

This message is for all USA residents.

Please stop what you're doing and follow this link provided at the bottom of this message. NFSS board fully supports this message.

There is a House Bill to amend the ESA (Endangered Species Act), so that it only lists/regulates species NATIVE to the US (HR 2603). Basically, the new language is eliminating NON NATIVE from its language. This will open the doors for birds that are **captive breed / non native**. Many of us spend an incredible amount of time on paperwork and fees, which can often take one year to learn the process required.

Right now, obtaining certain costly permits and following lengthy processes may also be linked to "pay-to-play" by forcing permit applicants to agree to contribute funds to a conservation program acceptable to the Federal Service. To legally move certain endangered non-native species from state to state you need a federal permit. Also an Annual report is required to Management Authority and when renewing, every five years, answering 18 questions with photos and details are needed, along with a \$200.00 fee.

NAIA has created an online contact mechanism regarding this bill to reach our state representatives for you, so no need to figure it out.

Below is the link. Please pass this message on to everyone – even those without birds (friends & family). We need yours and their support! This method makes it simple for us to respond online supporting this Bill.

In conclusion;

HR 2603

- **Enhances conservation of endangered species** by allowing for improved genetic diversity among captive populations previously isolated by arbitrary geographic lines – also captive propagation provides valuable information and technology to be utilized in ensuring larger genetic pool, animal welfare, and benefiting reintroduction programs.
- **Decreases federal spending** through elimination of millions of dollars expended to respond to;
 - a. listing petitions,
 - b. litigation and,
 - c. other unnecessary regulations since US has no jurisdiction over foreign countries, unable to designate critical habitat, etc.
- **Eliminates costly and time consuming periodic 5-year review process for listed non-native species** and allows greater focus on listed native species;
- **Eliminates conflicts between ESA and CITES Treaty;**
- **Removes duplicative regulations -- CITES will continue to regulate international movement and protection of endangered species – CITES is the major international conservation treaty with 183 parties;**
- **Eliminates conflicts between Federal and State laws** where states endangered species acts automatically ban Federally listed species even when ESA does not ban possession, breeding and in some instances interstate commerce. Point out some 25+ states;
- **Gives regulatory authority back to states** allowing states to determine requirements for managing non-native species if needed;
- **Increases commerce and economic opportunity** through deregulation of interstate movement of non-native species .

- **Eliminates time consuming, complex, costly and often conflicting regulations –**
 - a. obtaining “Captive Bred Wildlife” (CBP) permits allowing interstate commerce if obtainable at all involve;
 - b. incredible amount of onerous paperwork often takes one year even for known breeders;
 - c. Obtaining certain permits may also be linked to “pay-to-play” by forcing permit applicants to agree to contribute funds to a conservation program acceptable to the Service.

- **ESA will focus on “native” species**

- **Public education hampered by regulatory process.**

Several members have asked how HR 2063 impacts invasive species. We have made it abundantly clear that this amendment does not impact the Government’s ability to regulate non-native invasive species under the Federal Injurious Wildlife Law (Lacey Act 18 U.S.C. Sec. 42).

Please support and send this message to your representatives using the NAIA (NFSS is an affiliate) electronic on-line form.

<http://cqrcengage.com/naiatrust/app/write-a-letter?0&engagementId=361753>