

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION****Measure: HB 2633 - A**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official*

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**Measure Description:**

Allows person who submits application for compensation under wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program to amend application.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Agriculture, Counties

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

**Analysis:**

HB 2633 - A modifies requirements for compensation for wolf depredation. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) administers a wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program, which provides grants to assist counties to implement county programs that compensate persons who suffer loss of livestock or working dogs due to wolf depredation; and financial assistance for implementation of techniques to discourage wolf depredation. Counties may qualify for a grant subject to available funding in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund.

Under this measure, compensation rates would be based on 100% or 200% of the fair market value of lost or injured livestock or working dogs, with the rate based on the type of animal lost; instead of just fair market value for livestock or working dogs across the board.

ODA anticipates that the additional multiplier for compensation will increase the costs of compensation. Because grants to counties are subject to available funding, this may mean that the agency does not have sufficient funding for all compensation and financial assistance applications. Based on the 2022 depredation numbers, ODA believes that under this measure, compensation expenditures would increase by \$50,000. Compensation is dependent on sufficient funding available in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund. Increased compensation and financial assistance grant expenditures would reduce the amount of funding available in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund in future biennia.

There is no fiscal impact for counties. There is minimal fiscal impact for Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), as there may be more requests for ODFW staff to investigate possible depredation occurrences given the increased compensation.