

OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 13, 2023

RE: Testimony opposing SB 199

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Girod, and members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources,

I write in opposition to Senate Bill 199. Oregon's current predatory animal regime is working, and there is no reason to broaden the ODFW's mandate or regulatory power in this arena. ODA is the correct agency to oversee the program because of its mission to maintain Oregon's agricultural economy.

SB 199 would give expansive rulemaking authority to ODFW to regulate numerous predators. The legislature should not be abdicating it's authority over policymaking to the executive branch, especially in an area that would potentially devastating consequences for Oregon farmers and ranchers.

Voles, squirrels, beavers, nutria, gophers, and moles significantly damage grass seed fields and hazelnut orchards in my district. Without ODA as the regulatory body to balance the needs of farmers, I fear that ODFW will overreach and make it even harder to farm than it already is in Oregon.

I respectfully request that the committee oppose SB 199.

Respectfully submitted into the House record,

Shelly Boshart Davis Oregon State Representative District 15