

Union Calendar No. 563

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2245

[Report No. 116–680, Part I]

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

APRIL 10, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. MOULTON) 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

DECEMBER 21, 2020

Additional sponsors: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. DEAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CRIST, Ms. TITUS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. YARMUTH, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. BEYER, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. FOSTER, and Mrs. LURIA

DECEMBER 21, 2020

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with amendments

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

DECEMBER 21, 2020

Committees on Foreign Affairs and Ways and Means discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 10, 2019]

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

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

8 *Section 9(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973*
9 *(16 U.S.C. 1538(a)) is amended by adding at the end the*
10 *following:*

11 *“(3) Except as provided in section 10 of this Act, it*
12 *is unlawful for any person to import into or export from*
13 *the United States any sport-hunted trophy of a species list-*
14 *ed or proposed to be listed under section 4(c) as a threatened*
15 *species or endangered species.”.*

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

17 *Section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973*
18 *(16 U.S.C. 1539(a)) is amended by adding at the end the*
19 *following:*

20 *“(3) Before issuing any permit under this Act author-*
21 *izing import of any sport-hunted trophy of a species that*
22 *is listed or proposed to be listed as an endangered or threat-*
23 *ened species, the Secretary must make a finding after public*
24 *notice and comment pursuant to section 553 of title 5,*
25 *United States Code, of whether the country where the ani-*

1 *mal was killed adequately provides for the conservation and*
2 *monitoring for that species, including that—*

3 *“(A) a management plan for that species based*
4 *on the best available science that—*

5 *“(i) addresses existing threats to the species;*

6 *“(ii) provides a significant conservation*
7 *benefit to the species;*

8 *“(iii) formally coordinates with adjacent*
9 *countries to protect transboundary populations;*
10 *and*

11 *“(iv) ensures that any take is sustainable*
12 *and does not contribute to the species’ decline in*
13 *either the short-term or long-term according to*
14 *current population estimates derived through the*
15 *use of the best available science;*

16 *“(B) such management plan is being actively*
17 *implemented;*

18 *“(C) the country where the animal was killed*
19 *demonstrates transparency, accountability, and*
20 *verifiability in governance to ensure that any benefits*
21 *of trophy hunting, including revenue from such tak-*
22 *ing, materially, directly and substantially benefits the*
23 *conservation of that species;*

24 *“(D) hunting of the species in such country en-*
25 *hances the propagation or survival of the species; and*

8 SEC. 4. PERMIT FEES FOR SPORT-HUNTED TROPHY IM-
9 PORTS.

14 “(C) No permit may be issued by the Secretary under
15 this Act for import of a sport-hunted trophy unless the ap-
16 plicant pays to the Secretary all administrative costs in-
17 curred by the United States that are associated with proc-
18 essing the permit application.”.

19 *SEC. 5. TRANSPARENCY OF SPORTS-HUNTED TROPHY IM-*
20 *PORT PERMITS.*

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1 *proposed to be listed as an endangered species or threatened*
 2 *species.” after “section.”*

3 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CON-**
 4 **SERVATION COUNCIL.**

5 *The International Wildlife Conservation Council of the*
 6 *United States Fish and Wildlife Service is hereby abolished.*

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

8 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the*
 9 *date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General*
 10 *of the United States shall conduct and submit to the Con-*
 11 *gress a report on the results of a study of the effectiveness*
 12 *of trophy hunting in supporting international wildlife con-*
 13 *servation efforts.*

14 *(b) REPORT.—The report shall—*

15 *(1) include a detailed analysis of how permit fees*
 16 *and other payments from hunters to government enti-*
 17 *ties and hunting guides in host countries are applied*
 18 *to tangible actions supporting the conservation of the*
 19 *target species and other wildlife in such countries;*

20 *(2) identify data gaps and recommend informa-*
 21 *tion that hunters and host countries must submit to*
 22 *verify the impacts of trophy hunting on wildlife con-*
 23 *servation efforts; and*

- 1 *(3) recommend actions that the Department of*
- 2 *the Interior and the Congress should take to ensure*
- 3 *that trophy hunting contributes to conservation.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to strengthen protections for endangered and threatened species, as well as species proposed to be listed, by requiring certification by the Fish and Wildlife Service that any international trophy hunting of those species enhances the conservation of the species before any import of the trophy would be permitted, and for other purposes.”.

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