

Statement on county exemptions for cougar hunting

SB 769

Oregon Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire

February 10, 2025

Overruling the voices of Oregon voters is completely unacceptable. This will set a terrible precedence for all citizen initiatives in general.

No means no when it comes to this type of hunting.

I see conflicts of interest in those who support this bill, it seems to be mostly hunters concerned about not being able to hunt as much deer as they would like. Deer populations can be affected by many factors, cougars can possibly be a scapegoat to focus on while masking the actual causes of supposed decline. Local communities should not get to override decisions that belong at the state level regarding wildlife as they do not have the resources nor the credentials necessary to make educated decisions based on research and overall ecosystem health. There is also no excuse for this type of cruel and inhumane practice of using hounds. Please keep protections for cougars in place, vote no on SB 769.