

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Jenson
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Thomsen

Revenue: Revenue statement issued

Fiscal: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the B-Engrossed Measure as Amended and as Printed C-Engrossed

Vote: 22 – 0 – 3

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Garrard, Komp, McLane, Nathanson, Nolan, Read, Richardson, G. Smith, Thatcher

Nays:

Exc: Freeman, Whisnant

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Girod, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Thomsen, Verger, Whitsett

Nays:

Exc: Winters

Prepared By: Paul Siebert, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: February 27, 2012

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes credit against income taxes for current market value of any livestock that belongs to taxpayer and is killed by a wolf. Establishes taxpayer must submit evidence that includes finding by Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) or by peace officer that wolf was probable cause of loss. Stipulates tax credit be reduced by any amount taxpayer has already received as compensation for killed livestock. Establishes if tax credit exceeds taxes for year amount of excess shall be refunded to taxpayer. Applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2012. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die. Sunsets January 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Tax credit offset by any amount received for compensation of livestock loss to wolves

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Increases annual tax credit compensation limit from \$15,000 to \$37,500.

BACKGROUND: In 2010, there were at least 14 known adult wolves residing in Oregon. In 2005, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted a Wolf Conservation and Management Plan to “ensure the conservation of gray wolves as required by Oregon law while protecting the social and economic interests of all Oregonians.” House Bill 4005 establishes a tax credit for the owner of a livestock that is verifiably killed by a wolf. The Act stipulates that the tax credit must be reduced by any amount that the taxpayer has already received as compensation for the killed livestock from the Wolf Compensation and Proactive management Fund administered by the Department of Agriculture.