

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE JUDICIARY STANDING COMMITTEE

April 14, 2018

4:22 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Matt Claman, Chair
Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins, Vice Chair
Representative Louise Stutes
Representative Gabrielle LeDoux
Representative David Eastman
Representative Chuck Kopp

MEMBERS ABSENT

Representative Lora Reinbold
Representative Charisse Millett (alternate)
Representative Tiffany Zulkosky (alternate)

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4 (RES)
Urging the United States Congress to pass legislation providing for the exemption of legally acquired walrus, mammoth, and mastodon ivory from laws that ban the sale, use, and possession of ivory.

- MOVED CSSJR 4 (RES) OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: SJR 4

SHORT TITLE: AK LEGALLY ACQUIRED IVORY USE EXEMPTION

SPONSOR(S): SENATOR(S) OLSON

02/01/17	(S)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
02/01/17	(S)	CRA, RES
03/28/17	(S)	CRA AT 3:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
03/28/17	(S)	Heard & Held
03/28/17	(S)	MINUTE(CRA)
04/04/17	(S)	CRA AT 3:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
04/04/17	(S)	Moved SJR 4 Out of Committee
04/04/17	(S)	MINUTE(CRA)
04/05/17	(S)	CRA RPT 4DP
04/05/17	(S)	DP: BISHOP, GARDNER, MACKINNON, STEDMAN
01/29/18	(S)	RES AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

01/29/18 (S) Moved CSSJR 4(RES) Out of Committee
 01/29/18 (S) MINUTE(RES)
 01/31/18 (S) RES RPT CS 6DP NEW TITLE
 01/31/18 (S) DP: GIESSEL, WIELECHOWSKI, COGHILL, VON
 IMHOF, STEDMAN, MEYER
 02/16/18 (S) TRANSMITTED TO (H)
 02/16/18 (S) VERSION: CSSJR 4(RES)
 02/19/18 (H) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
 02/19/18 (H) CRA, JUD
 04/03/18 (H) CRA AT 8:00 AM BARNES 124
 04/03/18 (H) Heard & Held
 04/03/18 (H) MINUTE(CRA)
 04/05/18 (H) CRA RPT 5DP 1NR
 04/05/18 (H) DP: DRUMMOND, LINCOLN, TALERICO,
 PARISH, ZULKOSKY
 04/05/18 (H) NR: RAUSCHER
 04/05/18 (H) CRA AT 8:00 AM BARNES 124
 04/05/18 (H) Moved CSSJR 4(RES) Out of Committee
 04/05/18 (H) MINUTE(CRA)
 04/13/18 (H) JUD AT 1:00 PM GRUENBERG 120
 04/13/18 (H) Heard & Held
 04/13/18 (H) MINUTE(JUD)
 04/14/18 (H) JUD AT 4:15 PM GRUENBERG 120

WITNESS REGISTER

SENATOR DONALD OLSON
 Alaska State Legislature
 Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: During the hearing of SJR 4, offered opposition to Amendment 1.

ACTION NARRATIVE

[4:22:19 PM](#)

CHAIR MATT CLAMAN called the House Judiciary Standing Committee meeting to order at 4:22 p.m. Representatives Claman, LeDoux, Kreiss-Tomkins, and Eastman were present at the call to order. Representatives Kopp and Stutes arrived as the meeting was in progress.

SJR 4-AK LEGALLY ACQUIRED IVORY USE EXEMPTION

[4:22:39 PM](#)

CHAIR CLAMAN announced that only order of business would be SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4, Urging the Alaska Congressional delegation to introduce bills to provide for the exemption of legally acquired walrus, mammoth, and mastodon ivory from laws that ban the sale, use, and possession of ivory.

[4:23:04 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE EASTMAN moved to adopt Amendment 1, labeled 30-LS0109\U.2, Bannister, 4/14/18, which read as follows:

Page 1, line 2:

Delete "**and**"

Following "**mastodon**":

Insert "**, and other**"

Page 1, line 3, following "**of**":

Insert "**African elephant**"

Page 2, line 9:

Delete the first occurrence of "**and**"

Following "**mastodon**":

Insert "**, and other**"

Page 2, line 14:

Delete the first occurrence of "**and**"

Following "**mastodon**":

Insert "**, and other**"

Page 2, line 15, following "**of**":

Insert "**African elephant**"

Page 2, line 18:

Delete the first occurrence of "**and**"

Following "**mastodon**":

Insert "**, and other**"

Page 2, line 19, following "**of**":

Insert "**African elephant**"

REPRESENTATIVE KREISS-TOMKINS objected.

[4:23:11 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE EASTMAN explained that this legislation refers to a number of legally acquired types of ivory (audio difficulties) legally acquired fossilized ivory which are any number of

different types of ivory that is currently used to legally make handcrafts, jewelry, and other artwork. United States Senator Dan Sullivan introduced S. 1965 [115th Congress, 1st Session] which mentions walrus and whales, and "what was not spelled out in the resolution previously was some of the whale produced ivory." He advised that the change mentioned African elephants consistently, which was mentioned in the resolution and instead of limiting only the three types of ivory, it also includes the other types of ivory that are indirectly mentioned. A number of different types of ivory can legally be found in Alaska, including elk ivory, he advised. For consistency, he said, "we've made it broad enough to include that type of legal ivory as well."

[4:25:04 PM](#)

SENATOR DONALD OLSON, Alaska State Legislature, advised that he does not concur with Amendment 1.

REPRESENTATIVE KREISS-TOMKINS maintained his objection.

[4:26:04 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE EASTMAN noted that the resolution contains references to fossilized ivory, but it is inconsistent, and there is reference to African elephant ivory and that is also inconsistent. He noted that other legally available Alaskan ivory is not mentioned which is used for crafting purposes, such as elk ivory. In order to protect the rights of Alaskans to continue to use other legal ivory and not be caught up under other states that are banning all ivory for reasons that probably do not apply to Alaska, but will affect Alaska.

REPRESENTATIVE KREISS-TOMKINS maintained objection on Amendment 1.

[4:26:50 PM](#)

A roll call vote was taken. Representative Eastman voted in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1. Representatives Stutes, LeDoux, Kreiss-Tomkins, and Claman voted against it. Therefore, Amendment 1 failed to be adopted by a vote of 1-4.

[4:27:44 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE KREISS-TOMKINS moved to report CS for SJR 4, labeled 30-LS0109\U out of committee with individual

recommendations and the accompanying fiscal notes. There being no objection, CSSJR 4(RES) moved from the House Judiciary Standing Committee.

[4:28:46 PM](#)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, the House Judiciary Standing Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.