

Submitter: Stacey Holeman  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB777

I live in a rural area south of The Dalles in Wasco County and most of our extended family lives in Umatilla County. Based on personal conversations as well as reports from research and in local media, I feel that Oregon's Wolf Predation Loss Compensation Program is working well for most of the ranchers and farmers who benefit. The program supports applicants in implementing required non-lethal tools and livestock management practices to discourage conflict with wolves, which are still recovering in Oregon. In 2023 (the last year for which I've read data) Oregon was able to cover 100% of requests for compensation following a livestock loss and over the next 3 years, the state can expect additional funds to support non-lethal measures on private land in Oregon.

In this time of tight budgets and a hundred ways to spend every dime, it makes no sense to me to alter compensation rates from fair market value to seven times that amount. I see no proper validation of this gratuitous increase in compensation that would drain the fund that supports the current program and could lead to less support for non-lethal coexistence measures. Please oppose SB 777.