From: Randy and Pam Comeleo
To: Exhibits HNR; Rep Kotek

Subject: Please oppose HB 2795 and HB 3118

Date: Thursday, April 4, 2019 12:52:30 AM

Dear Speaker and members of the House Natural Resources Committee,

I am writing to ask you to oppose HB 2795 and HB 3118 or any effort to repeal, weaken, or refer Measure 18 back to the voters for a third time.

We do not have too many cougars in Oregon. ODFW exaggerates the number of cougars in the state by counting kittens in their estimates. What we have is a state wildlife agency which is hostile toward predators and has lost the respect of informed citizens and carnivore biologists in Oregon and other western states.

Scientific studies indicate that trophy hunting of adult cougars may put the public at risk. As we learned in the North Bend, WA incident last year, young, orphaned, and inexperienced cougars may prey upon humans.

Oregonians have already made their views clear on the unsporting practice of hunting adult cougars with dogs. If trophy hunters want to repeal Measure 18, they should be responsible for collecting signatures from the public to place this issue back on the ballot.

Sincerely,

Randy Comeleo Corvallis, OR