

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

How many times will you try to circumvent the will of the voters???? THIS HAS BEEN DECIDED - and I oppose this attempt to allow hounds to trophy hunt cougars! Are those proposing again and again just ignorant descendants of hunters and trappers that nearly ran our Beaver extinct? STOP IT!

Measure 18 already exempts the use of dogs to address threats from individual cougars who threaten property or public safety, or to carry out state wildlife management objectives. Measure 18 did not ban trophy hunting of cougars in Oregon.

Oregon currently allows excessive trophy hunting of cougars and ranks fifth highest nationwide for hunting mortality of these large cats. Between 2008 and 2017, trophy hunters killed nearly 2,600 cougars. Oregon is one of only a few states that allow year-round hunting of cougars, even when kittens are likely dependent on their mothers.

Still, every year since 1997, some legislators have introduced a raft of bills to either weaken and/or repeal Measure 18. Multiple bills have already been introduced in the 2025 legislature that would subject Oregon's cougar population to hounding for sport and trophies, posing an affront to the democratic process and the majority of Oregonians who want cougars and their kittens protected from such cruelty.

Legislators should not circumvent or second-guess the voters - QUIT WASTING TIME TRYING AGAIN! GET SOMETHING POSITIVE ACTUALLY DONE?!