Dear Chairman Witt and Members of the House Natural Resources Committee:

Please follow in the footsteps of Arizona, California, Massachusetts, New Mexico, and Vermont and put an end to coyote killing contests.

The majority of Oregonians and more than 70 conservation scientists denounce wildlife killing contests on ethical and ecological grounds. Killing contests are cruel bloodsports — like cockfighting and dogfighting — but go a step further and cause the suffering of injured or orphaned animals who are left behind. Besides the inherent cruelty, indiscriminate slaughter of these intelligent animals upsets their pack structure, as well as ecosystem balance and biodiversity, since their populations can actually increase following such killings.

Moving HB 4075 forward will put an end to such disgusting slaughter once and for all.

Thank you.

Eileen Stark Portland