

Testimony Concerning HB 5578
Environment Committee March 11, 2016
Paula A. Snedeker

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB 5578
AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SALE AND TRADE OF IVORY AND RHINOCEROS HORN.

Between 2010 and 2012, 100,000 elephants were killed for their ivory – an average of one every 15 minutes. All extant five rhino species are threatened with extinction, with merely 29,000 remaining worldwide. We may see extinctions of these animals from the wild within our lifetimes. Scientists estimate some populations of the African elephant will be extinct within the next few decades if poaching continues at the current rate. Black rhinos have experienced a 96% population decline since 1970 with fewer than 4,800 members of the species remaining today.

I don't want these magnificent creatures to become extinct in my lifetime or any other. Please support this bill now so that future generations don't have a bigger problem to face.

Thank you,

Paula A. Snedeker
Meriden, CT