

Jason Anthony
Bristol
LD 1293

TESTIMONY OF Jason Anthony
In SUPPORT of LD 1293 “An Act to Prohibit Coyote-killing Contests in Maine”
Committee of Inland Fisheries Wildlife
April 2, 2025

Good afternoon Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, and members of the Committee. My name is Jason Anthony and I am from Bristol.

I was born and raised in Maine, and my family has been hunting and fishing here since well before the state was founded.

I urge you to pass LD 1293 for one simple reason: Indiscriminate killing is not scientific management.

Wildlife management in the state of Maine should not be in the business of allowing the random slaughter of any non-invasive species. This is especially true for coyotes, which in Maine's long-altered ecosystems have become keystone carnivores. Good scientific management does not rely on unlimited killing, does not forego catch limits because of anti-predator bias, and does not shrink from best management practices because of public pressure.

Where is the quantitative analysis? How should coyote mortality from hunting vary by county or ecoregion? What research is being done to fully assess the benefits and impacts of coyotes? Etc.

Continuing to allow coyote-killing contests in Maine promotes unregulated and often cruel hunting behavior. This does a disservice to the principles of good management that IFW is meant to serve.

Please demonstrate your commitment to scientific species management and allow this bill to be debated by the full legislature. The time has come to responsibly manage coyotes in Maine.

Thank you,
Jason Anthony