

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0035

Wolf depredation compensation.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Winter and Sommers and
Senator(s) Agar and Bebout

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to agriculture; recreating a gray wolf
2 depredation compensation program; imposing additional duties
3 on the department of agriculture; authorizing rulemaking;
4 providing for termination of the program as specified;
5 providing an appropriation; and providing for effective
6 dates.

7

8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.**

11

12 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law and for
13 the period beginning with the effective date of this section
14 and ending June 30, 2022, the department of agriculture shall
15 administer a program to compensate landowners, lessees or

1 their agents whose livestock, as defined in W.S.
2 23-1-102(a)(xvi), is damaged by a gray wolf in an area of the
3 state where gray wolves are classified as a predatory animal.
4

5 (b) The department may enter into contracts for
6 personnel to assist in administering and investigating claims
7 for damages.
8

9 (c) The department shall promulgate necessary rules and
10 regulations to carry out the purposes of this act.
11

12 **Section 2.** The department of agriculture shall
13 promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this
14 act on or before July 1, 2020.
15

16 **Section 3.** There is appropriated ninety thousand
17 dollars (\$90,000.00) from the general fund to the department
18 of agriculture for purposes of administering the program and
19 funding damage payments pursuant to this act. This
20 appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2020
21 and ending June 30, 2022. This appropriation shall not be
22 transferred or expended for any other purpose and any
23 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this

1 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,
2 2022. It is the intent of the legislature that this
3 appropriation not be included in the department of
4 agriculture's standard budget for the immediately succeeding
5 fiscal biennium.

6

7 **Section 4.**

8

9 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
10 section, this act is effective immediately upon completion of
11 all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by
12 Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

13

14 (b) Sections 1 and 3 of this act are effective July 1,
15 2020.

16

17

(END)