

TALKING POINTS: WHAT TO SAY WHEN SPEAKING WITH YOUR REPRESENTATIVE ABOUT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACT

The Wildlife Conservation and Anti-Trafficking Act is a landmark, bipartisan piece of legislation that will protect wildlife in the U.S. and around the world.

The global black-market trade in illegal wildlife is driving species to extinction on the back of illicit profits for criminals and countless human rights abuses.

Whistleblowing generates funds for the government by helping law enforcement catch criminals and recoup illicit monies that would otherwise go under the radar.

Here are three main things that this bill accomplishes:

- **Strengthens the detection of wildlife crime by empowering whistleblowers to come forward with information.**
 - **Enhances enforcement mechanisms by expanding transnational law enforcement and making wildlife trafficking an offense under federal organized crime statutes.**
 - **Increases wildlife conservation funding, at no expense to taxpayers, by investing monies recovered from successful prosecutions back into conservation efforts.**
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The bill was introduced by Reps. John Garamendi (D-CA) and Don Young (R-AK), and has broad bipartisan support. Stopping wildlife trafficking is something that both parties can come together on: this bill builds on the foundation of the END Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2016 signed by President Obama, and the Executive Order No. 13773 signed by President Trump.

The bill accomplishes these goals without costing American taxpayer dollars. The whistleblower provisions incentivize those with information to step up and assist law enforcement agents on-the-ground with implementing the law. Similar whistleblower provisions have been proven to work over decades with other laws targeting bribery, corruption, and other criminal behavior.

This bill has brought support from key environmental organizations: the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, World Wildlife Fund, International Fund for Animal Welfare, and the African Wildlife Foundation have all already endorsed the bill, among many others.

The U.S. has the opportunity to be an even stronger leader in conservation efforts, and it's important to me that my elected representatives support this bill.

I urge you to support the Wildlife Conservation and Anti-Trafficking Act.

Your resource for more information:

<https://www.whistleblowers.org/campaigns/empower-global-wildlife-whistleblowers/>