

"I'm an Oregon resident and I respectfully urge you to vote YES on SB 723-2 to prohibit coyote killing contests in the state." Additional talking points are below.

Talking Points:

This legislation will prevent a small minority of the population from recklessly slaughtering our wild animals.

- **Killing contests are a bloodsport like dogfighting and cockfighting.** Killing coyotes for thrills and prizes—with no respect for their intrinsic or ecological value—is senseless violence and waste.
- **Killing contests damage the reputation of responsible hunters by violating fundamental hunting ethics.** Countless animals are injured or orphaned during killing contests. The events put non-target species (including imperiled wolves) at risk. Participants use electronic calling devices, which mimic the sounds of prey or young in distress, to lure the target animals in for an easy kill.
- **Recent polling of Oregon voters found that a solid majority support an end to coyote killing contests in the state.**
- **There is no scientific evidence that indiscriminately killing coyotes reduces their populations, increases populations of game animals like deer, or protects livestock.** Randomly killing coyotes disrupts their pack structure, which can increase their populations and increase conflicts with coyotes. Preventing conflicts with the use of humane, non-lethal methods is more effective.
- **Coyotes play an important ecological role in healthy ecosystems.** They reduce rabbit and rodent populations, keep environments free of animal carcasses, and increase biodiversity.
- **This bill is not a ban on hunting and does not impact other laws.** Individuals will still be allowed to hunt coyotes according to state laws. SB 723-2 does not prohibit fishing tournaments, impact other species or prohibit fishing tournaments, or affect laws related to taking of predatory animals or the lethal control of specific, problem-causing coyotes.

Learn more about wildlife killing contests [here](#), the scientific reasons behind why killing coyotes doesn't solve problems [here](#) and [here](#), and the National Coalition to End Wildlife Killing Contests [here](#).

Thank you for acting TODAY to protect Oregon's coyotes!

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