

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 561

To amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to allow the importation of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada before the date on which the polar bear was determined to be a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. RISCH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to allow the importation of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada before the date on which the polar bear was determined to be a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

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 “Polar Bear Conserva-
5 tion and Fairness Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. PERMITS FOR IMPORTATION OF POLAR BEAR TRO-**
 2 **PHIES TAKEN IN SPORT HUNTS IN CANADA.**

3 Section 104(c)(5) of the Marine Mammal Protection
 4 Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1374(c)(5)) is amended by strik-
 5 ing subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

6 “(D) POLAR BEAR PARTS.—

7 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
 8 subparagraphs (A) and (C)(ii), subsection
 9 (d)(3), and sections 101 and 102, the Sec-
 10 retary of the Interior shall, expeditiously
 11 after the date on which the expiration of
 12 the applicable 30-day period described in
 13 subsection (d)(2) expires, issue a permit
 14 for the importation of any polar bear part
 15 (other than an internal organ) from a
 16 polar bear taken in a sport hunt in Canada
 17 to any person—

18 “(I) who submits, with the per-
 19 mit application, proof that the polar
 20 bear was legally harvested by the per-
 21 son before February 18, 1997; or

22 “(II) who submitted, with a per-
 23 mit application submitted before May
 24 15, 2008, proof that the polar bear
 25 was legally harvested from a polar
 26 bear population from which a sport-

1 hunted trophy could be imported be-
 2 fore that May 15, 2008, in accordance
 3 with section 18.30(i) of title 50, Code
 4 of Federal Regulations (or a successor
 5 regulation) by the person before May
 6 15, 2008.

7 “(ii) APPLICABILITY OF PROHIBITION
 8 ON THE IMPORTATION OF A DEPLETED
 9 SPECIES.—

10 “(I) PARTS LEGALLY HARVESTED
 11 BEFORE FEBRUARY 18, 1997.—

12 “(aa) IN GENERAL.—Sec-
 13 tions 101(a)(3)(B) and 102(b)(3)
 14 shall not apply to the importation
 15 of any polar bear part authorized
 16 by a permit issued under clause
 17 (i)(I).

18 “(bb) APPLICABILITY.—
 19 Item (aa) shall not apply to polar
 20 bear parts imported before June
 21 12, 1997.

22 “(II) PARTS LEGALLY HAR-
 23 VESTED BEFORE MAY 15, 2008.—

24 “(aa) IN GENERAL.—Sec-
 25 tions 101(a)(3)(B) and 102(b)(3)

1 shall not apply to the importation
2 of any polar bear part authorized
3 by a permit issued under clause
4 (i)(II).

5 “(bb) APPLICABILITY.—
6 Item (aa) shall not apply to polar
7 bear parts imported before the
8 date of enactment of the Polar
9 Bear Conservation and Fairness
10 Act of 2015.”.

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