

Submitter: Bill Drewien

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB777

To Committee members regarding SB777:

I urge you to support sb777.

Compensation is the only fair way to assist ranchers who have been victims of the wolf reintroduction program. Livestock losses are just part of the issue ranchers are dealing with since the wolf protection of "endangered species act". Yes compensation for livestock losses was a good start, but the real value is much higher when one calculates the affects of harassment on breeding cycles or failure of cows to cycle, abortion due to stress and harassment. Ranchers who are dealing with wolves are spending countless hours trying to protect their herds from wolf harassment, stress, livestock weight loss, and time away their real job.

Wolves are top of the food chain predators and they are a perfect killing machine, but the unmeasurable attribute is their stress impact on reproduction, weight loss and cost to ranchers, which is much higher than the loss of the livestock itself.

I urge you to support SB777 as it at least offers a more realistic cost ranchers are dealing with.

Sincerely.

Bill Drewien