

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

Hello,

I am writing to share my strong support for SB 769 because it would restore local control over cougar management in Oregon. Oregon's cougar population has rebounded and been above management objectives significantly since the ban of hound hunting. I've seen firsthand how different regions in our state face distinct challenges when it comes to wildlife populations. Some areas rarely encounter cougars, while rural counties often see them around livestock, homes, and even schools. In Eastern Oregon we have a significant cougar population that impacts wildlife. This bill would simply allow each county to choose whether to permit hound hunting, without forcing anyone to adopt the practice. I believe this flexible approach is more fair than a statewide, one-size-fits-all rule. It also respects the voices of local voters who know the conditions on the ground. Let's move forward with a balanced wildlife management strategy that recognizes Oregon's diversity.

Respectfully submitted,
Kyle Stangel