

Submitter: Tamara Drake
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR5

Vote No on HJR 5!

HJR 5 would deprive voters of their voice in wildlife management policy. Hunting, trapping and fishing in Oregon is a privilege, not a right. State statutes allow the opportunity to engage in these activities, not the Oregon Constitution. Creating a constitutional “right” would present questions in the legality of hunting licenses and permits that are currently required, and could encourage poachers to use a constitutional right as a defense to violation of current permit and licensing laws.

Oregon voters value their right to be heard on wildlife management. In 1994, Oregon voters passed Measure 18 to protect cougars and bears from abusive and unsporting hunting methods. In 1996, Oregon voters overwhelmingly rejected Measure 34 which would have repealed Measure 18. Then in 2016, Oregon voters voted by broad margins to ban the trafficking of parts and products from imperiled wild species. These votes demonstrate that Oregon voters value the right to be heard on wildlife measure and don’t want their choices overturned.

HJR 5 elevates hunting, trapping and fishing over other wildlife activities. Non-consumptive use of wildlife should be on at least an equal footing with consumptive use or trophy hunting.

There is a reason existing statutes are in place that require a license and/or permit to hunt in Oregon. Please vote NO on HJR 5.

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