

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB1858

Introduced 2/20/2015, by Sen. Linda Holmes

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Ivory Ban Act. Provides that it shall be unlawful for any person to import, sell, offer for sale, purchase, barter, or possess with intent to sell, any ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn, or rhinoceros horn product. Establishes penalties for violation of the Act. Provides that the Department of Natural Resources may permit, under terms and conditions as the Department may adopt by rule, the import, sale, offer for sale, purchase, barter, or possession with intent to sell, of any ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn, or rhinoceros horn product for bona fide educational or scientific purposes, unless this activity is prohibited by federal law. Provides that the Department may adopt any rules necessary for the implementation of the Act.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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1 AN ACT concerning ivory.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,

3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Ivory

5 Ban Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Ivory" means any tooth or tusk composed of ivory from any

8 animal, including, but not limited to, an elephant,

9 hippopotamus, mammoth, narwhal, walrus, or whale, or any piece

10 thereof, whether raw ivory or worked ivory, or made into, or

11 part of, an ivory product.

12 "Ivory product" means any item that contains, or that is

13 wholly or partially made from, any ivory.

14 "Raw ivory" means any ivory the surface of which, polished  
15 or unpolished, is unaltered or minimally changed by carving.

16 "Rhinoceros horn" means the horn, or any piece thereof, of  
17 any species of rhinoceros.

18 "Rhinoceros horn product" means any item that contains, or  
19 is wholly or partially made from, any rhinoceros horn.

20 "Total value of the ivory, ivory products, rhinoceros horn,  
21 and rhinoceros horn products" means the fair market value of  
22 the ivory, ivory products, rhinoceros horn, and rhinoceros horn  
23 products, or the actual price paid for the ivory, ivory

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1 products, rhinoceros horn, and rhinoceros products, whichever  
2 is greater.

3 "Worked ivory" means ivory that has been embellished,  
4 carved, marked, or otherwise altered so that it can no longer  
5 be considered raw ivory.

6 Section 10. Prohibitions.

7 (a) In addition to the prohibitions under any other law, it  
8 shall be unlawful for any person to import, sell, offer for  
9 sale, purchase, barter, or possess with intent to sell, any  
10 ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn, or rhinoceros horn  
11 product, except as provided by this Act.

12 (b) It shall be presumptive evidence of possession with  
13 intent to sell when any ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn,  
14 or rhinoceros horn product is possessed in a retail or  
15 wholesale outlet commonly used for the buying or selling of  
16 similar products, provided, however, that nothing in this  
17 subsection (b) shall preclude a finding of intent to sell based

18 on any other evidence which may serve to independently  
19 establish that intent. The act of obtaining an appraisal of  
20 ivory, an ivory product, rhinoceros horn, or a rhinoceros horn  
21 product, alone shall not constitute possession with intent to  
22 sell.

23 (c) A person may convey ivory, an ivory product, rhinoceros  
24 horn, or a rhinoceros horn product to the legal beneficiary of  
25 the ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn, or rhinoceros horn

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1 product which is part of an estate or other items being  
2 conveyed to lawful beneficiaries upon the death of the owner of  
3 the ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros horn, or rhinoceros horn  
4 product or in anticipation of that death.

5 (d) None of the prohibitions set forth in this Section  
6 shall apply to employees or agents of the federal or State  
7 government undertaking any law enforcement activities under  
8 federal or State law or any mandatory duties required by  
9 federal or State law.

10 (e) The prohibition on import set forth in subsection (a)  
11 of this Section shall not apply where the import is expressly  
12 authorized by federal license or permit.

13 (f) The Department of Natural Resources may permit, under  
14 terms and conditions as the Department may adopt by rule, the  
15 import, sale, offer for sale, purchase, barter, or possession  
16 with intent to sell, of any ivory, ivory product, rhinoceros  
17 horn, or rhinoceros horn product for bona fide educational or  
18 scientific purposes, unless this activity is prohibited by  
19 federal law.

20 Section 15. Penalties.

21 (a) In addition to any applicable penalties which may be  
22 imposed under any other law, a person violating any provision  
23 of Section 10 of this Act, or any rule adopted under Section 20  
24 of this Act, shall be guilty of:

25 (1) for a first offense, a business offense and shall

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1 be fined not less than \$1,000 or an amount equal to 2 times  
2 the total value of the ivory, ivory products, rhinoceros  
3 horn, and rhinoceros horn products involved in the offense,  
4 whichever is greater; and

5 (2) for a second or subsequent offense, a Class A  
6 misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than \$5,000 or an  
7 amount equal to 2 times the total value of the ivory, ivory  
8 products, rhinoceros horn, and rhinoceros horn products  
9 involved in the offense, whichever is greater.

10 (b) Upon a conviction for violating the provisions of  
11 Section 10 of this Act, the court shall order the seizure of  
12 all ivory, ivory products, rhinoceros horn, and rhinoceros horn  
13 products involved in the violation and determine the penalty  
14 for the violation based on the assessed value of the seized  
15 products under subsection (a) of this Section. After sentencing  
16 the defendant, the court shall order that the seized ivory,  
17 ivory products, rhinoceros horn, and rhinoceros horn products  
18 be transferred to the Department of Natural Resources for  
19 proper disposition. The Department, at its discretion, may  
20 destroy the ivory, ivory products, rhinoceros horn, and  
21 rhinoceros horn products or donate them to an educational or  
22 scientific institution or organization, including, but not  
23 necessarily limited to, a museum, university, or research

24 group.

25 Section 20. Rulemaking authority. The Department of

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1 Natural Resources may adopt any rules necessary for the

2 implementation of this Act.