

**OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION** Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

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House Environment and Natural Resource Committee Support for HB 4080

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Brock Smith and Hudson, Committee Members,

Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) supports the ability of private landowners to form predator damage control districts through a voluntary funding solution to help cover the costs of preventing and mitigating damage by predatory animals.

HB 4080 does not create a new predator control program or authorize anything new in regard to predator management. In forming a predator control district, landowners are simply assessing themselves to fund a well-tested predator control program. Inherent in that program is significant investment in non-lethal methods of wildlife control – USDA Wildlife Services always encourages non-lethal measures and helps farmers, ranchers, and timber landowners implement non-lethal measures that will reduce conflict as a significant part of their job.

OHA supports HB 4080 as a way to provide landowners with the tools they need to adequately protect their lands and livestock. We ask the committee to also support HB 4080.

Thank you, Amy Patrick, Policy Director