



February 26, 2025

Re: COIN Testimony opposing SB 777

Chair Golden, Co-Chair Nash and Senate Committee Members:

We are writing on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to urge you to vote no on SB 777. COIN is made up of Indivisible groups across Oregon and has its own Climate Energy Environment (CEE) Team. COIN's CEE Team collaborates with organizations, agencies, and groups across the Pacific Northwest to advocate, in part, for laws and programs that promote and protect our natural world and resources.

We are frankly shocked that a bill is introduced to demand a 7x multiplier of market rate compensation already awarded for animals lost to wolves. No reason is offered for such a demand from taxpayers. No reason is offered for such a huge increase over the current market rate compensation *already paid* by taxpayers to livestock owners.

This bill would require taxpayers to pay more than what livestock owners would get at the auction. No other industry creates a "product" that might be negatively impacted by unforeseen events and yet is guaranteed compensation by the taxpayers that is 7x more than the market value. The current rate of compensation of market rate is fair and just for all concerned.

The proposed 7x multiplier of market rate compensation could reduce incentives to follow the protocols set by ODFW to minimize the risk of wolves killing livestock. Livestock owners could make more money in some cases by ignoring these protocols!

This bill does nothing to improve co-existence with wolves or consider ways to improve management of the wolf program. The bill does not even include any accountability for farm or ranch operators for measures used to control wolves. It will do nothing to improve the program and our understanding of the important role of wolves in conservation.

COIN urges you to vote NO on SB 777.

Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) and its CEE Team