

HB 2631 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/23, 3/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines “area of known wolf activity” as an area designated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife as having known wolf activity. Specifies that compensation is provided under grant program implemented by Oregon Department of Agriculture to persons who suffer probable or confirmed loss or injury to livestock or working dogs due to wolf depredation. Provides that compensation for probable or confirmed loss or injury to livestock or working dogs under the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program to be based on a multiplier of not more than seven times the fair market value of the livestock or working dog.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Requires compensation to be provided quarterly and in an expedited manner. Reduces compensation from seven times to five times the fair market value of the livestock or working dog.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

An area of known wolf activity is designated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) based on documented location data points of individual or groups of wolves over a period of time. In 2021 ODFW reported 175 recorded wolves in Oregon. On June 24, 2011 the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 3560, which directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture to establish and implement a wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program, using moneys in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund to provide grants to assist counties to implement county wolf depredation compensation programs.

House Bill 2631 would provide that compensation for probable or confirmed loss or injury to livestock or working dogs under the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program is to be based on a multiplier of not more than seven times the fair market value of the livestock or working dog.