

To: House Committee on HB3075 and HB3167

From: Holcomb Farms, Inc.
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I have raised sheep and cattle here in North Douglas County for over 45 years. I have experienced a lot of challenges protecting my livestock from coyotes, cougars, and eagles, etc. Having a predator control program in the county is a key component for the continued success of ranchers here in Douglas County. We rely heavily on being able to call for their help when needed. The district now in place has been crucial for funding and keeping the program viable. We need the trappers here to confirm the types of kills we experience, and their services are often needed to protect the public around cities and schools, etc. One very important subject addressed in these bills is the burden of the administrative costs. Reducing and holding them to a minimum will help to assure a sustainable future and success of the trapping program. Establishing a permanent predator control district is a cornerstone that is vital to this success.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this important topic that will impact the future of agriculture in Douglas County.

Richard Holcomb