

Dear Legislators – I am asking that you support **HB 4075** which would prohibit gruesome coyote killing contests, which have occurred throughout Oregon over the past few years and offer cash prizes and/or guns for the winner who kills the most coyotes within a certain time period. These contests allow for easy kills by luring coyotes into the open with high-tech calling devices, where the sole purpose is to kill as many coyotes as possible for cash and prizes. The vast majority of Oregonians, according to a poll conducted by the Remington Research Group, overwhelmingly oppose these contests.

Motivated by financial rewards, these contests are grossly out of step with the ethics of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management and Oregon's conservation centered values. Not only cruel and callous, they send the wrong message—one of disregard for wildlife rather than of sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for the public's wildlife.

It's important to note that when considering how you will vote that you know that the scientific data doesn't support that such contests decrease the population of coyotes. In fact, it increases their numbers.

Several states including Arizona, California, Vermont, New Mexico and Massachusetts have banned such activities. It is a stain on our reputation as a humane state to allow such cruel and violent contests to continue. Please support HB 4075.

Sincerely,

Timothy and Christine White
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