

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

I want to express my support for SB 769 because it will empower each county to adopt its own cougar management strategy. Our state's geography and population distribution are incredibly diverse. It makes little sense to apply the same policy to places like Portland and more remote parts of Eastern Oregon. By allowing hound hunting in counties that choose it, we can respond more effectively to real issues like livestock depredation, declining deer populations, and human-cougar conflicts. This bill doesn't force any county to change its policy; it only restores local choice. That's why I believe it's a commonsense solution for Oregon.

Sincerely,
Weston Smith