

Submitter: Ryan Nelson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: SB769

I fully support and endorse SB 769. Responsible wildlife management is not a one-size fits all, and it must be managed at a more local level and SB 769 allows that. Cougars are beautiful animals and an integral part to our ecosystem when managed correctly. The numbers have grown to a very unhealthy level in many areas and many counties are dealing with excessive predation on deer, elk and livestock. We have property in eastern Oregon that once had an abundance of wildlife; today, the numbers are low and are trending lower. We often see deer and elk that have fallen victim to cougars; these sightings have become much more frequent. SB 769 is very straightforward: Let each county put this matter to a vote of the local residents, the ones that actually know their area. What is good for one county, may not be good for another county. This is a fair and equitable solution.

Sincerely,

Ryan Nelson