

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

I'm reaching out in support of this measure. I believe that the measure should be put up for a vote. When I was younger I was never able to experience running Cougars with dogs. And to be honest it's not even about that for me. What it's about is seeing how much the animal herds have plummeted and how the hunting has changed since I was a young kid. I'm only 39 so that wasn't that long ago. I remember going out with my Dad and having multiple opportunities a day at bucks that were big enough to harvest for the family dinner table. You go out now days and it's rough trying to find any deer or elk at all. My kids will be old enough to hunt here soon and I'm afraid their opportunities at harvesting a deer or elk will be little to none at the rate the herds are declining. It's a chore for myself to fill my own tags these days and I get lucky to fill one at this rate. The way things are going my children won't have any wildlife to pursue and that not right. I've seen the destruction these Cats have done on people's live stock first hand as well. They hurt people's livelihoods when they kill the livestock. They are even killing multiple animals at a time and leaving them to waste. That's just unacceptable. I believe cougars are beautiful animals and have the upmost respect for them. And believe that they are needed in our ecosystem. But not at the current cougar population level. I believe by allowing the folks to vote to bring the hounds back can help out with the issues we are having currently. I think a well managed season through Fish and Game can help provide the proper management that we need and reduce the cougar numbers back down to a healthy level. I'm hoping that things can turn around and animals can make a comeback for future generations to enjoy. Thanks for reading and God bless