



MOUNTAIN LION FOUNDATION

Saving America's Lion

March 6, 2013

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Senator Jerry Hill
State Capitol, Room 5064
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

RE: Senate Bill 132 - Mountain Lions
Position: **SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Hill,

On behalf of our California members, the Mountain Lion Foundation (MLF) enthusiastically supports Senate Bill 132. This legislation is long overdue and its passage is essential in assuring the protection of mountain lions that have caused no harm, and whose only mistake is to have accidentally wandered into contact with humans.

Senate Bill 132 is also critical to providing the California Department of Fish and Wildlife with the authority and assistance it needs to implement key provisions in the Department's new Human/Wildlife Interaction Guidelines.

With the ongoing loss of mountain lion habitat to human development, California's apex wildlife species will continue to come into accidental contact with humans. As the primary author of Proposition 117, MLF has a vested interest in assuring the viability and continuing relevance of that landmark act. By amending Proposition 117 to require the use of nonlethal procedures where appropriate, Senate Bill 132 follows in the spirit of the original initiative and helps assure that only those lions which pose an actual hazard to humans are killed in the name of public health or safety.

Senate Bill 132 also acknowledges the fiscal realities facing our state at this time and assists the California Department of Fish and Wildlife by providing it with the necessary authority to partner with qualified individuals, educational institutions, governmental agencies, or nongovernmental organizations to assist in resolving mountain lion encounters.

In closing, Senate Bill 132 is legislation which we believe has the overwhelming support of California's citizenry, and in the final analysis is the right thing to do to protect California's priceless wildlife resources.

Sincerely,

Tim Dunbar
Executive Director