

Raszka Shelley

From: ROz SHIRACK <rozshirack@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2013 3:02 PM
To: Raszka Shelley
Cc: Sen Courtney
Subject: No on HB 2624A

Dear Chairwoman Jackie Dingfelder,
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

I oppose HB 2624A, which gives counties the option of allowing the use of dogs to hunt cougars. The Legislature should acknowledge the will of statewide voters who have already voted to ban the use of dogs to hunt cougars. I'm sure you are already familiar with the importance of keystone predators to keep prey populations, such as deer, in check to limit their over browsing of vegetation. Over browsing of vegetation causes loss of habitat and diversity of many other types of wildlife down the food web. See [The Wolf's Tooth](#) by Cristina Eisenberg, a post-doctoral researcher at Oregon State University. This is not just a hunting issue. This is a statewide issue of predator management with statewide habitat impacts. Use of dogs to more effectively hunt cougars should not be left to counties to decide.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Senate District 11