

Judy Kaiser
Waldo Maine
LD 1293

Testimony on LD 1293 - An Act to Prohibit Coyote Killing Contests in Maine

To the honorable Senator Joe Baldacci and members of the Joint Committee:

Please put an end to the coyote killing contests. These events not only give Maine a black eye, they perpetuate the myth that coyotes are “varmint” to be exterminated. In fact, the opposite is true.

As our apex predators, coyotes perform an essential role, by keeping deer and rodent populations at manageable levels. Reducing over-browsing by deer in wood lots, protecting farm crops and slowing the spread of Lyme disease - these are just some of the benefits of having coyotes in our environment.

If these gruesome non-sporting events are allowed to continue, and the word gets out, many of Maine’s summer visitors might well decide to cancel their travel plans, in protest. Instead, let’s promote Maine as a destination where wildlife is respected.

Thank you
Judy Kaiser
Waldo, Maine