

I urge the Senators to end these cruel and wasteful contests that reward people for indiscriminately killing as many coyotes as possible.

Oregon's wildlife is managed under the public trust doctrine, which holds that wildlife is managed for the benefit of all Oregonians, and it is unethical and cruel to wantonly kill wildlife as part of a blood contest.

Science proves that randomly killing coyotes increases conflict with livestock, which makes killing contests counterproductive to hunters' state goals of protecting livestock.

HB 4075A is good for farmers, good for hunters, and good for wildlife.

HB 4075A is legislation that is perfectly aligned with Oregon's values, the best available science, and broad public support.

Supporters of coyote-killing contests would have you think that all rural residents are in support of these barbaric events. This is flat out not the case. Many rural residents abhor killing contests.

Proponents like to say that killing contests are about livestock protection, but they're not. The opposite is true. The coyote-killing contests are causing the very problem they claim to be solving! Here's why:

"It is well known that coyotes are a highly adaptive species that respond to efforts to exterminate them by increasing their rates of reproduction." *

* Quote from Oregon's Fish and Wildlife Commission Chair, Mike Finley, who is not a "liberal lefty," but is heeding the science regarding coyotes (at least in this case)

Proponents also conveniently ignore that no one is telling them they can't legally hunt coyotes or kill coyotes on their own property. Tragically, you can still kill coyotes 365 days a year in Oregon. HB 4075A only bans coyote-killing contests.

What makes coyote-killing contests so deplorable is that they're essentially about the wanton killing of wildlife for no good reason. They're about the slaughter of a native species for fun. So all those who attend coyote-killing contests are doing is participating in cruelty and killing that simultaneously ensures there will be even more coyotes to kill the next breeding season.

This must end.

We thank you in advance for aligning with the strong majority of Oregonians who support banning coyote-killing contests. By passing HB 4075A, Oregon can join other states who have led the way, which include New Mexico, Arizona, Massachusetts, California and Vermont.

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