

Submitter: Laurel Hines  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB769

The voters of Oregon have spoken loudly and clearly that they oppose cruel cougar hunting with hounds and for trophies, yet the minority who did not vote against it keep trying to subvert the previously voted in Initiatives by the people of Oregon. This is not fair to those who voted not once but twice against these cruel and un-needed practices, and are expecting their wishes to be respected.

Allowing some counties to be exempt from wildlife killing restrictions in others is not reasonable. It is not what people voted for in the past Initiatives. Oregon's wildlife belongs to all Oregonians, and cougar do not stay in just one county. It is unlikely county lines would be honored by hounds and hunters while out in the woods chasing cougar.

Additionally, any actual issues that arise with a problem cougar can already be handled with hounds if cougars threaten safely, etc. (Measure 18). "Culling" populations of cougars not a scientifically valid way to manage wildlife. In fact some science suggests it makes things worse by disrupting their natural balance/territories.

Please do not pass this bill out of committee and dishonor the Initiative system and previous clearly expressed wish of the majority of the public.