



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6955**

January Session, 2015



**AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SALE AND TRADE OF IVORY AND RHINOCEROS HORN.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2016*) (a) For the purposes of this  
2 section:

3 (1) "Ivory" means any tooth or tusk, or any part thereof, that is  
4 composed of ivory from any animal, including, but not limited to, any  
5 elephant, hippopotamus, narwhal, walrus or whale or any piece  
6 thereof, regardless of whether such tooth or tusk is raw ivory, worked  
7 ivory or made into or part of an ivory product;

8 (2) "Ivory product" means any item that contains or that is wholly or  
9 partially made from ivory;

10 (3) "Raw ivory" means any ivory with a surface that is unaltered or  
11 minimally changed by carving;

12 (4) "Rhinoceros horn" means the horn, or any piece thereof, of any  
13 species of rhinoceros;

14 (5) "Rhinoceros horn product" means any item that contains, or is  
15 wholly or partially made from, any rhinoceros horn;

16 (6) "Total value" means the fair market value or the actual price

17 paid, whichever is greater; and

18 (7) "Worked ivory" means ivory that is embellished, carved, marked,  
19 or otherwise altered so that it is no longer raw ivory.

20 (b) No person shall import, sell, offer for sale, purchase, barter or  
21 possess with the intent to sell, any ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros  
22 horn or rhinoceros horn product, except: (1) When such import is  
23 expressly authorized by a federal license or permit, (2) if such ivory,  
24 ivory product, rhinoceros horn or rhinoceros horn product is one  
25 hundred years old or older, (3) if such ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros  
26 horn or rhinoceros horn product was made a part of a musical  
27 instrument on or before January 1, 1975, (4) if such person is an  
28 employee or agent of the federal or state government and is  
29 undertaking any law enforcement activity pursuant to federal or state  
30 law or any mandatory duty required by federal or state law, (5) the  
31 transfer of possession of such ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn or  
32 rhinoceros horn product to a legal beneficiary upon the death of the  
33 owner of the ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn or rhinoceros horn  
34 product or in anticipation of such owner's death and such owner did  
35 not gain ownership of such ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn or  
36 rhinoceros horn product in violation of this section, or (6) such import,  
37 offer, purchase, barter or possession is for a bona fide educational,  
38 conservatorial or scientific purpose at a university, museum or  
39 hospital, respectively, and such purpose is not otherwise prohibited by  
40 federal law.

41 (c) Prima facie evidence of possession with intent to sell ivory, ivory  
42 product, rhinoceros horn, or rhinoceros horn product shall include, but  
43 not be limited to, the possession of such ivory, ivory product,  
44 rhinoceros horn or rhinoceros horn product in a retail or wholesale  
45 location that is commonly used for the buying or selling of animal-  
46 derived products. Obtaining an appraisal of ivory, an ivory product,  
47 rhinoceros horn or a rhinoceros horn product shall not constitute  
48 possession with intent to sell.

49 (d) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this  
50 section shall: (1) For the first offense, be guilty of a class B  
51 misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars or  
52 an amount equal to two times the total value of the subject ivory, ivory  
53 product, rhinoceros horn or rhinoceros horn product, whichever is  
54 greater, and (2) for a second or any subsequent offense, be guilty of a  
55 class B misdemeanor and fined not less than five thousand dollars or  
56 an amount equal to two times the total value of the subject ivory, ivory  
57 products, rhinoceros horn or rhinoceros horn product.

58 (e) At the time of arrest for the alleged violation of the provisions of  
59 subsection (b) of this section, the court shall order the seizure of the  
60 subject ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn or rhinoceros horn  
61 product. Following any conviction, the subject ivory, ivory product,  
62 rhinoceros horn or rhinoceros horn product shall be donated to an  
63 educational, conservatorial or scientific institution or organization  
64 including, but not limited to, a museum, university or hospital.

65 Sec. 2. Section 26-304 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
66 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

67 As used in sections 22a-2, 23-5c, 23-74, 23-75, 26-40c, 26-40d, 26-40f  
68 and 26-303 to [26-315] 26-314, inclusive:

69 (1) "Department" means the Department of Energy and  
70 Environmental Protection;

71 (2) "Conserve" and "conservation" mean to use all methods and  
72 procedures necessary to maintain or increase the populations of any  
73 endangered or threatened species to the point at which the provisions  
74 of sections 22a-2, 23-5c, 23-74, 23-75, 26-40c, 26-40d, 26-40f and 26-303  
75 to [26-315] 26-314, inclusive, are no longer necessary, including, but not  
76 limited to, all activities associated with resources management, such as  
77 research, census, monitoring, regulation and law enforcement, habitat  
78 acquisition, restoration and maintenance, propagation, live trapping,  
79 transplantation and regulated taking;

80 (3) "Wildlife" means all species of invertebrates, fish, amphibians,  
81 reptiles, birds and mammals [which] that are wild by nature and parts  
82 thereof;

83 (4) "Plants" means any member of the plant kingdom and parts  
84 thereof;

85 (5) "Native" means any species indigenous to this state;

86 (6) "Species" means any species, subspecies, or variety of animal or  
87 plant, and includes any distinct population segment of any animal or  
88 plant;

89 (7) "Endangered species" means any native species documented by  
90 biological research and inventory to be in danger of extirpation  
91 throughout all or a significant portion of its range within the state and  
92 to have no more than five occurrences in the state, and any species  
93 determined to be an "endangered species" pursuant to the federal  
94 Endangered Species Act;

95 (8) "Threatened species" means any native species documented by  
96 biological research and inventory to be likely to become an  
97 endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a  
98 significant portion of its range within the state and to have no more  
99 than nine occurrences in the state, and any species determined to be a  
100 "threatened species" pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act,  
101 except for such species determined to be endangered by the  
102 commissioner in accordance with section 26-306;

103 (9) "Species of special concern" means any native plant species or  
104 any native nonharvested wildlife species documented by scientific  
105 research and inventory to have a naturally restricted range or habitat  
106 in the state, to be at a low population level, to be in such high demand  
107 by man that its unregulated taking would be detrimental to the  
108 conservation of its populations or has been extirpated from the state;

109 (10) "Endangered Species Act" means the Endangered Species Act of

110 1973, Public Law 93-205, as amended from time to time;

111 (11) "Take" or "taking" mean to capture, collect, destroy, harm, hunt,  
112 kill, pursue, shoot, trap, snare, net, possess, transport, remove, sell or  
113 offer for sale, export or import or to attempt to engage in any such  
114 conduct or any act of assistance to any other person in taking or  
115 attempting to take such native wildlife and native plants whether or  
116 not such act results in capture or collection;

117 (12) "Essential habitat" means the geographic area which contains  
118 those physical or biological features which are identifiable and have  
119 been demonstrated as being decisive to the continued existence of any  
120 endangered or threatened species and includes, but is not limited to,  
121 significant areas used for courtship, mating, and other reproductive  
122 activities, rearing of young, feeding and shelter of endangered and  
123 threatened species;

124 (13) "Destruction or adverse modification of essential habitat" means  
125 any activity that significantly alters, pollutes, impairs, degrades,  
126 damages, destroys or otherwise reduces the ability of the habitat to  
127 sustain populations of endangered or threatened species;

128 (14) "Threaten the continued existence" means to engage in any  
129 action that reduces appreciably the likelihood of the survival and  
130 recovery of an endangered or threatened species in the wild by  
131 reducing the reproduction, numbers, or distribution of such species;

132 (15) "Occurrence" means a population of a species breeding and  
133 existing within the same ecological community and capable or  
134 potentially capable of interbreeding with other members of that  
135 species within that community.

136 Sec. 3. Section 26-315 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
137 *July 1, 2016*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	26-304
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	Repealer section

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*