

Submitter: Matthew Brady

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: HB4080

I am a small commercial sheep producer in southern Douglas County and am a member of my County's Predator Damage Control District. The ability to fund USDA Wildlife Services field positions through voluntary assessment is essential to the continued operation of my family's Century Farm. This past summer we had predation on our flock of sheep by bear, losing at least ten ewes at the cost of at least \$250 each. I worked with Wildlife Services field staff to resolve the problem, including trying to trap the offending predator. It is essential that farmers and ranchers raising livestock have a resource to assist with protecting their animals. I urge your to pass HB 4080 so that farmers like myself can have some certainty in protecting our livestock from predation.