Dear Chair Witt and Members of the Committee:

We have been down this road already! Oregon voters do **NOT** support any idea to weaken or invalidate Measure 18! **NO on HB 2795.**

Anti-wildlife lawmakers in Oregon are proposing a bill, HB 2795, that allows counties to "opt out" of Measure 18's prohibitions on using dogs to hunt cougars for sport.

HB 2795 is another outrageous affront to create a loop hole to Measure 18.

Voters reaffirmed their decision even more decisively in 1996 by rejecting a ballot measure to repeal Measure 18. Oregonians have stated TWICE that they view hound hunting as unacceptably cruel and unsparing practice.

Allowing counties to exclude themselves from a statewide law would set a terrible precedent, putting other voter-approved measures at risk of being undermined or repealed.

A small few legislators like to stir up baseless stories driving public fear of wildlife carnivores as a means to drive an agenda supported by the few, mainly trophy-hunters and the like that enjoy the bloody spectacle of dogs and cougars tearing each other apart. This is unacceptable and barbaric.

It would also create a confusing, county-by-county, patchwork approach to managing wildlife, and would disrupt and thwart the state's broader wildlife management objectives.

As a voter, I do **NOT** support yet another violent approach to wildlife management and therefore do NOT support HB 2795. I ask you to consider doing the same.

We must push to be better and less violent in our approaches. NO on HB 2795. HB 2795 would be regression.

Respectfully,

Jenny Siebert Voter in Newport