

Dear Sir or Madam:

It is of vital importance that this bill be passed and upheld! It is a horrible tragedy that elephants and rhinos are killed for their tusks or horns (the horns are just hair!). These wild animals and all the wild animals and wild places on Earth need to be protected not extinguished.

There are many sources of ivory like substances that can be used for the same purpose as ivory. I am an artist myself. I do not carve anything as my art talent is another kind, however, when I go to art shows in California (primarily southern part) there are NO artists who carve using ivory! They use fossil mammoth bone or other bone instead. These artists are making a statement against extinction for elephants.

It is our duty as stewards of our planet to keep species from going extinct especially due to the greed, cruelty and stupidity of other human beings.

Please pass this bill. It is vital to the well being of not only elephants and rhinos but for humans as a species as well.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Dr. Sharon Sprouse