RESOLUTION NO. R-024- 112

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF PROPOSITION 127

WHEREAS, state voters will have the opportunity at the November 5, 2024, statewide general election to change the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning a prohibition on the trophy hunting of mountain lions, lynx, and bobcats, and, in connection therewith, defining "trophy hunting" as the intentional killing, wounding, pursuing, entrapping, or discharging or releasing of a deadly weapon at a mountain lion, lynx, or bobcat; creating exemptions from this prohibition including for the protection of human life, property, and livestock; establishing "trophy hunting" as a class 1 misdemeanor; and increasing fines and limiting wildlife license privileges for persons convicted of this crime (the "Ballot Measure"); and

WHEREAS, the practice of trophy hunting is already illegal in Colorado. Proposition 127 would prohibit all hunting of mountain lions and bobcats, which would have significant consequences for the future of Colorado's wildlife management policies; and

WHEREAS, the Ballot Measure will undermine the authority of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, who for decades has utilizing regulated hunting as an effective tool to manage our state's mountain lion and bobcat populations; and

WHEREAS, according to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, both mountain lions and bobcats are considered to have healthy and stable populations. Prohibiting the hunting of these animals could result in rapid population increases, which would pose a significant threat to other species in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, this Ballot Measure would require Colorado Parks and Wildlife to upend their current management plan for both mountain lions and bobcats. Not only this, but the agency would also likely have to change how they manage other wildlife species as well, due to their likely increase in predator populations. This ballot measure would create a cascade effect that would require changes to wildlife management procedures that may do more harm than good; and

WHEREAS, oftentimes, changes to wildlife management policy can have a disproportionate impact on Coloradans who live in rural areas and encounter these predators on a more frequent basis than their urban neighbors; and

WHEREAS, fees collected from mountain lion and bobcat hunting contribute to Colorado's state parks and conservation efforts. These funds help keep our state parks open and well taken care of, as well as provide jobs for scientists and wildlife professionals in Colorado;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO, that the Board

opposes the passage of Proposition 127, and urges our citizens to vote against this Ballot Measure at the General Election.

Signed by:

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of October, 2024, in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO

George Teal, Chair

ATTEST:

Hayley Hall

Hayley Hall, Deputy Clerk to the Board