

February 11, 2025

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildlife  
Honorable Todd Nash  
Honorable Bobby Levy  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Nash and Representative Levy:

I am writing this comment in favor of SB 777 and asking for your support as the Bill is heard in committee on February 13, 2025.

This bill seeks to compensate Oregon livestock owners at a ratio of 7:1 for livestock loss to wolves. This is a change to the current compensation scale of 1:1 (fair market value) for livestock and working dog loss to wolves. Additionally, the current provision of compensation for missing livestock is removed in SB 777's verbiage.

I represent a family ranching operation located in Lake County. The realization of wolf activity and depredation is front and center in our ranching communities. The obvious loss of livestock can, and will be, quantified via SB 777. However, the intangible losses caused by additional stress on cattle herds subjected to wolves, including poor herd breed back ratios, decreased calf weaning weights and diminished animal health, cannot be measured. Suffice it to say that the loss from these "managed" wolf packs will be devastating to our ranching enterprises and local economies. SB 777 is a step in the right direction to mitigating a portion of these financial losses for Oregon ranchers.

Thank you for your consideration of this comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leigh Ann Evans", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Leigh Ann Evans  
Evans Ranch, Inc.  
Lakeview, OR