

1 **2018 RES-502**

2 **URGING LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO BAN WILDLIFE ANIMAL KILLING CONTESTS**

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4 Moondog Madness and other Wisconsin-based organizations hold contests that are
5 recreational hunts of targeted predators. The contests promote calling, hounding, and
6 shining of predators such as coyotes, bobcats, foxes and other species in order to shoot
7 and kill them indiscriminately.

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9 Predators are an integral part of the ecosystem and play a critical role in maintaining a
10 healthy balance of plants and animals in the ecosystem by preying on species such as
11 rabbits, mice and other rodents. The indiscriminate killing of these predators, even when
12 done legally, does not serve any legitimate wildlife management purpose and instead
13 upsets the natural balance of the state's parks and public lands, and violates the North
14 American Model of Conservation and the Public Trust Doctrine.

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16 Wildlife killing contests appear to encourage the wanton taking of life by its attendees that
17 is contrary to the treatment of all creatures in a humane and respectful manner. Killing
18 contests do not reflect the values of humane treatment of animals.

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20 Currently, Wisconsin statutes allow the use of hounds in these killing contests.

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22 Residents and visitors use the extensive public lands throughout Wisconsin for hiking, dog
23 walking, bird watching, seasonal game hunting, horseback riding, and other outdoor
24 activities compatible with maintenance of a healthy ecosystem. The activities of killing
25 contest attendees pose a threat to their safety and well-being,

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27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors urges
28 the Wisconsin Legislature to develop and support changes to statutes to ban any and all
29 future wildlife animal killing contests.

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31 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Dane
32 County legislative delegation, Governor Tony Evers, and Department of Natural
33 Resources Secretary Preston D. Cole, as well as to the Wisconsin Counties Association
34 for inclusion in their legislative agenda.

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