



## Global Anti-Poaching Act (H.R. 2494)

This will increase the United States' ability to combat illegal wildlife trafficking by providing assistance to partner countries with severe poaching problems and by increasing penalties for wildlife crimes in the U.S.

The illegal wildlife trade generates between \$8-10 billion annually. Highly sophisticated crime networks control this trade fueled by a demand for wildlife products in Asia. Terrorist organizations like Al-Shabaab and the Lord's Resistance Army use illegal wildlife products to fund their terrorist actions. Thus, wildlife trafficking is a national security issue for the US and conservation efforts work to decrease funds available to these terrorist organizations.

### **If Enacted, this Bill will:**

- Support strengthening existing wildlife enforcement networks and establishing new networks where appropriate
- Support professionalization of wildlife enforcement networks and ranger training in partner countries
- Require the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Interior, and Secretary of Commerce to create a list of countries determined to be a major source, consumer, or transit point of trafficked wildlife and present this list to Congress
- Require the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Interior, and Secretary of Commerce to designate countries that have "failed demonstrably" in adhering to international conservation agreements (e.g., CITES)
  - The Secretary of State is authorized to withhold certain assistances from those designated countries
- Give the President authority to provide security assistance to African countries for the purpose of countering poaching and wildlife trafficking
- Include the Secretary of State in the certification process under the Pelly Amendment
- Make wildlife trafficking a predicate offense under money laundering and racketeering statutes and the Travel Act if the combined value of the products is greater than \$10,000
  - Funds from forfeitures and seizures will be applied to existing federal funds for anti-poaching efforts