

**Good day,**

I support SB 769 because I've seen the impact that unchecked cougar populations can have on rural communities and wildlife. While I value Oregon's cougar population and want it to remain healthy, I also recognize that in some regions, proactive management is needed to protect livestock and help recover our dwindling deer and elk herds. The flexibility of this bill stands out. It respects the will of local voters, who can decide if hound hunting is an acceptable practice. By doing so, counties can address issues before they become emergencies. This measure is not about diminishing cougars; it's about encouraging practical, science-based management

Respectfully,  
Daniel J. Frederick