

My name is Peter Rhodes I live in Connecticut and I would like to state that I oppose house bill 5578. In the 1989 cities law when the importation of ivory was prohibited. The law stated that ivory already in th US was legal and could be sold or traded.there are many items that have been made from ivory for hundreds of years and have been legally traded and sold. Banning the possession of ivory that was here before the 1989 CITIES agreement will create a problems not only for collectors of antique art , firearm,musical instruments but also for private and state museums which house antique ivory products made a century ago. This bill would do nothing to stem the illegal ivory trade that currently is centered in China and Japan. The US wild life service as I under stand has stopped all importation of ivory into the United States and it is already illegal to import ivory so why do we need a new law that would effect only law abiding citizens? Thank you for your time, Peter Rhodes