



February 26, 2024

TO: Members of the House Resources and Conservation Committee

H612

The Idaho Cattle Association (ICA) is the official voice for all segments of the beef industry. We are dedicated to representing seedstock breeders, commercial operators and cattle feeders. ICA is unique in that members are located in every corner of Idaho. The ICA is in **SUPPORT** of H612.

H612 would add the payment of depredations to the authority of the Wolf Depredation Control Board. Currently, the Wolf Depredation Control Board is solely responsible for the lethal control of wolves within the state of Idaho. H612 would expand their authority to remit payment from the fund to ranchers who suffer losses due to these animals.

The governing agencies, specifically the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), would have to develop and compile data on the death losses prior to 1995 and the reintroduction of wolves. Using these death losses the board would allow ranchers to submit their previous years' death losses in a chronic depredation area for payment from the board for those losses. Additionally, this method would remove the need for investigations conducted on animals found to be taken by wolves for state level for depredation payments.

The ICA urges your **YES** vote on H612.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry Wroten", is written over a white background.

Jerry Wroten
President

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