

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2807

To amend the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 to prohibit the sale, importation, and exportation of products labeled as containing substances derived from rhinoceros or tiger.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 4, 1997

Mr. SAXTON (for himself and Mr. MILLER of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To amend the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 to prohibit the sale, importation, and exportation of products labeled as containing substances derived from rhinoceros or tiger.

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 “Rhino and Tiger Prod-
5 uct Labeling Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON SALE, IMPORTATION, AND EXPOR-**
2 **TATION OF PRODUCTS LABELED AS CON-**
3 **TAINING A SUBSTANCE DERIVED FROM RHI-**
4 **NOCEROS OR TIGER.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The populations of several magnificent and
7 unique endangered species of rhinoceros and tigers,
8 such as the Indian rhinoceros, the Javan rhinoceros,
9 the African black rhinoceros, and all of the tiger
10 subspecies, continue to decline.

11 (2) Growing demand throughout the world for
12 wildlife and wildlife parts and products has created
13 a market in which commercial exploitation has
14 threatened certain rhinoceros and tiger populations.

15 (3) There are insufficient legal mechanisms en-
16 abling the United States Fish and Wildlife Service
17 to forcefully interdict products that are labeled as
18 containing substances derived from rhinoceros or
19 tiger species and prosecute the merchandisers for
20 sale or display of those products.

21 (4) Although approximately 77,000 import and
22 export shipments occur annually in the United
23 States, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service
24 is able to maintain only 92 wildlife inspectors at 30
25 ports of entry, including 13 designated ports, to
26 monitor the shipments.

1 (5) Wildlife inspectors are able to physically in-
2 spect only an estimated 5 to 10 percent of all import
3 and export shipments, making the rate of detection
4 of contraband wildlife products extremely low.

5 (b) PROHIBITION.—The Rhinoceros and Tiger Con-
6 servation Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) is amended
7 by redesignating section 7 as section 8, and by inserting
8 after section 6 the following new section:

9 **“SEC. 7. PROHIBITION RELATING TO LABELING.**

10 “(a) PROHIBITION.—No person shall sell, import, or
11 export any product labeled as containing any substance
12 derived from any species of rhinoceros or tiger.

13 “(b) PENALTY.—Any person who knowingly violates
14 subsection (a) shall be fined under title 18, United States
15 Code, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.”.

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