

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6885

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit import and export of any species listed or proposed to be listed under such Act as a threatened species or endangered species, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. POCAN, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. HECK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit import and export of any species listed or proposed to be listed under such Act as a threatened species or endangered species, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Conserving Ecosystems
3 by Ceasing the Importation of Large Animal Trophies
4 Act” or the “CECIL Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO PROHIBITED ACTS.**

6 Section 9(a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of
7 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1538(a)(1)) is amended by striking sub-
8 paragraph (A) and inserting the following:

9 “(A) import into or export from the United
10 States any species listed or proposed to be listed
11 under section 4(c) as a threatened species or endan-
12 gered species;”.

13 **SEC. 3. IMPORTS OF SPORT-HUNTED TROPHIES.**

14 Section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973
15 (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)) is amended by adding at the end the
16 following:

17 “(3) Before issuing any permit under this Act au-
18 thorizing import from any country of a sport-hunted tro-
19 phy of a threatened species or endangered species, the Sec-
20 retary must make a finding after public notice and com-
21 ment pursuant to section 553 of title 5, United States
22 Code, of whether hunting of the species in such country
23 enhances the propagation or survival of the species.

24 “(4) Notwithstanding sections 9(b) and 9(c)(2), no
25 permit may be issued by the Secretary for the import of

1 a sport-hunted trophy of an elephant or lion taken in Tan-
2 zania, Zimbabwe, or Zambia.”.

3 **SEC. 4. PERMIT FEES FOR SPORT-HUNTED TROPHY IM-**
4 **PORTS.**

5 Section 10(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of
6 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)(2)) is amended by redesignating
7 subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D), and by inserting
8 after subparagraph (B) the following:

9 “(C) No permit may be issued by the Secretary under
10 this Act for import of a sport-hunted trophy unless the
11 applicant pays to the Secretary all administrative costs in-
12 curred by the United States that are associated with proc-
13 essing the permit application.”.

14 **SEC. 5. TRANSPARENCY OF SPORTS-HUNTED TROPHY IM-**
15 **PORT PERMITS.**

16 Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973
17 (16 U.S.C. 1539(c)) is amended by striking “which is
18 made under this section” and inserting in its place “under
19 this Act for an endangered species or threatened species”.

20 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CON-**
21 **SERVATION COUNCIL.**

22 The International Wildlife Conservation Council of
23 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is hereby abol-
24 ished.

1 **SEC. 7. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE STUDY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
4 of the United States shall conduct and submit to the Con-
5 gress a report on the results of a study of the effectiveness
6 of trophy hunting in supporting international wildlife con-
7 servation efforts.

8 (b) REPORT.—The report shall—

9 (1) include a detailed analysis of how permit
10 fees and other payments from hunters to govern-
11 ment entities and hunting guides in host countries
12 are applied to tangible actions supporting the con-
13 servation of the target species and other wildlife in
14 such countries;

15 (2) identify data gaps and recommend informa-
16 tion that hunters and host countries must submit to
17 verify the impacts of trophy hunting on wildlife con-
18 servation efforts; and

19 (3) recommend actions that the Department of
20 the Interior and the Congress should take to ensure
21 that trophy hunting contributes to conservation.

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