

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3560

Ordered by the House April 20
Including House Amendments dated April 20

Sponsored by Representative G SMITH; Representatives BENTZ, ESQUIVEL, GARRARD, JENSON, JOHNSON, KRIEGER, SCHAUFLEER, WHISNANT, Senators BOQUIST, FERRIOLI, GEORGE, GIROD, KRUSE, NELSON, TELFER, THOMSEN, WHITSETT (at the request of Oregon Cattlemen's Association)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Directs State [*Board*] **Department** of Agriculture to establish **and implement** wolf depredation compensation and [*cost-sharing*] **financial assistance grant** program for purposes of compensating persons who suffer loss or injury due to wolf depredation and providing financial assistance to persons who implement livestock management techniques or nonlethal wolf control techniques designed to discourage wolf depredation of livestock. Creates Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund. Continuously appropriates fund moneys to [*State*] department [*of Agriculture*] for purpose of [*providing compensation and financial assistance under*] **establishing and implementing** program.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to wolves; appropriating money; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** (1) **As used in this section, "livestock" means ratites, psittacines, horses,**
5 **mules, jackasses, cattle, llamas, alpacas, sheep, goats, swine, bison, domesticated fowl and**
6 **any fur-bearing animal bred and maintained commercially, or otherwise, within pens, cages**
7 **or hutches.**

8 (2) **The State Department of Agriculture shall establish and implement a wolf depredation**
9 **compensation and financial assistance grant program, using moneys in the Wolf Management**
10 **Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund established under section 2 of this 2011 Act, to**
11 **provide grants to assist counties to implement county programs under which:**

12 (a) **Compensation is paid to persons who suffer loss or injury due to wolf depredation;**
13 **and**

14 (b) **Financial assistance is provided to persons who implement livestock management**
15 **techniques or nonlethal wolf control techniques designed to discourage wolf depredation of**
16 **livestock.**

17 (3) **Subject to available funding in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive**
18 **Trust Fund established under section 2 of this 2011 Act, a county qualifies for a grant under**
19 **the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program if the county:**

20 (a) **Establishes a county program to:**

21 (A) **Compensate persons who suffer loss or injury due to wolf depredation; or**

22 (B) **Provide financial assistance to persons who implement livestock management tech-**
23 **niques or nonlethal wolf control techniques designed to discourage wolf depredation of live-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 stock.

2 (b) Contributes an amount of moneys equal to _____ percent of the amount necessary
3 to implement, during the calendar year, its county program.

4 (c) Establishes a procedure by which persons applying for compensation under its county
5 program provide evidence of the loss or injury. Evidence of the loss or injury must include
6 a finding, after investigation by the county, that wolf depredation was the probable cause of
7 the loss or injury.

8 (d) Establishes a procedure by which persons applying for financial assistance under its
9 county program provide an estimate of the potential cost of the livestock management
10 techniques or nonlethal wolf control techniques designed to discourage wolf depredation.

11 (4) The Director of Agriculture may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this sec-
12 tion, including but not limited to rules that:

13 (a) Require that livestock owners and managers experiencing above-normal livestock loss
14 due to wolf depredation be given priority by counties for grant moneys received under the
15 wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program; and

16 (b) Require counties participating in the wolf depredation compensation and financial
17 assistance grant program to submit reports to the department describing the use of any
18 moneys received as part of the grant program.

19 (5) The department may use moneys in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proac-
20 tive Trust Fund established under section 2 of this 2011 Act to pay expenses incurred in ad-
21 ministering the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program.

22 SECTION 2. (1) The Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund is es-
23 tablished separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned on the moneys in the
24 Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund shall be credited to the fund. All
25 moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the State Department of Agriculture
26 for the purpose of establishing and implementing the wolf depredation compensation and fi-
27 nancial assistance grant program described in section 1 of this 2011 Act.

28 (2) The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated by the Legislative Assembly for the
29 purposes of the fund and any gifts, grants, donations, endowments or bequests from any
30 public or private source. The State Department of Agriculture may seek out and receive any
31 gifts, grants, donations, endowments or bequests for the purpose of establishing and imple-
32 menting the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program described
33 in section 1 of this 2011 Act. The department shall deposit such moneys into the fund.

34 SECTION 3. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
35 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect
36 on its passage.

37 _____