

Dear House Natural Resources Committee,

I am writing as an Oregonian with a plea that Oregon shall become as humane as a number of other states by banning the horrific coyote killing contests. I am baffled by people who gain pleasure from causing suffering and death to other living creatures. I am struck with the image of men holding corpses of coyotes and gaining satisfaction from this blood sport--having their children witness this and learn that it is okay to inflict suffering on animals, in fact it's fun! That is the sole purpose of killing these coyotes--there is no convincing argument to suggest it is anything but for this purpose. I remember reading about the dead nursing coyote mother taken in the contest. I suppose her cubs will starve to death.

I would be ashamed to remain living in a state that supports such a cruel activity. I realize this is popular in one region of Oregon and supported by one party over another. However, as I mentioned recently to Senator Burdick, this is not about Democrat vs Republican, or Eastern Oregon vs. Western Oregon, or rural Oregon vs. urban Oregon. This is about ethical vs. unethical. This is a savage and cruel sport--it serves no purpose but to provide a form of cruel entertainment. Please ban these coyote killing contests by supporting HB 4075.

Sincerely,

Hillary Tiefer, PhD (formerly a professor at Southern Oregon University and instructor at Rogue Community College.)