

Submitter: Donna Maebori

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB777

SB 777-5 is deeply problematic. Paying 5 times the value of livestock loss due to predators, i.e. wolves, seems excessively high and at possible cross purposes with livestock protection. Please reduce the multiplier to what has been recommended by conservation groups: 3x (calves and lambs), 2x (goat, sheep, cows), 1x (livestock guardian dogs, all other livestock)

It is troubling that it is not yet combined with SB 985. This combination is needed for proper appropriation request through Ways and Means.

Development of a state-wide livestock loss board through the Department of Agriculture with criteria consistently applied across the state is needed. This board could also ensure proper non-lethal tools are used.

In addition, sufficient funds are needed in ODFW for a wolf coexistence biologist, anti-poaching work, a more robust wolf program.

Can these changes be made so that the approach to this problem is comprehensive and solves problems instead of inadvertently creating more problems?