



SB 1507 -2 Amendment - Oregon's Wolf Wars Continue

TFO opposes the -2 amendment to SB 1597.

Policy issues about wolf depreciation aside, the amendment would evade the sunset review process. A 2018 sunset is eliminated entirely, and a 2019 sunset is extended until 2026. The legislature has clearly endorsed the sunset and review process, including funding an extra staff person for LRO to assist with the process. There is no logical reason to skirt the process.

This refundable tax credit program should be reviewed on schedule next session.

On the content of the bill, we note that it anticipates the public becoming responsible for the rancher's cost of non-lethal actions to protect stock. This is equivalent to asking the taxpayer to pay the cost of a farmer's organic control efforts or a homeowner's dog run.

Please, reject the -2 amendment to SB 1507

SB 1507 -3 Amendment – Manure Digester Subsidies Continue

TFO opposes the -3 amendment to SB 1507 and recommends a new amendment on this topic that extends the sunset one year and reduces the subsidy to \$3.50 per wet ton.

There are policy issues about manure digester subsidies that need to be reviewed. The amendment would evade the sunset review process, as a 2017 sunset would be extended until 2022. The legislature has clearly endorsed the sunset and review process, including funding an extra staff person for LRO to assist with the process. While 1.1.2017 is sooner than other tax credits up for review in 2017, there is no logical reason to skirt the process by extending the subsidy beyond 1.1.2018 when the other tax credits sunset.

The promoters of the bill say that \$5.00 per wet ton is no longer needed, thus TFO recommends the subsidy be reduced to \$3.50 now, as they suggest. This subsidy law clearly needs a substantive review, and a mechanism to remove digesters from receiving a subsidy after a specified period of time

TFO supports a one year extension of the sunset and a reduction in the subsidy to \$3.50/wet ton.