

Submitter: Vickey Guess  
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 would allow each county to adopt its own cougar management strategy. Oregon's geography and population distribution are very diverse and it makes little sense to apply a one-size-fits-all policy to places like Portland and more rural and remote parts of our state. Allowing hound hunting in counties that choose it would be a more effective response 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. I believe passage of SB 769 would create a more flexible and balanced approach to managing the state's increasing population of cougars while respecting the will of the voters in areas that are most impacted. Thank you for your consideration.