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Resolution:

The Problem:

Bears are endangered all over the world. Six of the eight species of bears are on the endangered species list because of the use of bear gallbladders as Asian cure-all medicine. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, one to two black bears are killed illegally for every legal kill. Bear poaching is active in Wisconsin.

In Wisconsin, bears are hounded by packs of radio-collared dogs and men who converge on the bear when he or she climbs a tree in order to shoot a trapped animal at close range. Two thirds of the bears killed are yearlings, killed easily over bait piles. Although 2800 people wrote in to support a ban on bear hounding, they have been ignored by the DNR /hunter lobby. Northern citizens cite incidents of death threats, pets and livestock killed by dogs, and drinking and chaos four months of the year for bear- hounding and killing. This bully killing has been expanded across the entire northern half of the state, so that bears are harassed and killed 4 months out of the six that they are out of hibernation, and all wildlife and citizens subjected to this cruel chaos. Trespass is a wide spread with hounding of any sort.

Science has discovered that without natural predators in natural numbers, all of biodiversity collapses. Since bear populations are scientifically impossible to estimate, and

Whereas northern residents are harassed on their own land and cannot speak out without fear of retribution from armed men and women,

Be it Resolved, the Conservation Congress, at its annual meeting held in every county in Wisconsin on April 11, 2011, recommends that the Dept. of Natural Resources take actions to correct the situation by banning the baiting and hounding of bears and other wildlife statewide.

Submitted by (Name) : Patricia Randolph

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County Vote: Yes _____ No _____