

Testimony Concerning HB 6955
Environment Committee march 11, 2015
Kristina Dorn

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express my support of **H.B. No. 6955 AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SALE AND TRADE OF IVORY AND RHINOCEROS HORN**

“The assumption that animals are without rights and the illusion that our treatment of them has no moral significance is a positively outrageous example of Western crudity and barbarity. Universal compassion is the only guarantee of morality.”

— [Arthur Schopenhauer, *The Basis of Morality*](#)

My hope is to live in a state where laws are made with what is moral and ethical and not what makes money. While business is to be considered, the soul of our society should be a priority. We can be more than profit, we should be more than profit, and our politicians and law makers should lead us to be more! These are highly intelligent sentient beings that are being tortured, murdered, and orphaned for a dollar. If this is a livelihood, perhaps it is time to find another one

If you can not be moved for the animals, then how about for the people. *New York Times* reported: “As ivory poaching becomes more militarized, with rebel groups and even government armies slaughtering thousands of elephants across Africa to cash in on record-high ivory prices, a horrible mismatch is shaping up.” The *Christian Science Monitor* cited “the growing professionalism of poachers bankrolled by international criminals,” which had resulted in a sevenfold increase in the number of elephants killed in Kenya. This “business” promotes criminal behavior that will effect us all in this global world.

It is easy to ignore the suffering because it does not happen in front of our eyes, but that does not make it not real. It is time to be better.

I ask you to do what is right. To truly represent the PEOPLE of Connecticut and not the few who will profit of this barbaric destruction of these endangered animals. Please ban the sale of Ivory and Rhino horns in CT.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you,

Kristina Dorn, Fairfield CT