MDB Farms LLC

Steven DeLashmutt, manager

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> Representative Greg Barreto 900 Court St. NE, H-390 Salem, OR 97301 Email gregbarreto@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: HB 3227

Dear Mr. Barreto:

Thank you for sponsoring HB 3227. Our farm is situated in the Grande Ronde Valley between Island City and Cove. There have been several instances of large herds of Elk crossing and or feeding on our property.

The elk are destructive in that planted crops are a food source for them. Large tracts of blue grass, alfalfa and fall planted wheat can be destroyed by grazing. Additional damage is done by the animals hooves as they cross the fields.

The end result is property damage that is expensive to repair. The blue grass and alfalfa fields are multi-year crops that are difficult to replant in mid cycle. The fall wheat crops are seed crops that cannot be replanted with the same variety needed to produce wheat seed.

The bill will aid in keeping our crops undamaged and thereby decrease the amount of work and overhead costs in running the farm.

Sincerely,

Steve DeLashmutt