From: <u>Stephanie Christensen</u>
To: <u>Exhibits HNR; Rep Kotek</u>

Subject: Measure 18

**Date:** Tuesday, April 2, 2019 9:58:31 AM

To Members of the Natural Resources Committee and Speaker Kotek,

I am writing today to URGE you to NOT allow Measure 18 to be rescinded, weakened, or required to be re-voted. Oregonians have made themselves clear, TWICE!, with the majority of us feeling very strongly that bear baiting should NOT be allowed, and that the use of hounds to sport hunt bears and cougars should remain illegal. Sport hunting of wildlife is unethical to begin with - but lowering the bar to allow baiting and hounding, again - for sport - is despicable. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife would have us believe that cougar populations are escalating out of control - but independent wildlife experts and scientists question the way that ODFW creates population estimates.....and concerns have been raised that ODFW has taken an unprofessional antagonistic position on cougars. The majority of Oregonians like myself feel strongly that Oregon maintain highly ethical and humane wildlife management and hunting regulations. Please protect Measure 18 and let it stand as is. Thank you, Stephanie Christensen, Portland Oregon