

As Introduced

**131st General Assembly
Regular Session
2015-2016**

S. R. No. 589

Senator LaRose

Cosponsors: Senators Beagle, Eklund, Cafaro, Skindell, Tavares, Yuko

A RESOLUTION

To encourage the implementation and full enforcement 1
of rules adopted by the United States Fish and 2
Wildlife Service for the protection of the 3
African elephant from the illegal ivory trade. 4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has 5
adopted rules to revise the rule promulgated under section 4(d) 6
of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, to strengthen 7
the prohibition against the illegal ivory trade and to conserve 8
and protect the African elephant; and 9

WHEREAS, The rules adopted by the United States Fish and 10
Wildlife Service are necessary and advisable for the current 11
conservation needs of the species. The rules allow the United 12
States to more strictly regulate trade in African elephant ivory 13
and help ensure that the United States ivory market is not 14
contributing to the poaching of elephants in Africa; and 15

WHEREAS, The rules prohibit the taking of live African 16
elephants in the United States, thereby establishing protections 17
that ensure an appropriate level of care for wildlife held in 18
captivity; and 19

WHEREAS, Substantial quantities of illegal ivory are 20
currently making their way into United States markets and 21

interstate trade; and 22

WHEREAS, The rules will regulate the importation, 23
exportation, and commercial use of African elephant ivory and 24
sport-hunted trophies and also include limited exceptions for 25
antiques and manufactured or handcrafted items that contain 26
small amounts of ivory and meet specific criteria; now therefore 27
be it 28

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 131st 29
General Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage the United 30
States Fish and Wildlife Service to implement and fully enforce 31
the proposed rules; and be it further 32

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate send duly 33
authenticated copies of this resolution to the Director of the 34
United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the members of Ohio's 35
Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio. 36