

Submitter: Philip Swaim

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: SB769

I'm writing in opposition to SB 769. This bill sets a terrible precedent as it would allow counties to opt out of voter approved measures, making the state's initiative process meaningless.

Hunting with hounds is cruel, unnecessary and unfair. Voters realize this and have twice voted to make hunting with hounds illegal. Hounding cougars with radio collars gives the hunter too many advantages. In addition, cougar kittens are frequently mauled and killed by the pack of hounds. Hounds disturb and kill other wildlife such as deer and elk, and trespass onto private land.

This bill is unnecessary as cougars help keep Oregon's deer population in balance. I've lived for 30 years with cougars nearby and conversely an overabundance of deer, so perhaps we need more cougars to keep the deer populations in check.

Please respect Oregon's voters and oppose SB 769.

Thank you,

Phil Swaim
Mosier