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My name is Bethany and I am a native to Maine. I have a PhD in Biology with years of conservation and animal behavior research experience. I am also a hunting Registered Maine Guide. I am very passionate about Maine and the conservation of animals as well as hunting. I urge you to vote no on restricting coyote hunting. The ability to hunt coyotes year round is important to Maine and the balance of our ecosystem. Coyotes are not native to Maine. They cause damage to our natural wildlife, our pets and threaten humans. I personally know someone who has been stalked and threatened by a coyote while walking her dog. I myself have been threatened by coyotes while walking my dogs, as we live in a rural area. Coyotes have no natural predators except for humans. We need to provide this predator control that comes with the opportunity to hunt coyotes. I have hunted coyotes in the past and know other Maine guides who have as well. It is not easy. It is not guaranteed to dispatch a coyote. It takes time and effort and persistence and restricting the laws for hunting will make it even more difficult to control these predators. It is important we look at the whole picture and the benefits that coyote hunting provides for our state, our citizens and our pets, livestock and wildlife. As someone who has dedicated my career to understanding biology and researching animal behavior and conservation, I am strongly against this bill.