



**Prohibits purchase or sale of parts or products  
from certain wildlife species; exceptions; civic penalties.**

**Initiative:** This measure is a statutory amendment placed on the ballot by initiative petition with an estimated 88,148 valid signatures.

**Financial Impact:** The estimated cost of state enforcement is less than \$100,000. There is no anticipated effect on local government expenditures or revenues.

**Probable results of a YES VOTE:** If this measure passes, it would prohibit purchase or sale within Oregon of parts/products from elephant, rhinoceros, whale, tiger, lion, leopard, cheetah, jaguar, pangolin, sea turtle, shark (except spiny dogfish), or ray. Punishment would be by civil fines. Exemptions include law enforcement activity, antiques, musical instruments, and members of federally recognized Native American tribes.

**Probable results of a NO VOTE:** If this measure fails, current Oregon law will apply, which, except for shark fins, does not prohibit sale of parts/products from species not native to Oregon.

**Background:** Wildlife trafficking (also known as poaching) is the unauthorized capture, possession, sale, transportation, and distribution of wildlife or their body parts, such as illegal elephant ivory. Wildlife trafficking is one of the largest markets for illegal transnational commerce but the least prosecuted. Two federal laws regulate wildlife trafficking: the Lacey Act (establishes penalties for the illegal trade across state lines of animals and plants protected by international or U.S. law) and the Endangered Species Act (which lists over 2,000 species worldwide as endangered or threatened). Existing federal law allows some sales of imported wildlife parts within state boundaries, and enforcement of existing laws is left to federal agencies. Current Oregon law only addresses impacts to native species and the trafficking of shark fins.

The U.S. is among the world's largest consumers of wildlife, both legal and illegal. Recent cases of poaching have received extensive media attention. The Oregon Legislature considered, but did not approve, wildlife trafficking legislation in 2015. Proponents of Measure 100 are therefore proposing this law directly to Oregon voters.

Four states have existing legislation addressing wildlife trafficking (CA, NJ, NY, and WA). Washington voters approved a ballot measure similar to Measure 100 in 2015. The legislation in California, New Jersey, and New York focuses on the trafficking of elephants and rhino parts (ivory and rhino horns). Since 2015 similar legislation has been or is being considered by at least 17 other states (AZ, CO, CT, DE, DC, HI, IL, IN, IA, MD, MA, MI, OH, OK, PA, VA, and VT).

**Proposal:** Measure 100 would restrict the trafficking of animals, body parts, or products from twelve wildlife species groups that are not native to Oregon and allow for local enforcement of wildlife trafficking.

Measure 100 would prohibit sale, exchange or purchase of a part or product from any species of elephant, rhinoceros, whale, tiger, lion, leopard, cheetah, jaguar, pangolin (also known as the spiny anteater), sea turtle or shark (except the spiny dogfish). There are several exceptions. The measure would allow activity related to federal law enforcement or that is specifically authorized by federal law. Sales and purchases of antiques or musical instruments that contain a small part of these animals (less than 0.4 pound, which is similar to federal law) are permitted. Items that contain animal parts covered by Measure 100 may be handed down (inherited) or donated to scientific or educational institutions. And members of a federally recognized Native American tribe may possess animal species parts or products covered by this measure. Each violation could be punishable by a \$6,500 civil penalty or an amount equal to twice the value of the covered animal species part or product, whichever is higher. If this measure is passed by voters, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission would adopt rules to implement it.

**Supporters Say:**

- These iconic wildlife species are in danger of extinction due to wildlife trafficking. About 35,000 elephants are slaughtered each year for their ivory and more than 1,200 rhinos were poached for their horns in 2014. The White Rhino has already been poached into extinction in parts of Africa.
- In addition to conservation and animal welfare concerns, poaching provides millions of dollars for criminal and terrorist groups.
- Existing federal laws are not sufficient. By passing Measure 100, Oregonians can help shut down the west coast market for illegal wildlife trafficking.



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- Measure 100 will not affect legal hunting, musical instruments, antiques, or tribal rituals.

**Opponents Say:**

- Poaching is unfortunate, but this measure will not stop it. Groups opposed to trafficking should focus their efforts on where these animals are hunted.
- From 2010-2014 federal enforcement officers inspected 5,526 legally hunted species at the Port of Portland and seized only eleven for being improperly imported, and only one was a species targeted by this measure.
- Species loss or decline occurs for reasons other than poaching. Species loss will not be impacted by this Oregon ballot measure.
- This measure would prohibit bringing some animal trophies hunted in another country back to Oregon.

[How We Researched the Ballot Measures](#)

League of Women Voters members have researched and written these ballot measure reports. Researchers try to verify all factual information. We work diligently to ensure that our reports are balanced, accurate, and fair. We strive to provide the information you need to make an informed VOTE! Our sources include:

- Financial Impact and Explanatory Statements from the Secretary of State
- Measure supporters and opponents
- State agencies and economists

Reports and published information, including current press coverage