



TO: Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
FROM: John Rosapepe, Endangered Species Coalition  
DATE: April 17, 2023  
RE: Testimony in Opposition to HB 2631

My name is John Rosapepe, I am the Endangered Species Coalition's Pacific Northwest Representative. I represent our over 8,000 members who reside in Oregon.

This committee is considering HB 2631 which could cause livestock producers to forgo efforts to prevent wolf predation thus causing enormous problems for the state's gray wolves.

This bill would allow ranchers to be compensated seven times the market value of livestock that have been predated upon by gray wolves.

While there is support for fair compensation for documented losses, we are concerned that compensation of this amount could create a disincentive for producers to employ proactive nonlethal livestock loss prevention tools. This bill would incentivize irresponsible behavior.

Simply put, if you can increase the profit of livestock by a factor of seven as having been lost to wolves, that is an incentive to do so.

This is not fair to wolves and certainly unfair to responsible ranchers who use deterrents to prevent wolf/livestock conflicts.

The committee should reject this bill and amendment

Thank you for your commitment to wildlife and wild places.

Sincerely,

John Rosapepe

Endangered Species Coalition  
Pacific Northwest Representative  
[jrosapepe@endangered.org](mailto:jrosapepe@endangered.org), 510.561.7290