

Submitter: Katie Baltzor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2403

I am a cattle producer in Eastern Oregon and have seen a sharp increase in predatory animals and the damage they have caused to producers and our elk and deer populations.

I am urging you to support HB 2403, which allows local landowners to form predator damage control districts within a county to fund county services to prevent, reduce, and mitigate property damage from predatory animals. The original bill passed in 2015 and sunset in 2022. This bill provides each county with the flexibility to manage the predators, if they chose to do so.

The loss of livestock due to predators is a financial loss to producers, who already have a thin profit margin. The cattle business is vital to Oregon's economy! While predators have an essential role in our ecosystems, we need to manage them to maintain balance.

Please support this bill!