

Marie Camillo  
New Gloucester  
LD 1293

TESTIMONY OF Marie V. Camillo

In SUPPORT of LD 1293 “An Act to Prohibit Coyote-killing Contests in Maine”  
Committee of Inland Fisheries Wildlife for hearing on April 2, 2025

Dear Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, and members of the Committee,

My name is Marie Camillo and I am from New Gloucester. I am writing in support of LD 1239 "An Act To Prohibit Coyote Killing Contests". Coyotes are a critical part of our ecosystem. Allowing coyote-killing contests in Maine creates a devastating imbalance in the natural system. This in turn creates more harm to farmers as herbivore populations are no longer kept in balance and can damage crops, consume produce, and spread disease.

Coyotes protect farm hoofed livestock from the brain worm carried by deer, as well as tick borne diseases. In turn, this protects humans as well. The over-population of deer allows ticks to breed in high numbers. When deer populations are kept in check this can be mitigated.

Forests are impacted by large herbivores eating young saplings-again coyotes keep the population of herbivores in balance.

The killing of coyotes in late spring/summer causes chaos during pup rearing time. Coyote pups who are born into a stable social system of their family become excellent hunters of their wild prey, and as such show little interest in killing livestock.

Please vote in favor this bill and keep our natural systems healthy and thriving.

Sincerely,

Marie V. Camillo  
mvcamillo@gmail.com  
281 Durham Road  
New Gloucester  
04260