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Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Committee
353 Water Street
Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing this testimony in support of LD 814: An Act To Restrict The Daytime And Nighttime Killing of Coyotes.

I have always felt that coyotes are a valuable part of our ecosystem and not only aid in disposing of carrion, but also keep rodent populations in check. The proposed No Killing Days from April 1st to September 30th, is a time when coyote pups/whelps are born, taught by their parents on where and what to hunt; year round killing of coyotes is not only inhumane, but is also detrimental in maintaining a healthy coyote social structure. Orphaned pups either die or lose the training of their elders, and often become a problem to human communities.

Although I am not a hunter, I do support Maine's hunting traditions. However, the inhumane killing of coyotes serves no other purpose than to satisfy the adrenaline rush that human predators experience. The act of killing, just for the sake of killing, should not be what Maine stands for.

Please support the passage of LD 814. Thank you all for allowing me to express my overwhelming support of this bill.

Sincerely yours,

Andre F. Ouellette