



Senate Committee On Rules

Chair Burdick and members of the committee

RE: HB 4075 coyote hunts

WE ARE A STRONG NO

This bill prohibits coyote hunting contests protecting a predator that is over-populated. Lack of controlled hunts will put farms and ranches at a great risk from this predator.

This will prohibit youth hunting camps or other such rifle or bow training camps. It will prohibit contests, even if event is held on private property. Contests are revenue generating festivals. Coyotes are very destructive animals that can only be properly controlled with these types of hunts that includes prizes or payoff, because the animal itself isn't worth much to a hunter.

This overreach of government is a step towards controlling the use of firearms and property.

Coyotes are defined as predatory animals in ORS 610.002. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) estimates that there are 300,000 coyotes in Oregon. Coyotes are not a protected species and the hunting of coyotes is not regulated by ODFW. Coyotes can be killed on an owner's land without a hunting permit and on public land with a permit. There is currently no limit on the number of coyotes that can be killed by a single individual or during a single hunting contest or event.

This bill adds a burden to ODFW for enforcement and requires that the remains of coyotes killed during such contests be turned over to ODFW even though they don't regulate them. There is no justification for this bill.

Donna Bleiler
FAST Legacy