

To the members of the Committee on ENVIRONMENT,

I am an animal rights activist. I am also a senior citizen and a musician. My personal musical instrument collection includes two early twentieth century violin bows and a 1913 Steinway grand piano. The bows have ivory tips, and the piano has ivory keys. If I am to comply with the proposed legislation S.B. 227 (d) (1), An Act Concerning Cecil's Law, I would be expected to obtain a certificate of possession from the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or risk the consequences of S.B. 227 (f), which states that any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a felony and fined not more than ten thousand dollars and imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

The intent of this bill, which I believe is to protect "big five African species" is commendable. The inclusion of regulations that protect in retrospect, however, is unfortunate and unnecessary. Please revise this bill so that it is effective in accomplishing present and future goals. We cannot undo historic travesties with laws. Safeguard our future.

Respectfully submitted as testimony for the March 4, 2016 public hearing,

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