Neville  
Honolulu, HI

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rachelrounds@hotmail.com](mailto:rachelrounds@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 9:13:58 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel Rounds	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB2647 with no amendments. We need a state law in Hawai'i because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban ivory sales. Sales of ivory are used to fund criminal activities, and rangers are killed trying to protect these wild animals. Hawaii should help protect them as well.

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [makikirandy@yahoo.com](mailto:makikirandy@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 9:19:34 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 2647. We should not kill animals to make money off of their body parts. We need to protect endangered species as well.

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Hawaii State Legislature  
Committee: WLA/JUD  
Hearing: Feb. 10, 2016. 8:30 AM  
Measure No. SB 2647  
OPPOSED

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

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

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

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

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

Hawaii has a long history with the sea and those who visited our islands and today very few items can be purchased by our visitors that is not manufactured in China in factory assembly lines. Our

artisans are a cottage industry where individuals like myself spend countless hours at our desks slowly creating individual pieces cherished by thousands of people worldwide and promotes our islands. Scrimshaw offers the consumer a tangible art and until now a valuable place to invest money. In addition scrimshaw promotes the history of our islands and the influence of the variety of peoples who relocated here. Scrimshaw also forces those selling the art to inform the tourists about our history in Hawaii and the importance the whaling industry made to the growth of our nation.

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

1. This bill will not stop poaching but instead increase the value for those engaged in the illegal elephant ivory trade.
2. This bill will make any ivory item or items with ivory worthless thus stealing from **your constituents**.
3. This bill will put people out of work that have dedicated their lives to producing fine art made from ivory.
4. This bill will eliminate one of the few "souvenirs" that our visitors can afford to purchase while visiting our islands leaving only cheap souvenirs primarily made in China as souvenirs of their visit here.
5. This bill will eliminate any value invested in ivory by thousands of individuals, many of which are your own constituents
6. This bill is based on very flimsy or non-existent facts that Hawaii is a major destination of illegal ivory.
7. This bill supposes that without such a law individuals will be encouraged to deal with other illegal materials which is preposterous as nobody today hunts whales for their teeth (and never in history did), nor modern walruses for their tusks. Any hunting done today of walruses is the prerogative of the Inuit people of Alaska and Canada and in the case of Alaska can only be traded by those possessing licenses issued by the state of Alaska if they are not native peoples.
8. This bill supposes that distinguishing different ivories from one another is virtually impossible when this simply is not true and can be taught in minutes how to determine one from another.
9. This bill will eliminate another source of revenue to Hawaii.
10. This bill rewards individuals reporting perceived violations thus creating a police state and growing paranoia of the people.
11. This bill is nothing more than a feel-good piece of legislation designed to punish everyone who sells, trades or owns any ivory or item with ivory and accomplishes absolutely nothing to protect elephants or rhinos.

China is widely known as the primary consumer of illegally obtained elephant ivory as well illegally obtained rhino horn, not America as a whole and certainly not in Hawaii as is being said by those with alternative motives.

This bill in no way attains what it is intended to attain and only offers negatives not positives and should never be considered as a viable means of protecting threatened species of any kind. America already has laws that protect threatened species worldwide and this law does nothing but create hardships for many people by adding to the unemployment lines thus forcing persons like myself to draw unemployment money since my skills at age 67 offer little with which to find employment. The end result for myself if passed will ensure that I will be forced to leave our islands which has been my home for 45 years as the cost of living here is prohibitive without decent employment. As an

individual dependent upon ivory as my sole means of income I can only say that my level of disappointment in such limited thinking by our legislators only adds to my discontent of our government and of our Hawaiian government in particular. In my 45 years of working with ivory I have done my best to represent our islands by entering many pieces of my work into international art contests and for my efforts have received acclaim.

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

Sincerely with Aloha,  
Ray Peters

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [octopus@maui.net](mailto:octopus@maui.net)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM\*  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 8:44:32 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rene Umberger	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**From:** [Richelle Duckwall](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB2647  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 8:42:05 AM

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To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to support SB2647 with no amendments and using my voice to speak up for endangered wildlife that cannot defend themselves. We must be their voice.

Elephants and rhinos are being slaughtered for their "useless to us" body parts. All we can do is enact legislation and educate the world that humans do not need such items, and that the killing of these animals threatens their survival, and the money from their body parts funds terrorism and corruption. It is a deep problem eroding the heart of Africa and is bound to get worse as refugees flee homelands for distant shores & political factions scramble for control. The bottom line is elephants and rhinos are facing extinction because man has placed a tremendous value on ivory and horn. We need to do a 180 degree turnaround and insist that such things are worthless to man.

Enacting legislation is the first step in recognizing and curbing the trade. People around the globe on many fronts are trying to help. This campaign ultimately goes back into the communities where the animals live. There citizens understand their natural heritage needs to remain alive and well, as a source of pride and tourism. There is also much research in animal-human conflict to resolve problems without resorting to killing indiscriminately. One such finding is elephants are frightened by bees. So bee hives have been used to keep elephants away from crops. I could go on and on. Many issues that peoples of the world must solve. Or, we lose more species.

Please, pass SB2647 with no amendments to support this wild planet that sustains us all. I have worked closely with the Global March for Elephants and Rhinos in my state of Oregon. I also make crafts to sell, ( Crafts for Elephants )with proceeds to elephant causes. My latest cause is the new and only elephant sanctuary in S. America for retired zoo and circus elephants; Global Sanctuary for Elephants.

My letter is long, my message short. Please support the bill. Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,  
Ricki (Richelle) Duckwall  
6225 Miller Rd.  
Parkdale/Mt. Hood, Oregon 97041 U.S.A.



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [robertw@snorkelbob.com](mailto:robertw@snorkelbob.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 7:38:47 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Wintner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass SB 2647 to reduce trafficking in wildlife parts for the curio trade, including marine wildlife parts. Any form of wildlife or wildlife parts trafficking accelerates natural decline, and we have seen enough!

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**From:** [Rosemary Karlsson](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support SB2647 - Wildlife Trafficking  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 10:37:10 AM

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Please SUPPORT. STOP the sale of ivory in Hawaii and the sale of wildlife. It is shameful that Hawaii has such a bad record in these areas.

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

Aloha,

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 2647 and SB2642. I do not support exceptions to this prohibition for traditional cultural practices. Incent, infantice were also cultural practices I do not support. Please vote againsy SB 2647 and SB2642.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Russell Keller Laros III

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [gecko.hale@gmail.com](mailto:gecko.hale@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 04, 2016 4:31:23 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sherron Bull	Individual	Support	No

Comments: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2502 I strongly support this bill and urge its speedy passage to insure that endangered and/or protected animals are not driven to extinction by ruthless killing & trafficking. Hawaii is unfortunately one of the major ivory markets in the US and is a culprit in speeding elephants and rhinos to extinction by allowing the trafficking in ivory, trophies & body parts. Nearly 100 elephants are killed daily and their numbers have been severely reduced. If this continues they and other threatened animals may become extinct in our lifetime. The blood money from ivory and body parts from elephants, rhinos and other endangered animals also supports terrorist activities, and is encouraging the killing of wildlife rangers striving to protect these animals. Poachers will do anything to make a profit off these animals for "trophies" and for the production and sale of unnecessary trinkets such as jewelry, netsuke, hair ornaments and other trivial items. This bill will also help protect other endangered species including marine animals such as rays, whales, sharks, monk seals which are also often killed for their body parts. These animals are important to the earth and deserve to be here as much as any human. We are the ones that are causing their destruction, and we are the ones responsible for insuring they are not driven to extinction for profit, trophies, or other cruel and abusive trafficking. Please pass this legislation and make Hawaii a leader in the preservation of these animals, rather than abetting their killing and destruction. Mahalo nui loa, Sherron Bull

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**From:** [Shirley Pattinson](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking"  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 2:16:12 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing you today to ask you to please support SB2647; Wildlife Trafficking with NO AMENDMENTS.

The slaughter of the elephants and rhinos must be stopped and this would be a big step in that direction.

The world is watching and trusting you to help keep elephants and rhinos in existence.

Sincerely,

Shirley Pattinson  
London, Canada

February 5, 2016

Dear Legislators:

I urge you to support SB 2647, prohibiting the trafficking and sale of protected land and marine animal parts in Hawaii. It is a complete disgrace to our state that we have yet to ban the sale of ivory, horn, and other parts of endangered and protected animals. I am ashamed, frankly, of our state and its failure to do what is clearly *pono*: to protect these magnificent creatures from human slaughter and virtual extinction.

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

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

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

sympathy; they can find other items to sell that do not involve wholesale slaughter.

SB 2647 is a carefully designed, broad ranging bill that addresses and corrects weaknesses in previous attempts to pass similar legislation. I hope you will have the ethical courage to do what is clearly right and will pass SB 2647, thereby bringing my state, our state, in line with China, Hong Kong, California, New York, and many other large markets that have banned animal part trafficking. Hawaii, sadly, *is* considered a major market for ivory and horn—we must do better.

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

Thank you.

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

**From:** [Sue Leonard](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT SB2647  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 9:39:15 AM

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Support for SB2647

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

310-344-8282





# Animal Welfare Institute

900 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003

February 8, 2016

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairs Gabbard and Keith-Agaran:

On behalf of the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) and its constituents who reside in Hawai'i, I am writing to lodge AWI's support for SB 2647, a bill to prohibit the sale, offer to sell, purchase, trade, or barter of any part or product from various animal and marine species with limited exceptions.

The multi-billion dollar trade in wildlife and wildlife parts and products is a crisis that animal species are facing worldwide. Animals are captured, killed and traded live or in parts for numerous purposes such as for food and medicine; clothing and ornaments; entertainment, including for pets, zoos and aquariums; and for research. Often, the more exotic the species, the greater the price it fetches, leading to its overexploitation and depletion in the wild. Animals who are falling victim to consumer desire and lack of awareness range from the very small to the very large, and combined with numerous other threats that contribute to the decline of species in the wild, many of these animals subject to trade are now endangered.

For example, nearly 100 elephants are slaughtered every day in Africa for their ivory. African elephants and rhinos are being decimated at unprecedented levels by poachers to feed the demand for ivory and rhino horn products around the globe. While Asia, and particularly China, remains the primary destination for illicit ivory, the United States unfortunately represents the world's second largest market for illegal ivory. Hawai'i is the third largest market in the United States. Even though some ivory sold in the United States is considered "legal," there is overwhelming evidence that the trade in "legal" ivory facilitates and encourages the trade in illegal ivory, thereby necessitating a prohibition on all commercial ivory trade. A similar situation exists for the other species that would be covered should SB2647 be enacted into law.

By enacting legislation to prohibit the trafficking of protected species, Hawai'i will be playing its part in curbing this trade, while also setting an example to other US states and the world that wildlife matters and should be preserved.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Millward".

Susan Millward  
Executive Director

**From:** [Tamara Birdsall](#)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT SB2647  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 6:53:29 AM

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Honored lawmakers

Hawaii is the nation's 3rd largest retailer of ivory and a magnet for illegal wildlife trafficking. Approximately 96 elephants are killed each day for their tusks and may be extinct in the wild within the next 10-15 years."

You have the chance to end this unnecessary and shameful atrocity.

The bill is scheduled for a hearing on Wednesday, February 10 at 3:20pm. Please do the right thing for your state, our country and our planet under siege.

Sincerely, Tamara Birdsall

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [tbohl8@yahoo.com](mailto:tbohl8@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 9:25:55 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii is contributing to poaching of endangered wildlife with its large market for ivory, rhino horn, and other animal parts. Please pass this bill to help close down this market.

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**To:** [WLA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [tia.pearson@gmail.com](mailto:tia.pearson@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Saturday, February 06, 2016 10:35:48 PM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
tia pearson	Individual	Support	No

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

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2647 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 07, 2016 12:18:44 AM

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**SB2647**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB2647 because: We need a state law in Hawai'i because federal laws and regulations do not prohibit the trafficking of elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and parts of protected animal species. Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and possibly soon to become the largest if we do not ban ivory sales. An average of 96 elephants are killed EVERY day, mostly for ivory. Blood ivory funds terrorist activities. Wildlife rangers protecting wildlife habitat in Afritca are killed in the line of duty. Elephant ivory is used to make unnecessary items, such as jewelry, trinkets, and netsuke (statues). Other animals are killed needlessly, and SB 2647 will protect all of them.

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I am strongly in favor of passing SB 2647, for the following reasons:

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

Please pass SB 2647.

Tom A. Ranker

455 Kailua Rd Apt 4106

Kailua, HI 96734-2920



**NSEFU WILDLIFE  
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION (NWCF)**

February 9, 2016

Testimony of  
TONY HUNSTIGER  
Secretary & Treasurer  
Nsefu Wildlife Conservation Foundation

Before the Senate Committees on  
WATER, LAND & AGRICULTURE

&

JUDICIARY & LABOR

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

3:20 p.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 224

In strong support of  
SENATE BILL 2647  
RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES

Aloha Chairpersons and Members,

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

As a resident of Hawaii, having lived and worked here since 1975, I strongly support HB 2502. Please, pass this bill into law without amendment.

**Reasons to Support SB 2647:**

- A state law in Hawai'i can stop the extensive black-market intrastate commerce in elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and in protected animal species parts.

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- Surveys show Hawai'i is the third largest ivory market in the U.S., and is poised to become the largest now that California, New York, New Jersey and Washington outlawed ivory trade.
- Hawaii is uniquely poised as a gateway to the Asian markets where ivory, rhino horn, pangolin scales, and shark fin are prized.
- Studies show nearly 90% of ivory for sale in Hawaii does not have the documentation required by Federal law. Trade in legal ivory acts as a cover for the trade in illegal ivory. Law enforcement officers lack the expertise to tell the difference.
- SB 2647 does not take ivory out of the hands of Hawaii's citizens. It bans the ivory trade that fuels the demand for ivory. When the buying stops the killing can end.
- The cause of the current elephant slaughter is a disastrous CITES decision in 2008 that allowed for the sale of stockpiled ivory. Since this one time lifting of the ban on ivory trade, 20,000 to 40,000 elephants annually have been killed for their tusks. The legal ivory acted as a laundering mechanism for illegal ivory to enter an internationally authorized consumer market. Allowing the sale of ivory fueled the current crisis. Now, ivory stockpiles are being destroyed not sold and the trade in ivory is being outlawed.
- Driving the largest land mammal on the planet to extinction in order to feed the market for ivory jewelry, statues, netsuke and trinkets is unconscionable. There is no reason to use ivory to produce these items. Piano keys have been made from plastic for decades.
- An average of 96 elephants are killed each day, mostly for ivory. Elephants are being slaughtered faster than they can reproduce. At this rate, elephants will soon be extinct.
- Blood ivory funds terrorist activities and organized crime. Wildlife trafficking ranks with smuggling guns, drugs and humans as a major source of revenue for criminal organizations. Only about 10% of wildlife traffic is intercepted by law enforcement.
- Hundreds of wildlife rangers protecting wildlife habitat in Africa are killed in the line of duty. They leave wives and children behind. Without a breadwinner to support the family, impoverished families become prey to human trafficking organizations.
- Animals such as Rhinos, Sharks and Pangolins are killed needlessly to provide quack medicines.
- A recent nationwide poll by HBO Real Sports and Marist Poll showed that 86% of Americans disapprove of big game hunting and 62% favor banning the practice. According to Humane Society International, in the past decade alone, American trophy hunters have killed 5,647 African lions. In 2014 alone, the trophies of roughly 85% of

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captive lions from South Africa's notorious canned hunting facilities were imported to the United States. There are more statues of lions than lions in the wild.

Trophy hunting is decimating wildlife populations across the globe. SB 2647 will prevent the trafficking in the grizzly products of trophy hunting. Preventing wildlife trafficking can stop the hunting of rare and endangered species, as the animal parts, the trophies, will be illegal.

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

Please protect and preserve these endangered animals for future generations by passing SB 2647 into law.

Aloha,

*Tony Hunstiger*

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# OUTLAW *all* IVORY TRADE

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Wildlife Trafficking](#)



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



## SAVING ELEPHANTS BENEFITS EVERYONE

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



*Photo by Valerie Marcelli*



*Photo by Billy Dodson*

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