

# IVORY JACK'S TRADING CO.

January 20, 2015

Dear Judiciary Chair and Honorable Committee Members.

My name is Kurt Tripp. I & my wife, Francine are the founders of Ivory Jacks. I represent our Washington State business of 36 years, my wife, myself & our family as well as the thousands of American citizens that benefit from the use of Prehistoric Woolly Mammoth ivory. I am against the passage of SB913.

We are not involved in any illegal ivory trade as described in SB913! All materials we use were legally obtained! I resent the characterization that any one that has Mammoth ivory is in some way, automatically a criminal trying to deceive innocent consumers.

Prehistoric Woolly mammoth ivory is found by chance by Aboriginal subsistence hunter, gatherer inhabitants of remote Alaskan and Russian regions. It is also a byproduct of mining operations dotted throughout Alaska and Northern Canada.

Prehistoric Woolly Mammoth ivory is found only by chance in the soils of God's earth. Jobs are scarce in the thousands of remote villages where we purchase our materials. The money the lucky finder garners is used for a number of necessities that require very scarce funds, something that wouldn't have otherwise been possible for the fortunate finder and their family.

The miner's lucky find may mean the difference in making a profit or losing money during the mining season.

21317 39<sup>TH</sup> Avenue Southeast / Bothell, Washington 98021  
425-486-4218 / 425-486-5278 fax  
[ivoryjack@ivoryjacks.com](mailto:ivoryjack@ivoryjacks.com) / [www.ivoryjacks.com](http://www.ivoryjacks.com)

# IVORY JACK'S TRADING CO.

The Prehistoric Woolly Mammoth Ivory tusks are easily identified by simple math. They have very distinct, uniquely characteristic crosshatching patterns known as Schreger lines. They intersect at an angle of 90 degrees or less. The same crosshatching pattern exists in Elephant ivory, however the pattern is different in that the intersecting lines cross at 115 degrees or greater. To say that it is too difficult to tell the difference between the two is to ignore the science. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife has this information freely available on it's website: [http://www.fws.gov/lab/ivory\\_natural.php#elephant](http://www.fws.gov/lab/ivory_natural.php#elephant) I also have to ask, since when do we make laws outlawing a commodity because it's similar to another commodity? Please don't ignore the science!

The small businesses that use Prehistoric Woolly Mammoth Ivory are the artists of America! Literally thousands of hand to mouth craftsmen and artisans: scrimshanders, sculptors, antiquity restorers, gun smiths, jewelers, knife makers & musical instrument makers! What about the collectors of these wonderful artifacts & the store owners that sell them. They are all tax paying American voters with their own version of the American Dream.

There is no reason whatsoever to include Prehistoric Woolly Mammoth in SB913. I implore you, please remove Woolly Mammoth Ivory from SB913.

Lastly, should you make SB913 into a law, who is going to compensate the thousands of law abiding Americans that live in Oregon that own ivory for their legally obtained assets?

Thank you.

Kurt Tripp  
CEO Ivory Jacks

21317 39<sup>TH</sup> Avenue Southeast / Bothell, Washington 98021  
425-486-4218 / 425-486-5278 fax  
[ivoryjack@ivoryjacks.com](mailto:ivoryjack@ivoryjacks.com) / [www.ivoryjacks.com](http://www.ivoryjacks.com)