

Tabor Horton
Blue hill
LD 716

I am writing this testimony in opposition of ld 716. The coyote population in maine is robust and growing. Coyote hunting both night time and daytime is the most effective method for managing our healthy coyote population in maine. Having any type of reduction in coyote hunting pressure would adversely affect the predator prey balance we have in maine. Coyote population would rise Having many negative effects on our state such as a decline in maines deer heard all over the state, more negative interactions with humans, more predation on family pets, and off setting the healthy predator prey balance we currently have in our state. Other possible negative affects from a larger un checked coyote population could include an increase in diseases such as rabies and mange that would more rapidly spread with a denser coyote population.

Our current regulations on coyote hunting in maine, including a year round seasons and the option for hunting at night, are doing a great job at keeping a healthy coyote population for our state. Any reduction in coyote hunting in maine will negatively effect our wildlife as well as taking away rights of its citizens that enjoy maines natural resources.

Ld 716 should not be adopted our coyote hunting should be left as it is.