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LD 716

I am writing this testimony in favor of keeping the current coyote hunting laws, as they stand.

The other evening my dog was attacked by a coyote 20 feet from my house while two other coyotes were within 50 feet feet, I was out with him at the time this happened. luckily he is a large breed dog and was able to fend them off, although The confrontation did take alot out of him, where he is an older dog. I also know of two other incidents similar to mine where coyotes were after dogs that were enclosed in pens. The dogs were unharmed where the owners drove the coyotes away. We live in a neighborhood with many young children, I fear if the coyotes will go for domestic dogs which has been unheard of in our area until recently, they would attack a small child.

The deer herd in our area was almost decimated a few years back from coyotes moving in. All though the deer were making a great recovery I feel that has now been reversed in the last few months from coyote attacks. A neighbor in the area walked through his field and did so again less than 24 hours later only to find a deer had been taken down by coyotes during the night and cleaned to the bare skeleton.

I my self come from a long line of avid outdoors man who enjoy hunting and fishing. I agree with the majority of the current hunting laws but I am afraid if ld 716 goes through it will put our children, pets and wildlife at risk. I urge all of you please think about this before making your decision!