HB 2633-3 (LC 1695) 3/21/23 (AG/ps)

Requested by Representative HELM

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2633

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 4 through 31 and delete pages 2 2 and 3 and insert:

³ **"SECTION 1.** ORS 610.150 is amended to read:

4 "610.150. (1) As used in this section:

6 "(a) 'Area of known wolf activity' means an area designated by the
6 State Department of Fish and Wildlife as having known wolf activity.

"[(a)] (b) 'Livestock' means ratites, psittacines, horses, mules, jackasses,
cattle, llamas, alpacas, sheep, goats, swine, bison, domesticated fowl and any
fur-bearing animal bred and maintained commercially, or otherwise, within
pens, cages or hutches.

"[(b)] (c) 'Working dog' means any animal of the species Canis familiaris
used to aid in the herding or guarding of livestock.

"(2) The State Department of Agriculture shall establish and implement
a wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program,
using moneys in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust
Fund established under ORS 610.155, to provide grants to assist counties to
implement county programs under which:

"(a) Compensation is [*paid*] provided to persons who suffer probable or
 confirmed loss or injury to livestock or working dogs due to wolf
 depredation; and

21 "(b) Financial assistance is provided to persons who implement livestock

management techniques or nonlethal wolf deterrence techniques designed to
discourage wolf depredation of livestock.

"(3) Subject to available funding in the Wolf Management Compensation
and Proactive Trust Fund established under ORS 610.155, a county qualifies
for a grant [under the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance
grant program] if the county:

7 "(a) Establishes a county program to[:]

8 "[(A) Compensate persons who suffer loss or injury to livestock or working
9 dogs due to wolf depredation; and]

"[(B) Provide financial assistance to persons who implement livestock management techniques or nonlethal wolf deterrence techniques designed to discourage wolf depredation of livestock] provide compensation and financial assistance as described in subsection (2) of this section.

"(b) Contributes an amount of moneys equal to 10 percent of the amount
 necessary to implement, during the calendar year, the county program.

"(c) Establishes [a procedure] procedures by which persons applying,
 under the county program, provide [for]:

"(A) For compensation, [under the county program provide] evidence of the loss or injury [to livestock or working dogs due to wolf depredation. Evidence of the loss or injury must include], including a finding by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife or the department's designated agent that wolf depredation was the probable cause of the loss or injury.

"(B) For financial assistance, an estimate of the potential cost of
 the livestock management techniques or nonlethal wolf deterrence
 techniques.

"(d) Establishes procedures by which persons who have applied for
 compensation may amend the application within one month after
 submitting the application without submitting a new application.

"[(d)] (e) Establishes a county advisory committee to oversee the county
 program, consisting of one county commissioner, two members who own or

manage livestock and two members who support wolf conservation or coexistence with wolves. The county advisory committee, once established by the
county, shall agree upon two county business representatives to serve as
additional county advisory committee members.

5 "[(e) Establishes a procedure by which persons applying for financial as-6 sistance under the county program provide an estimate of the potential cost of 7 the livestock management techniques or nonlethal wolf deterrence techniques 8 designed to discourage wolf depredation.]

9 "(4) In accordance with the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management 10 Plan, the Director of Agriculture shall adopt rules to implement the pro-11 visions of this section, including [*but not limited to*] rules that **require** 12 **participating counties to**:

"(a) [Require that] Prioritize awarding grants to livestock owners and
 managers experiencing above-normal loss or injury to livestock or working
 dogs due to probable or confirmed wolf depredation [be given priority by
 counties for grant moneys received under the wolf depredation compensation
 and financial assistance grant program].

"[(b) Require counties participating in the wolf depredation compensation
 and financial assistance grant program to:]

²⁰ "[(A) Prepare an annual report that specifies the actions taken by, and ²¹ compensation paid and financial assistance provided to, counties under the ²² wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program;]

"(b) Prepare annual reports that describe the counties' actions
taken under the county grant programs, including the amounts provided as compensation and financial assistance.

²⁶ "[(B)] (c) Distribute grant program funds, to the extent possible, in an ²⁷ equal and balanced manner between [payments to compensate for loss or in-²⁸ jury to livestock or working dogs due to wolf depredation and payments to ²⁹ implement livestock management techniques or nonlethal wolf deterrence tech-³⁰ niques designed to discourage wolf depredation of livestock] compensation

HB 2633-3 3/21/23 Proposed Amendments to HB 2633 and financial assistance, with a minimum of 30 percent of grant program funds being distributed for [livestock management techniques or nonlethal wolf deterrence techniques designed to discourage wolf depredation of livestock;

4 and] financial assistance.

5 "[(C)] (d) Establish compensation rates for **probable or confirmed** loss 6 or injury to livestock or working dogs [*due to wolf depredation*] that are 7 based on [*fair market value and*]:

"(A) The recommendation of the county advisory committee described in
subsection [(3)(d)] (3)(e) of this section[.]; and

"(B)(i) One hundred percent of the fair market value of yearling
 cattle and sheep, of adult male cattle and sheep and of working dogs.
 "(ii) Two hundred percent of the fair market value of breeding fe male cattle and sheep and of juvenile cattle and sheep that are less
 than one year old.

"[(c)] (e) Establish eligibility requirements for compensation under county
 programs that ensure, contingent upon available funds, that:

"(A) Outside an area of known wolf activity, [as designated by the State
Department of Fish and Wildlife, confirmed loss or injury to livestock or
working dogs shall be compensated] the compensation is provided regardless of the preexistence of wolf deterrence techniques;

"(B) Within an area of known wolf activity, [as designated by the State 21Department of Fish and Wildlife, confirmed loss or injury to livestock or 22working dogs, as well as missing livestock above the level based on loss or 23injury attributable to causes other than wolf depredation established by the 24county advisory committee described in subsection (3)(d) of this section, shall 25be compensable] the compensation is provided only if owners have dem-26onstrated implementation of best management practices to deter wolves, in-27cluding reasonable use of nonlethal methods when practicable[, giving 28priority for compensation of confirmed losses at fair market value and with 29 other compensation claims determined according to the recommendation of the 30

HB 2633-3 3/21/23 Proposed Amendments to HB 2633 1 county advisory committee]; and

² "(C) Any compensation [for loss or injury to livestock or working dogs due ³ to wolf depredation] is based upon a finding by the local advisory committee ⁴ that the person did not unreasonably or purposefully create circumstances ⁵ that attract wolves or encourage conflict between wolves and livestock or ⁶ working dogs.

"(5) Each biennium the State Department of Agriculture shall prepare a report that specifies the actions taken by counties, compensation **and financial assistance** [*paid*] **provided** by counties and [*financial assistance*] **grants** provided to counties under the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program, and shall submit the report to the Legislative Assembly and post the report on the department's website for public access.

"(6) The [State Department of Agriculture] department may use moneys
 in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund estab lished under ORS 610.155 to pay expenses incurred in administering the wolf
 depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program.".

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