

We are Oregon resident and respectfully urge you to vote YES on HB 4075 to **prohibit coyote killing contests** in the state. Oregon state lawmakers should join public officials and wildlife agencies in New Mexico, Arizona, Massachusetts, California, and Vermont who have already banned wildlife and/or coyote killing contests.

During these horrific events, participants compete to kill the greatest number or the largest coyotes for prizes or bragging rights. Wildlife killing contests are cruel and senseless, counterproductive to sound wildlife management, and antithetical to traditional hunting ethics, jeopardizing the future of hunting in general.

More than 70 prominent conservation scientists have signed a statement condemning killing contests on ecological and ethical grounds. There is no scientific evidence that indiscriminately killing coyotes reduces their populations, increases populations of game animals like deer, or protects livestock. Randomly killing coyotes disrupts their pack structure, which can increase their populations and increase conflicts with coyotes. Preventing conflicts with the use of humane, non-lethal methods is more effective.

Coyotes play an important ecological role in healthy ecosystems. They reduce rabbit and rodent populations, keep environments free of animal carcasses, and increase biodiversity.

Sincerely,

Robert Mumby
Kathleen Kudo

300 Meadow View Drive
Phoenix, Oregon