

HB 2633 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

Action Date: 04/03/23

Action: Without recommendation as to passage, with amendments, and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Boice, Gamba, Hartman, Helm, Levy B, Marsh, McLain, Owens, Scharf

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Anna Glueder, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/23, 3/27, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes compensation rates under wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program for probable or confirmed loss or injury of livestock or working dogs based on one hundred percent of the fair market value of yearling cattle and sheep, adult male cattle and sheep and of working dogs and two hundred percent of the fair market value of breeding female cattle and sheep and of juvenile cattle and sheep that are less than one year old. Removes provisions allowing for compensation for missing livestock. Allows person who submits application for compensation under wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program to amend application within one month of submission and establishes a procedure for the applicant to provide an estimate of the potential cost of the livestock management techniques or nonlethal wolf deterrence techniques.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Financial and social effects of cattle depredation on producers
- History and budget of the wolf depredation compensation fund
- Adequacy of the current wolf depredation compensation fund to meet compensation needs
- Requirements regarding nonlethal deterrence associated with wolf depredation compensation
- Historic livestock losses prior to wolf introduction
- Costs associated with nonlethal deterrence

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

In 2021, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife reported 175 recorded wolves in Oregon. On June 24, 2011 the Oregon Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 3560, which directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture to establish and implement a wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program, using moneys in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund to provide grants to assist counties to implement county wolf depredation compensation programs.

House Bill 2633 A would allow applicants for compensation under the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program to amend their application and provide that the compensation rate for probable or confirmed loss or injury of livestock or working dogs must be based on one hundred percent of the fair market value of yearling cattle and sheep, adult male cattle and sheep and of working dogs and two hundred percent of the fair market value of breeding female cattle and sheep and of juvenile cattle and sheep that are less than one year old.