

SB 777 This bill significantly increases the payouts from the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund, seven times the payout it was set up to handle for certain common livestock. Nowhere does the bill mention increasing the funding accordingly, and with the tight budget, the necessary funding increase to maintain this new drain on the fund is certainly not a given.

Wolves are a keystone species, with no species to take its place. The Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund is in place to preserve the important wolf population while minimizing wolf-livestock conflict, and assisting livestock producers experiencing wolf related livestock losses, at least in part by relocating wolves. Putting this kind of demand on the fund will surely put the fund in jeopardy.

Wolf populations have gone flat or decreased a bit since 2022. Please Vote No on Senate Bill 777.

Thank you.