

Dear House Natural Resources Committee,

I am just writing to let you know that I fully support the passage of HB 4705, the bill that would ban coyote killing contests. I recognize not only the sheer wild beauty of Oregon's coyotes but their significance as an important part of our natural ecosystem. They are beneficial and needed animals and important to me as a constituent. I have made Oregon my home because of the value this state places on our natural spaces, including the wildlife that I see there. Opportunities to see these animals in their natural environment is what brings me to rural communities for tourism. Nothing brings me greater joy than a chance sighting of a coyote. I know that rural community members may feel differently, may have a different relationship with coyotes, and may actually want them to die, however, the science on the matter of large killing events such as unsporting coyote killing contests clearly shows that wiping out large numbers of coyotes at once is actually counterproductive because it leaves predatory niches to be filled, which brings even more coyotes into communities, which exacerbates the tense relationships between rural residents and wildlife. I would very appreciate if you would support the passage of HB 4075, take a science/evidence-based approach to their management, and that Oregon's wildlife belongs to ALL Oregonians, not just a very small minority of hunters that participate in these devastating coyote killing contest events.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration and for all that you do to protect our wildlife.

Sincerely,
Mia Bonadonna
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