

I am encouraging the Senate Rules Committee to pass SB 723, the legislation to ban coyote killing contests, with confidence. I have been concerned that these events encourage killing for fun with no other purpose. In addition, if this procedure is designed to limit the population of cougars and minimize conflict with people and other animals, it doesn't work. This random killing adds to the chaos of the coyotes' family structure. Often the dominant males are killed as well as prominent females trying to feed their young. It is those family members that manage the group, keeping the population under control.

These killings do not increase deer population nor do they decrease the coyotes' interaction with livestock, people or pets.

The studies to prove these statements exist in peer reviewed scientific research. If you have doubts, please reference them, available from multiple sources.

This type of "enjoyable killing" is cruel to the animals and against all societal rules. The practice is completely unethical.

Please vote to bring these events to a halt.

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