

Mary Throckmorton
Lincoln County
LD 814

Dear Committee Chairs and members,

I am writing today to ask you to vote in favor of LD 814. I, like many of those who are submitting testimony in favor of this bill, recognize the importance of biodiversity and the presence of predators as an integral part of ecosystems.

The lobbyists which oppose LD 814 submit bills after bills, year after year to gain more hunting opportunities at the expense of Maine's wildlife. While this bill seeks specifically to constrain attempts to eradicate coyote from Maine's ecosystems, other predators are also at risk with unlimited take during their seasons.

As a landowner of 25 years, located in the midst of tens of thousands of acres of undeveloped land, I can testify that it is possible for a small group of dedicated hunters to clean out large areas of predators. Once their goal is achieved, they move on to another location. I have seen grouse and hare targeted in this fashion as well, and no longer see signs of them on walks down the road.

I am not anti hunting. I am in favor of restraint when it comes to Maine's wildlife management practices, and LD 814 will help achieve that process.

Thank you