

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

I urge you to vote no on SB 769. It does not reflect good wildlife management because trophy hunting removes the adults leading to increased conflicts with people, livestock, and pets as younger cats move into the vacated territory. Actual data on cougar numbers is lacking by ODFW and as a result, decisions would be made about a species in which we don't actually know populations. Sadly, ODFW is known for inflating numbers, not just in terms of cougars but other species as well without actual data. Cougars are a native carnivore and it is already possible to address problem cougars when public safety is a concern. Hunting cougars with hounds is not fair chase and gives ethical hunters a bad name. Oregonians have already made their voices clear on this question and I urge you to let the 1994 Measure 18 decision stand. Thank you.