

Dear Members of the House Natural Resources Committee,

I am writing on behalf of my family of four voters. We urge you to support HB 4075 to make Coyote Killing Contests illegal in the state of Oregon.

1. This is a cruel and unnecessary slaughter of valuable wildlife and causing un-due hardship to the pups and family structures of these animals.
2. For too long, the lie has persisted that the Coyote, **Native to North America**, is vermin. How can Coyotes be native to our land and not serve a valuable ecological role? As a natural part of our ecosystem, Coyotes cull rodents and diseased undulates. **We are livestock owners** and were distressed when a neighbor killed our local Coyote. The next season, our fields, neighbor fields and our garden were destroyed by ground squirrels. That neighbor moved away. Now, we watch with delight as a new Coyote hunts the surrounding fields for rodents. What a joy to see it doing its valuable work.
3. Scientific research proves that **Predators Control Their Own Population** based on the available prey base. Killing Coyotes only causes them to produce larger litters. New Coyotes moving into the vacated place of a slaughtered Coyote, **create Creased Incidents of Livestock Predation. As a livestock owner, I want to achieve a harmonious relationship with native wildlife.**
4. Oregon Fish and Wildlife and other departments across the country, including Georgia, reject these contests — stating that they provide **No Value to Wildlife Management**. Five states have now banned these gruesome contests—including California, Vermont, New Mexico, Arizona, and Massachusetts. We hope that Oregon can join science based, intelligent treatment of our Native wildlife.

Thank you.

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