

SB 723 -7 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 2/28, 4/3, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits wildlife hunting contest or other event for prize or entertainment. Provides that hunter must forfeit remains of wildlife killed during prohibited event. Requires animal injured during prohibited event to be treated. Makes each wildlife death or injury to a class A misdemeanor. Defines wildlife. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Predator hunting regulations
- Scientific data on predator removal
- Impacts of coyotes on farmers
- Effect of amendments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-7 Replaces measure. Prohibits coyote hunting contest or other event for prize or inducement. Provides that hunter must forfeit remains of coyote killed during prohibited event. Makes each contest or other event Class A violation. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

Under ORS 610.002, coyotes are defined as predatory animals that are or may be destructive to agricultural crops, products, and activities. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife estimates that there are about 300,000 coyotes in Oregon. Coyotes are not a protected species and can be killed on an owner's land without a hunting permit and on public land with a permit. There is currently no limit on the number of coyotes that can be killed by a single individual or during a single event or contest.

SB 723 prohibits wildlife hunting contests or other events for prize or entertainment and provides that animals killed or injured during such events must be forfeited or treated.