

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

I support this measure. As the daughter of a predator control specialist, I've personally seen livestock that have been killed and left to rot. I have seen the heartache of family members when they lose their pets and livestock to a cougar. There are too many cougars in Oregon, state and federal resources simply cannot keep up with the growing amount of cougar depredation issues. The only natural predators that cougars have are wolves and people, there are very few wolves in western Oregon, so people need the correct tools to be able to control populations. Hunting with dogs is not cruel or inhumane, it's quite the opposite. Treeing a cougar with dogs gives people plenty of time to inspect the animal to make sure its not a nursing mother or kittens. For some reason, a lot of the opposed comments called this "trophy hunting", its the opposite. It is selective harvest or non harvest. The law has been running since 1994, a lot has changed since then and people need to be able to adapt and change with it.