Helen Hurgin Wells LD 1293

Testimony of Helen Hurgin in support of LD 1293 "An Act to Prohibit Coyote-Killing Contests in Maine" Committee of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife April 2, 2025

Good Afternoon Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, and members of the Committee. My name is Helen Hurgin and I am from Wells.

I encourage legislators to support this bill. This bill is not an anti-hunting bill but an anti-cruelty bill. All the biological research points to how cruel and ineffective it is to kill coyotes. They are able to reproduce and even increase numbers when humans try to kill them off. Wildlife is up against many threats in 2025, and humans are the primary reason we see so many species go extinct. Coyotes are not a threat to humans and they are part of an important web that keeps our ecosystems in balance. When people treat wildlife like this it shows an absence of compassion, and a disregard for the natural world. Please support LD 1293 and stop Coyote-Killing Contests in Maine.