

Submitter: Crystal Elston  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB769

I am writing in opposition to SB769 and ask Oregon to continue to protect cougars. Hounding cougars is in my personal opinion cruel and disgusting and in 2025 I can't believe people still find this form of hunting acceptable. Not only does this method go against the Fair Chase standard which hunters seem to hold in high regard, but due to the year-round nature of hunting cougars allowed by Oregon, young kittens end up being an unfair target of these packs. Hunting for food is one thing, hunting for sport or "trophy" by taking lives another, but to unfairly use packs of hunting dogs and cornering an animal and her young in this way defies what should be acceptable to our personal, state, and established hunting standards. The fear, the cruelty behind putting a sentient animal through this that is wild and just surviving and raising her young - wildlife most Oregonians enjoy- is unnecessary with negative consequences. The majority of Oregonians have made it clear in previous measures they don't support this. And if you look at the information provided by organizations knowledgeable in results of allowing this type of hunting, you stand to increase conflict with livestock communities. The same issue we constantly face with killing other predators. Please leave the wildlife alone, continue with modern day hunting standards and protect cougars from outdated and barbaric hunting practices.