



March 1, 2020

Dear Chair Burdick and Members of the Senate Committee on Rules,

Audubon Chapters across the state of Oregon including Rogue Valley Audubon, Umpqua Valley Audubon, Klamath Basin Audubon, East Cascades Audubon, Kalmiopsis Audubon, Salem Audubon, Lane County Audubon, Cape Arago Audubon, Corvallis Audubon, Audubon Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary (Yachats) and Portland Audubon representing more than 23,000 Oregonians, urge your vote in support of HB 4075-A which would ban coyote killing contests.

Coyote derbies are inhumane and ineffective for managing coyote populations and they are the antithesis of legitimate hunting. They represent cruel and wanton waste of Oregon’s wildlife. This legislation is not about the urban-rural divide, limiting hunting opportunities, or about limiting property owners’ ability to address depredation issues. The Audubon Chapters on this letter span the State of Oregon and are located in urban and rural communities. It is entirely about eliminating a practice that promotes indiscriminate killing and wasting of a native wildlife species in exchange for prizes.

A recent poll by the Remington Research Group found that a strong majority of Oregonians, across all five congressional districts, support legislation to ban coyote killing contests.

Moreover, coyote killing contests are not supported by science-based wildlife management principles. Numerous studies, including those cited in [Oregon Small Farm News](#), an extension of the Oregon State University, underscore that science does not support indiscriminate, large-scale, mass killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing conflicts with pets or livestock, or even increasing numbers of game species. It can even lead to an increase in coyote numbers by disrupting stable family packs and increasing their rate of reproduction.

It is time to end these inhumane and ineffective coyote derbies. Please Pass HB 4075-A.

Rogue Valley Audubon
 Kalmiopsis Audubon
 East Cascades Audubon
 Salem Audubon
 Corvallis Audubon
 Portland Audubon

Umpqua Valley Audubon
 Klamath Basin Audubon
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