

May 1, 1972

veg-animal

[REDACTED]
Topeka, Kansas 66619

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to acknowledge and thank you for your recent letter expressing your concern over the cruel methods used to destroy coyotes.

I share your concern over this matter and you may be interested in knowing that several bills have been introduced in the Senate which would help in controlling damage caused by predatory animals and to establish a program of research concerning the control and conservation of predatory animals and to restrict the use of toxic chemicals as a method of predator control, and to provide a criminal penalty for shooting at birds, fish and other animals from an aircraft. This legislation is pending before the Senate Commerce Committee. Enclosed you will find copies of three of these bills, S. 1563, S. 2821, and S. 3334. While these bills are narrow in scope, it is believed that a more general bill in this area may evolve, which would be similar in scope to the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1971, S. 3112. As I am not a member of the Senate Commerce Committee, there is very little I can do in this area. However, I do appreciate having the benefit of your concerns and views and you may be certain that I will be keeping a close eye on legislation which would protect predatory animals from cruelty.

Again, thank you for your thoughts. Please let me know whenever I can be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD:cm
Enclosures

ordered 4/28/72
3112
✓ completed 7-6

[REDACTED]
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Topeka, Kansas 66619
April 12, 1972

The Honorable Robert Dole.
New Senate Office Bldg.
Room 3227
Washington D.C.

Dear Senator:

I would like to bring to your attention a situation which should not be tolerated by a civilized society.

Coyotes in Kansas and Middle West are victims of several methods used to destroy them.

One of the most violent and brutal is to run them to death by packs of greyhounds, not to mention the horrible death which follows with "killer dogs" tearing them apart, not even giving them the merciful gun shot.

Greyhounds are the swiftest running dogs, what chance does a coyote have against them ?

If they must be hunted, their being run down is grossly unfair and unsportsmanlike.

I understand the coyote population has and must be controlled, but can it not be in a more decent and humane way ?

The coyote is truly the most abused and misunderstood animal in the U.S.A.

Can something be done about this senseless cruelty ?
The public should be educated.

Dr H.T. Gier (Kansas State University, Manhattan), an authority on the subject, wrote in his booklet :COYOTES IN KANSAS, " The average benefits derived from coyotes controlling rabbits and rodents exceed the average losses due to predation on poultry and livestock. If the individual "killer" coyotes could be destroyed, the benefits would greatly exceed the damage."

The Honorable Robert Dole

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The Humane Society of the United States also presented evidence that a State without a coyote population, Ohio, had as many lamb deaths annually as Wyoming, thus further exposing the myth that the coyote was the major cause of sheepmen's losses.

It would be greatly appreciated by numerous people if you would please give this matter your attention and every consideration.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

