

Submitter: Hillary Tiefer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: HB4080

I oppose HB 4080 that would authorize the creation of “predator damage control districts” to pay Wildlife Services to kill Oregon’s wildlife (i.e., wolves, bears, bobcats, foxes, cougars, beavers, coyotes, etc.) considered a threat to private property, without having to use or consider non-lethal methods. According to the HSUS, “Wildlife Services is a highly controversial program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture that carries out lethal predator control on public and private lands throughout the U.S. including here in Oregon, using cruel killing methods that include poisoning, trapping, snaring, aerial gunning, and paid hunters. In fact, in the fiscal year ending in June 2020, Wildlife Services killed 201,606 wild animals in Oregon, including 210 bears, 2,147 coyotes and 92 mountain lions.” I am appalled as an Oregonian that people continue to declare war on nature and find it both convenient and in some cases entertaining to kill these animals. I hope I live in a humane state that stresses the importance of finding non-lethal methods to coincide with wildlife-- methods that are already proven to be effective. If this bill passes I will be ashamed of living in this state.