

Dear Representatives Witt, Breese-Iverson, Hudson, Cate, Marsh, McLain, Post, Reardon, Brock Smith, and Williams,

My name is Meghan Hoey and I am a resident of Deschutes County. This bill came to my attention from a colleague, as we both work in supporting Central Oregon's local food economy (more money to farmers, more money to local restaurants and more affordable, accessible local food to community members). I was devastated reading about these wildlife killing contests that go on across our beautiful state. One of the most wonderful aspects of Oregon is its diversity - both in geography and in wildlife. We are all so fortunate to call this state home!

I understand that some hunting needs to occur to manage the wildlife populations and to preserve our farming as well as our natural resources. However, killing for money and prizes? It is cruel and unnecessary. This kind of behavior brings out the worst in human nature, not to mention the harmful impact it has on wildlife populations.

I hope Oregon will join with other states, like Washington and Colorado, in banning this type of 'entertainment.' It is not sportsmanship, it is unethical slaughter for no beneficial reason.

I appreciate you taking the time to read my statement, and to consider passing HB 2728.

Sincerely,
Meghan Hoey