

Senate Natural Resources & Wildfire

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and members of the committee:

Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) is the state's most inclusive agriculture organization, proudly representing more than 6,500 family farms and ranches that produce more than 220 agricultural commodities. From hops and hazelnuts to cattle, cranberries, and timber with operations spanning from just a few acres to thousands, our members utilize all farming methods including organic, conventional, regenerative, biotech, and even notech.

OFB supports compensation for damaged and missing livestock due to predator depredation. Funding appropriations are important and necessary to create equitable support for landowners and producers who suffer losses while normalizing wolves on the landscape.

Livestock producers bear immense financial burdens when their animals are injured or killed by wolf depredation. As such, we support Senate Bill 985 and the dedication of funds to the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund.

SB 985 and SB 777 acknowledge the importance of compensation and maintaining the program which indirectly supports predator management by recognizing those financial losses.

The challenge of coexisting with wildlife has always been—and will always be—an ongoing reality for our producers. Please support SB 985 and Oregon's farming and ranching families.

Thank you.

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