

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 576

To save endangered species.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Mr. STOCKMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To save endangered species.

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 “Save Endangered Spe-
5 cies Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) Congress finds:

8 (1) Captive breeding programs are an essential
9 part of re-establishing endangered species popu-
10 lations.

11 (2) While the scimitar-horned oryx is extinct,
12 and the addax and the dama gazelle are endangered,

1 in their native Africa, thanks to the hunting indus-
2 try their populations are flourishing and thriving in
3 Texas.

4 (3) U.S. populations of the scimitar-horned
5 oryx, addax and the dama gazelle are not taken
6 from the wild, but are bred from animals imported
7 in the 1970s.

8 (4) A biologist and executive director of the
9 Fossil Rim Wildlife Center in Glen Rose, tells The
10 Houston Chronicle, “In this instance, Texas ranch-
11 ers have done an astonishing job of rebuilding three
12 species of African antelope, one of which is extinct
13 in the wild. When it comes to saving a species, gov-
14 ernment on its own cannot save those species. The
15 private sector has to get involved.”

16 (5) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wisely
17 granted an exemption from certain provisions of the
18 Endangered Species Act relating to the “taking” of
19 animals endangered overseas, but flourishing in the
20 United States.

21 (6) An anti-hunting activist group opposed to
22 hunting filed suit against the Interior Department
23 seeking to outlaw the hunting of the scimitar-horned
24 oryx, addax and the dama gazelle, and in 2012 the
25 Interior Department complied, declaring their large

1 and flourishing Texas populations were “endan-
2 gered” under the Endangered Species Act.

3 (7) Banning the hunting of an unendangered
4 species in Texas does absolutely nothing to protect
5 overseas endangered populations in Africa.

6 (8) Banning the hunting of an unendangered
7 species in the United States actually places overseas
8 endangered populations in danger of extinction by
9 removing any incentive to breed and maintain them.

10 (9) Restoring the domestic hunting of these
11 species is essential to maintaining healthy captive
12 breeding programs if we are to restore or save them
13 in their native Africa.

14 **SEC. 3. RESTORE THE PREVIOUS RULE.**

15 (a) Before the end of the 60-day period beginning on
16 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
17 Interior shall reissue the final rule published on September
18 2, 2005 (70 Fed. Reg. 52310 et seq.), without regard to
19 any other provision of statute or regulation that applies
20 to issuance of such rule.

21 (b) Such reissuance (including this section) shall not
22 be subject to judicial review.

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