| Submitter:                        | Kyle Hook                                          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| On Behalf Of:                     |                                                    |
| Committee:                        | Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire |
| Measure, Appointment or<br>Topic: | SB769                                              |

I'm writing to urge passage of SB 769 because I believe our current cougar management policies are failing both wildlife and local communities. Living in a rural area, I've seen mule deer herds decline to historically low levels, and I know that cougar predation plays a significant role. We should provide counties the freedom to allow hound hunting as an option if their voters decide it's necessary. It's the same principle we applied to other contentious issues where regional differences matter, such as cannabis regulation. I appreciate that this bill isn't a mandate but an opportunity for local voices to be heard.

Thank you for reading my thoughts Kyle Hook