

Submitter: Shannon Hunter

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure: HB4127

I urge you to oppose HB 4127.

The Wolf Compensation Fund was first created as a way to allocate funds for NON-LETHAL, preventative measures, to provide financial assistance to livestock owners who verifiably lost livestock to wolves, and to help build tolerance and coexistence. Instead, what we've seen is a misuse, waste, and abuse of these funds as well as a lack of increased tolerance for wolves. The Wolf Compensation Program needs FAR more accountability and transparency, not more money.

The request for one million dollars comes on the heels of the fund receiving \$400,000 from the Oregon legislature, just last year. Instead of issuing more and bigger checks to this program, we need an overhaul to ensure it's actually doing what it set out to do: support livestock operators for direct losses and build tolerance for wolves.

On top of this, livestock owners already annually receive large sums of money from the federal government through subsidies for their products, so giving even more money to this industry to kill more precious wildlife is not only a bad idea scientifically and morally, but also investing in an industry that already gets a ton of taxpayer money.

Please oppose HB 4127.