



INITIATIVE MEASURE 655

TO THE PEOPLE

Note: The ballot title and explanatory statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The complete text of Initiative Measure 655 begins on page 18.

Statement for

VOTE YES ON I-655

I-655 BANS THE UNSPORTING AND INHUMANE PRACTICE OF BEAR BAITING

Setting out rotting carcasses and food for bears, then shooting them at very close range is not hunting. Baiting also creates "garbage dump" bears that enter rural communities and campgrounds for food.

I-655 BANS THE UNFAIR AND CRUEL PRACTICE OF HIGH-TECH HOUND HUNTING

Trophy hunters often track bears, cougars and bobcats with dogs wearing high-tech tracking equipment. After the dogs chase the animal up a tree, the hunters follow the transmitter signal and shoot the animal at close range. Dogs are sometimes maimed or killed by bears, cougars or bobcats.

I-655 PROTECTS PUBLIC SAFETY AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

I-655 allows continued hunting and management of bears, cougars and bobcats. It also allows private property owners and state and federal agents to track and kill animals that pose a threat to public safety or property.

I-655 BRINGS WASHINGTON WILDLIFE POLICY IN LINE WITH OTHER WESTERN STATES

Oregon and Colorado voters said no to bear baiting and hound hunting by passing similar initiatives. Montana has banned bear baiting and hounding for over 50 years and hunters annually kill 1200 bears.

Official Ballot Title:

Shall it be a gross misdemeanor to take, hunt, or attract black bears with bait, or to hunt bears, cougars, bobcat or lynx with dogs?

The law as it now exists:

Bear, cougar, bobcat and lynx are all defined as wildlife in Washington state law, and hunting or taking any of these animals is regulated by the department of fish and wildlife. The department issues hunting permits and sets hunting seasons for each wildlife species for which hunting is permitted. The department has authority to take, or to permit others to take, wildlife that is destroying or injuring property, or when necessary for wildlife management and

I-655 HAS WIDE SUPPORT INCLUDING 75 ENDORSING ORGANIZATIONS

The *Olympian* states, "Clearly the use of bear baiting and hounds to hunt game animals is unfair, unsporting and inhumane." (2/11/96). The *Spokane Spokesman-Review* newspaper wrote, "Sportsmen's groups hurt only themselves by backing the brutal practices of hunting bear with bait and dogs." (4/9/96)

For more information, call (206) 633-3435.

Rebuttal of Statement against

Opponents of I-655 cannot defend these unfair and inhumane hunting methods, so they must engage in fear-mongering and falsehoods.

More than 75 organizations and 228,000 petition signers, including hunters and fishermen, support I-655 — they aren't "animal rights fanatics."

Similar initiatives in other western states have not cost taxpayers a dime.

The wording of I-655 is clear and unmistakable. A "Yes" vote on I-655 bans bear baiting and hounding. Nothing more.

Vote Yes on I-655.

Voters Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

JOE SCOTT, Hunter, Sponsor of Initiative 655, Seattle; JACK LAUFER, Research Biologist, Educator, Tenino; SHIRLEY MUSE, Blue Mountain Audubon Society, Walla Walla.

Advisory Committee: JAMES CLARK, President, Central Basin Audubon Society, Moses Lake; PATTY FORKAN, Executive VP, Humane Society of the United States; DR. LARRY SIEGLER, Veterinarian, Progressive Animal Welfare Society, Lynnwood; PHILIP OLSON, Executive Director, Humane Society of Cowlitz County, Longview; REV. BRIAN BREAUULT, Pastor, United Church of Christ, Everett.

research.

Under current law, a property owner may trap or kill wildlife that is damaging crops, domestic animals or fowl without a license from the department, except that threatened or endangered species may not be taken or killed, and protected wildlife may not be killed without a license from the department.

The department of fish and wildlife regulates hunting and taking of wildlife under laws that seek to balance conservation of wildlife species with the promotion of recreational opportunities. Lynx is currently classified as a threatened species, and cannot be hunted or taken. The department currently allows the use of bait or of dogs to take black bear, cougar, or bobcat, although regulations limit the types of bait that may be used and limit the time, place, and manner in which wildlife may be taken with the aid of dogs or with bait.

The effect of Initiative Measure 655, if approved into law:

This measure would make it unlawful to take, hunt, or attract black bear with the aid of bait. Bait could still be

used by employees or agents of federal, state, or county agencies acting to protect livestock, domestic animals, private property, or the public safety. Feeding stations could be established for bears in order to prevent damage to commercial timber land. The director of fish and wildlife could authorize public agencies or educational or scientific institutions to use bait to attract black bear for scientific purposes.

The measure would also make it unlawful to hunt or pursue black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx with the aid of one or more dogs. Dogs could still be used by employees or agents of federal, state, or county government to protect livestock, domestic animals, private property, or the public safety. The director of fish and wildlife could issue permits to use dogs to trap or kill animals damaging crops, domestic animals, fowl, or property, and could authorize public agencies or scientific or educational institutions to use dogs for the pursuit of black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx for scientific purposes.

A violation of this measure would be a gross misdemeanor. In addition to criminal penalties, violators would have their hunting licenses revoked for five years in the case of a first violation, and permanently for a subsequent violation.

Statement against

ANIMAL RIGHTS FANATICS

Initiative 655 is the product of animal rights extremism. The Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), and the Greater Ecosystem Alliance are representatives for the Humane Society of the United States, a national animal rights political action organization.

RADICAL AGENDA

I-655 represents the combined agenda of animal rights extremists to eliminate the use of all animals. They insist that no animal be used in medical research to find vaccines, treatments, or cures for diseases like AIDS, HIV and cancer, even if it means that human lives are saved. Their agenda includes the total elimination of the use of animals in science; the total dissolution of the use of animals in private and commercial animal agriculture; and the total eradication of all fishing.

ANIMAL EQUALITY

Animal rightists' radical belief "A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy, they are all equal," does not elevate the status of animals, it lowers the dignity of humankind. The concept of "animal rights" does nothing to raise the quality of the human family, but it degrades us to the level of the lowest animal.

VOTE NO ON I-655

I-655 will cost taxpayers' millions. It will allow, and encourage, the uncontrolled killing of wildlife by state, county and federal government agencies, at taxpayers' expense. This method of uncontrolled killing pushed all

predators, including the grizzly bear, black bear and cougar to the brink of extinction at the turn of the century. I-655 is in its own manipulations ethically flawed, politically motivated and dangerously unscientific.

Rebuttal of Statement for

I-655 is faulty, poorly supported and in its own manipulations ethically flawed. Animal rights activists' organizations are pushing their political "religious" agenda on Washingtonians with no regard to public safety concerns.

I-655 is extremely dangerous and will cost Washington taxpayers' millions in damages. Wildlife will dwindle as a result of predators overpopulating. Hikers, campers, fishers and recreationalists will not feel safe as bear and cougar begin taking over camping, recreation and rural areas.

Voters Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

JON M. AKERS, President, Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation; CARL CROUSE, Former President, National Wildlife Federation; B.J. (BOBBIE) THORNILEY, Retired, Washington Department of Fisheries.

Advisory Committee: MIKE NEIL, President, Washington Game Warden Association; ELAINE COLE, President, Inland Northwest Wildlife Council; SHAWN COLLINS, President, Students for Wildlife Conservation, Washington State University; GENE RICHARDSON, President, Salt Water Anglers of Mukilteo; VIC ALVAREZ, President, Wildlife Committee of Washington.



COMPLETE TEXT OF Initiative Measure 655

AN ACT Relating to methods of taking wildlife; adding a new section to chapter 77.16 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 77.16 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 77.12.240 and 77.12.265 or other provisions of law, it is unlawful to take, hunt, or attract black bear with the aid of bait.

(a) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the killing of black bear with the aid of bait by employees or agents of county, state, or federal agencies while acting in their official capacities for the purpose of protecting livestock, domestic animals, private property, or the public safety.

(b) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the establishment and operation of feeding stations for black bear in order to prevent damage to commercial timber land.

(c) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the director from issuing a permit or memorandum of understanding to a public agency, university, or scientific or educational institution for the use of bait to attract black bear for scientific purposes.

(d) As used in this subsection, "bait" means a substance placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, scattered, or otherwise used for the purpose of attracting black bears to an area where one or more persons hunt or intend to hunt them.

(2) Notwithstanding RCW 77.12.240 or any other provisions of law, it is unlawful to hunt or pursue black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx with the aid of a dog or dogs.

(a) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the killing of black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx with the aid of a dog or dogs by employees or agents of county, state, or federal agencies while acting in their official capacities for the purpose of protecting livestock, domestic animals, private property, or the public safety. A dog or dogs may be used by the owner or tenant of real property consistent with a permit issued and conditioned by the director under RCW 77.12.265.

(b) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the director from issuing a permit or memorandum of understanding to a public agency, university, or scientific or educational institution for the use of a dog or dogs for the pursuit of black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx for scientific purposes.

(3) A person who violates subsection (1) or (2) of this

section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. In addition to appropriate criminal penalties, the director shall revoke the hunting license of a person who violates subsection (1) or (2) of this section and a hunting license shall not be issued for a period of five years following the revocation. Following a subsequent violation of subsection (1) or (2) of this section by the same person, a hunting license shall not be issued to the person at any time.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.



COMPLETE TEXT OF Initiative Measure 670

AN ACT Relating to congressional term limits; and adding a new chapter to Title 44 RCW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The people of the State of Washington want to amend the United States Constitution to establish term limits on Congress that will ensure representation in Congress by true citizen lawmakers. The President of the United States is limited by the XXII Amendment of the United States Constitution to two terms in office. Governors in forty states are limited to two terms or less. Voters have established term limits for over two thousand state legislators as well as over seventeen thousand local officials across the country, including state legislators in Washington.

Nevertheless, Congress has ignored our desire for term limits not only by proposing excessively long terms for its own members but also by refusing to pass an amendment for genuine congressional term limits. Congress has a clear conflict of interest in proposing a term limits amendment to the United States Constitution. A majority of both Republicans and Democrats in the 104th Congress voted against a constitutional amendment containing the term limits passed by a wide margin of Washington voters.

The people, not Congress, should set term limits. We hereby establish as the official position of the citizens and State of Washington that our elected officials should enact by constitutional amendment congressional term limits of three terms in the United States House of Representatives, and of

The above text is an exact reproduction of the text submitted by the sponsor. The Office of the Secretary of State has no editorial authority.