

Submitter: kim davis

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: HB4080

HB4080 would create a permanent state fund for federal Wildlife Services designated as “predator damage control districts” to kill Oregon’s wildlife (i.e., wolves, bears, bobcats, foxes, cougars, beavers, coyotes, etc.,) feared to be a threat to private property, cart blanch, without having to use or consider non-lethal methods. Wildlife Services is a highly controversial program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture that carries out lethal predator control on public and private lands in Oregon, using cruel killing methods that include poisoning, trapping, snaring, aerial gunning, and paid hunters. In fact, in the last fiscal year, Wildlife Services killed 201,606 wild animals in Oregon, including 210 bears, 2,147 coyotes and 92 mountain lions, and an untallied number of additional animals not targeted but impacted by traps and poisons, including native and migrating birds and non-predator wildlife.

We need to value all wildlife. Science is establishing the important role every species plays in balancing our ecosystems, predators included. We cannot risk additional harms caused by their continued slaughter.