

February 26, 2025

To Whom it May Concern

Regarding: Public hearing Monday, March 3 at 1PM

LD 716

<https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0455&item=1&snum=132>

I would like to encourage you to vote for this bill to restrict the hunting of coyotes. This is long overdue. Coyotes are important to the circle of life in our state and region. They keep our deer population in check, naturally. That helps to keep our tick population also in check. And they assist in farming.

To quote GerI Vistein, a Carnivore Conservation Biologist and my good friend and fellow coyote champion:

- Stable coyotes on a farm become Guarding Coyotes. A stable family will not allow any other Coyotes in their territory. The Coyotes and the farmers establish a relationship of trust with each other.
- The presence of stable Coyotes on our Maine farms, protect the farm's hoofed livestock from the brain worm carried by deer. Deer do not just stand around in pastures all night when coyotes are present.
- When passed, this bill would not only give coyotes refuge from human behavior while they are bringing up their pups, but it will also help our farmers who rely on Coyotes to keep their farms' ecosystems healthy and balanced. And they do this by controlling the behaviors of herbivores, who can cause damage and spread disease. Our farmers feed us. We want them to be successful!

WE MUST SPEAK FOR OUR STATES PRECIOUS MAJOR PREDATORS AND
INTEGRAL PART OF MAINE'S CIRCLE OF LIFE.

For more information: www.coyotelivesinmaine.org

Sincerely,

Susan Westly Wren

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