

Hello,

This letter is submitted as testimony opposing LD716, An Act to Restrict the Hunting of Coyotes, which is scheduled for a public hearing on 3/3/25.

I am a Master Maine Guide and have been hunting coyotes at night and during the daytime hours for many years. In my personal experience when hunting coyotes, nighttime is far more productive than daytime.

Coyotes are opportunistic animals and have no natural predators to effectively maintain their population, other than human hunting and trapping (with hunting being the most effective).

The elimination of the current night hunting season and shortening of the daytime season would significantly decrease the number of coyotes harvested annually, thus increasing an already thriving population.

An increased coyote population in Maine will only lead to more human, domestic and farm animal interactions with them, along with more attacks on our state's wildlife.

I was recently contacted by a local farmer who asked me to hunt his property because a pack of coyotes had chased his cattle through their fence, causing them to go into the roadway nearly being struck by vehicles, I also spoke with a friend last week whose parents' pet dog was killed and left behind by a pack of coyotes this winter, this attack wasn't for food, it was for dominance.

There is lots of misinformation that has been taken for truth regarding coyote populations and the effect of hunting them. I believe the politicians who have submitted this bill have done so out of emotion and misinformation rather than scientific evidence.

I would ask that you take this and the many other testimonies that have been submitted online or given in person opposing this bill into consideration when deciding on this unnecessary and potentially harmful bill.

Thank you,

Tim Black

Pittston, ME

Master Maine Guide

207 Outfitters