

Submitter: Lisa Billings

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: HB4080

I strongly oppose the creation of “predator damage control districts” that would fund the wanton killing of Oregon's wildlife. Wildlife Services is a program that has a terrible history of abusing authority and bending to special interests or landowners who have done nothing to prevent conflict with native species. The methods Wildlife Services uses to kill animals are cruel and inhumane, and extremely ineffective in solving problems. It's not only disgusting, it just doesn't make financial sense. We are experiencing a global extinction crisis and agencies like these are contributing to the loss of biodiversity we feel on our landscapes every day. Public funds should not be designated to serve the few, rather be designated towards efforts that will provide effective solutions for non-lethal predator control. In addition to opposing this bill, I strongly support the elimination of Wildlife Services in general. There are better ways to address the issue of wildlife interaction with livestock that do not result in the mass killing of animals that Wildlife Services is responsible for on an annual basis.