

Submitter: Joe Vardanega

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or  
Topic: SB769

I'm writing to voice my support for SB 769 because I believe local voices should guide decisions about cougar management. Oregon's cougar population has grown significantly since the hound hunting ban, and many rural families feel the effects more acutely. Cougars threaten livestock, impact big-game herds, and occasionally pose dangers in populated areas. Yet, not every county faces the same concerns. That's why a single statewide policy doesn't make sense. SB 769 gives voters in each county the power to decide whether hound hunting is an appropriate solution. It's a straightforward way to respect local decision-making while maintaining protections for cougars where people prefer to do so.

With appreciation,

Joe Vardanega