

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

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 769, which proposes to allow counties to use dogs to hunt cougars if approved by county voters. This bill undermines the current protections for cougars and poses significant risks to both wildlife and public safety.

Cougars are an essential part of our ecosystem, and their populations are already under pressure from habitat loss and other human activities. Allowing the use of dogs to hunt cougars could lead to increased stress and mortality rates for these animals, disrupting the balance of our local environment.

Furthermore, the use of dogs in hunting can lead to dangerous encounters between dogs and cougars, potentially resulting in injuries or fatalities for both animals. This not only poses a threat to wildlife but also endangers the safety of the dogs and their owners.

I urge you to consider the long-term ecological and safety implications of this bill and to vote against its passage. We must prioritize the protection of our wildlife and ensure that our natural resources are managed responsibly and sustainably.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.