

March 4, 2016

Sen. Ted Kennedy, Jr., Co-Chair
Environment Committee
Legislative Office Building, Rm 3200

Rep. James Albis, Co-Chair
Environment Committee
Legislative Office Building, Rm.3201

***Re: Senate Bill 227 – An Act Concerning Cecil’s Law.
Testimony for the Environment Committee Public Hearing on March 4, 2016***

Dear Senator Kennedy and Representative Albis:

Thank you for allowing me to speak to you in opposition of Senate Bill 227 – An Act Concerning Cecil’s Law for a public hearing. I am in opposition to Senate Bill 227 due to the information I received from Arthur S. Liverant of Nathan Liverant and Son. Mr. Liverant referenced Dr. Daniel Stiles for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service which is currently undergoing a review of Federal law. Dr. Stiles is the leading scholar on the global ivory market and states in no certain terms that a ban on ivory will not help the situation and may indeed make it worse. (His research has shown that ‘prohibitionist’ approach is the wrong one. Banning the trade in a commodity for which consumer and investor demand exists not only is NO solution, it can in fact exacerbate the problem. This has certainly been the case for elephant ivory.)

Taking this approach would result in putting many elephants and other animals in danger and their species as well. I sincerely feel taking this approach in prohibiting the sale of ivory could actually be devastating to the animals we are trying to protect. I know this bill means well, but I strongly feel that instead of saving the life of the animals we will be contributing to their demise.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify and again I strongly oppose this bill.

Regards,



Linda Orange, State Representative, 48th District