

Submitter: John Rakestraw

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or  
Topic: SB769

I am writing to ask the Committee to oppose SB769. Oregonians have repeatedly voted down attempts to hunt cougars with hounds, and there are already exemptions for state agencies dealing with individual problem animals. Apex predators, like cougars, are essential for healthy ecosystems. Biologists in neighboring states believe that ODFW is overestimating the numbers of cougars in Oregon, which is increasing the risk of over-hunting. There is no sound reason to increase the take of Oregon cougars by hunting with hounds. Thank you.