

March 23, 2015

Dear Judiciary Chair and Committee members,

My name is Mariann Leone. My husband ( David Boone) and I have owned & operated Boone Trading Co for 40 years buying and selling legal pre-ban African elephant Ivory and Mammoth Ivories . In our 40 yrs of being in business we have never seen so much pre-ban elephant ivory for sale from estates by widows and children of those who had legally procured the ivories with the intent of passing its value as an asset and legacy to the estate.

In these challenging economic times we will receive 3-4 phone calls a day and as many emails from children of these estates needing money and wanting to sell their inherited asset. We receive far more offers than we are able to follow up on. This is their inheritance and this bill will deny them the ability to sell something that was legally procured and still legal today. The reason for this abundance of pre-ban African elephant ivory now is the generation of wealth of our parents and grandparents that went to Africa on Safari in the 50's & 60's (contributing to the tourism dollars) are now dying and leaving there assets to their children and grand children. They (the heirs) should have the right to sell their legal assets as they choose.

As far as mammoth ivory, we buy from natives in Alaska who live in a harsh environment and lead an equally challenging life. We receive many calls when they are out of fuel and need money so they sell pcs of mammoth ivory to get them thru. This is their main source of income.

We need to be mindful of the ramifications of denying people the right to their inheritances and being able to sell their assets.

I urge you to vote no on Bill SB913.

Thank you,

Mariann K. Leone

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