

I SUPPORT [HB 2631]...

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB2631/Introduced>

Staff Measure Summary:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/267198>

There are many problems associated with rural human population increases chief amongst them are water and wolves. Rural residential expansion encroaches on the wolves' habitat forcing them to lower elevations.

As the wolves proceed to lower elevations, they can enter the Elk migration corridors. Lower elevations are safer and lucrative for Elk. Wide-open pastures provide safety and feed for Elk. The ramifications are very deleterious for Farmers and Ranchers profitability.

Elk feed on hay for cattle and their grazing destroys pastureland.

Wolves are not stupid. Cattle, dogs and other farm or ranch livestock are easier prey than Elk.

Currently, Farmers and Ranchers face additional hardships wrought upon them from; certifiable environmental "nutcases" and the State of Oregon's less than timely, burdensome paperwork and inadequate compensation for livestock and dog losses.

No one has discussed Wolves eat people. If wolves are in pasturelands hunting prey, it is foreseeable someone will be maimed and or killed by them.

Let us focus on the burdensome paperwork, untimely and inadequate compensation associated with wolf depredation of livestock and dogs.

The Department of Agriculture gives out "Grants" as compensation for livestock losses due to wolf depredation. There are problems with this system. Taxpayers should not be burdened with this cost when the Federal Government and Environmental Groups have caused the problem of wolf depredation. The Department of Agriculture may not have adequate funding and or staff to timely compensate Farmers and or ranchers for their livestock and dog losses.

There is "No" compensation for Farmers and Ranchers who must spend "all-night" guarding their herds and are shackled with severe punishments if they use deadly force.

The [-3] Amendment is unacceptable. Why should the multiplier be reduced from (7) times to (5) times the value of the livestock killed by wolves?

Wolf populations must be culled. The Federal Government and Environmental Groups must provide adequate funding enabling compensation is easier and more timely attained.

Long-term solutions for wolves: Send them back to Canada or like Bears-make rugs out of them.

David S. Wall

Mr. Oregon Concurr.

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