

I have read proposed bill 5578 and I am not in favor of said bill.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service already regulates the trade/sale of all ivory. Any ivory ban laws enacted at the state level only serve to cost Connecticut taxpayers more money in implementation costs and/or is redundant and therefore, ultimately, not needed.

This bill if passed and enacted into law will only hinder what is currently the legal sale of lawfully acquired and lawfully imported ivory. The product has already been legitimately harvested, so why not use it? If you don't allow the use of this legally harvested product what would you recommend be done with all of the ivory that you would ban, destroy it? Nothing in bill 5578 states that the owners of the overnight illegal ivory will be fairly compensated by the state. What is a person who has legitimate ivory, either raw or amalgamated, to do with his/her product if this bill is passed into law?

As you know the USFW ban on importation of ivory occurred in either 1976 or 1990 (depending on the species), so please tell me how this bill would serve any logical purpose.

In closing, please register my opinion on bill 5578 as NO, Bill 5578 should never make it out of committee!

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Guy Hansen